

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Department of Agriculture

Agribusiness Management -AECO 4100
Course Syllabus

Instructor

Dr. Renata Elad
Office: 113 Ag Sciences Bld.
☎ : 229 391-4796 Email: relad@abac.edu

Office hours

Mon -Thur: 3:00pm - 5:00pm
Other times by appointment

Text

No text is required however, reading materials may be distributed in the class, as needed. Students are also encouraged to read other news magazines (printed or on-line editions) for practical illustrations of concepts discussed in the class.

Prerequisite:

Students must have successfully completed AECO1150.

Materials:

Notebook with instructor-provided notes, calculator and writing implements. You will also need access to WebCT, and must be familiar with word processing and spreadsheet software.

Course Description:

This course is intended to provide the student with managerial concepts, procedures, and techniques in agribusiness management. It covers the basic economic and managerial concepts, procedures, and techniques in agribusiness management. Emphasis will be placed on the techniques of planning, organization, directing, and controlling functions of management.

Course Philosophy:

I trust your intellectual curiosity is such that you are not learning for my sake. Rather, learning should be an interactive and pleasurable experience, especially as you realize that this course is more or less a formal representation of your day-to-day experiences and knowledge. Use me as a resource person; I am here for your benefit within and outside of this course.

Course Outcomes:

By the end of the semester you are expected to be able to accomplish the following:

- Describe the role and qualifications of a manager of an agribusiness enterprise.
- Describe the five steps in strategic planning.

- Describe the four basic functions of management.
- Perform a SWOT analysis on a hypothetical firm.
- Describe how to estimate enterprise budgets from whole-farm records and through economic engineering.
- Describe a process map and its uses.
- Develop a farm business plan which includes a production and marketing plan, and budgets for a hypothetical farm.

Class Grade:

Here is the breakdown of the final grade:

Test #1	25 %
Test #2	25 %
Assignments	25 %
Final Exam	25 %

Grading scale: A= 90 and above; B= 80 - 89.9; C= 70-79.9; D= 60-69.9; F= 59.9 and below.

Bonus points

Attendance: A perfect attendance record will earn you 5 bonus points towards the final class grade.

Class policy:

Hourly Tests

Everyone is required to take the hourly tests and final exam at the scheduled time. Tests and the final exam have been scheduled in the course outline, to allow you organize your schedule accordingly. There will be no make up exams except for students with absences due to medical reasons or school-sponsored events. Make up tests when justified, will be given at the end of the semester **right after the final exam. The final exam is compulsory and failure to take it will result in a failing grade.**

Assignments

All assignments will be made available throughout the semester in class and on WebCT, with due dates and times specified. Assignments should be submitted to me at the beginning of class, uploaded as word/PDF attachments in WebCT, or dropped in my office by the before the deadline. All assignments not in my possession by the deadline will be considered late.

All calculations should be carried out to the final answer suitable for discussion do not leave incomplete answers. Only work turned in on clean paper (not torn carelessly from a notebook) written out with no cancellations, neatly, legibly and in the proper format will be

accepted and graded. **Unless specified otherwise, all material submitted to the instructor should be typed using 12 pt font double spacing, on 8.5" by 11" paper, with 1" margins on all sides, and tables presented in MS Excel. Multiple pages should be stapled.** Submitted material should include the students full name, course name/number, class time, a title for the submission. Extra points will be given for typed and /or neat assignments. Conversely, incorrectly presented submissions could receive a zero grade.

Class Participation

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College expects all students to conduct themselves in a responsible manner as individuals who understand that they are accountable for the choices they make as students. Class participation is encouraged and can be rewarded. A polite attitude and manner of speech will be expected of all students towards each other and towards the instructor, at all times. Class participation also means being prepared so students coming to class without the required class materials will be sent out of class.

No hats or caps will be worn during class in order not to obstruct the view of the instructor or other students. Students caught sleeping in class will be considered absent, and could be expelled from that session. Late-coming is not permitted and students may be locked out of that class session. Anyone whose beeper, pager or phone rings during lectures will be asked to leave the first time. The second time the student will leave and 2pts subtracted from the upcoming test.

All academic work must meet ABAC's standards of honesty. Each student is responsible to inform themselves about ABAC's Code of conduct, as found in the student handbook <http://www.abac.edu/ses/handbook/CodeofConduct.pdf>, before performing any academic work. Any student displaying academic dishonesty will receive a failing grade for the work done.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The instructor will keep attendance records. Absence from class, for whatever reason, does not excuse a student from full responsibility for class work or assignments missed. Students must accept this responsibility. Whenever a student is absent, excused or not, the student must assume responsibility and provide notice to the instructor in order to make arrangements for any assignments and class work missed because of the absence. However, final approval for make-up work remains with the instructor. Students whose absences are equivalent to more than two weeks of instruction could receive a grade of "F" for the course. A student who stops attending class without officially withdrawing from the course is subject to this attendance policy and will receive the earned grade for the course.

For the purpose of clarification, an excused absence is one taken for any of the following reasons: Personal bereavement; justifiable medical reasons (with a doctor's note or letter from parent); ABAC sponsored event; regional natural disaster.

ANY STUDENT IN THIS CLASS WITH SPECIAL LEARNING NEEDS SHOULD PLEASE COME SEE ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

**Agribusiness Management
Course Calendar for Fall 2009**

Week	Chapters to be covered (Reading Assignment)
17 -21 Aug	Chp 01: The Scope of Farm Management.
25 - 28 Aug	Chp 02: Strategic Management.
31 Aug - 4 Sept	Chp 02: Strategic Management.
7 - 11 Sept	Chp 03: Budgeting.
14 - 18 Sept	Chp 04: Productions and Operations Management.
21 - 25 Sept	Chp 04: Productions and Operations Management. Test I: Sept 24th
28 Sep - 2 Oct	Chp 05: Quality Management and Control.
5 - 9 Oct	Midterm withdrawal deadline October 8 th Chp 06: Investment Analysis.
12- 16 Oct	Chp 06: Investment Analysis.
19 - 23 Oct	Fall Break October 19-20 Chp 07: Staffing.
26 - 30 Oct	Chp 07: Staffing.
2 - 6 Nov	Chp 08: Risk Management. Test II: November 5th
9 - 13 Nov	Chp 08: Risk Management.
16 - 20 Nov	Chp 09: Production Contract Evaluation.
23 - 27 Nov	Thanksgiving Break November 25-27 Chp 10: Land Purchase and Rental.
30 Nov - 4 Dec	Chp 10: Land Purchase and Rental.
8 - 11 Dec	Final Exams: TBA