UNL Department of Agronomy & Horticulture
MS Degree

Similarities & Differences between Option I and Option II Degree Tracks*
https://catalog.unl.edu/graduate-professional/graduate/degrees/masters/#text

Similarities
➢ Both sets of students want to advance their knowledge and careers.
➢ Time limit for degree is 10 years.
➢ Specializations are optional.
➢ Must earn min. B in graduate/undergraduate courses and min. C in graduate-only courses.
➢ Both options allow students maximum flexibility in selecting coursework that meets their career goals and interests. They may both be completed online; however, the Option I thesis has more requirements for finishing online.

Differences

Option I
➢ UNL Requires a thesis for 6-10 hrs.;
➢ Requires 30 credit hours;
➢ Minor available but not required (9 cr);
➢ 8 hrs. of graduate-only courses required;
➢ Population is often On-Campus Students who attend school full time and work part time (although online students also pursue this track);
➢ Admissions Requirements: https://agrohortonline.unl.edu/ms-agronomy-option-i-thesis#requirements

Career Path
➢ Prepares for careers in research, academic or scholarly work. May pursue a Ph.D.
➢ Lead research projects in Agricultural Companies and research universities.

Option II
➢ Faculty require a project for 1-6 hrs.;
➢ Requires 36 credit hours;
➢ Minor is required (9 credits);
➢ 12 hrs. required in graduate-only courses;
➢ Population is often Online Students who work full time and attend school part time (although on-campus students also pursue this track);
➢ Admissions Requirements: https://agrohortonline.unl.edu/option2-nonthesis#requirements

Career Path
➢ Considered a professional degree and students don’t plan to pursue a Ph.D.
➢ Lead production projects, training, or sales teams in the Agricultural sector.

* Department of Agronomy & Horticulture traditionally does not offer the Option III Track