Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Financial Management – AECO 3430
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Renata Elad
Office: 113 Ag Sciences Bld.
Office hours: Mon, Wed, Fri: 8:30am - 9:50am
Mon, Wed: 2:00pm - 4:45pm
Phone: 229 391-4796
Email: relad@abac.edu
Other times by appointment

Office hours: Mon, Wed, Fri: 8:30am - 9:50am
Mon, Wed: 2:00pm - 4:45pm

Email correspondence: Always include the course name and number under the title.

Meeting times: MWF 1000-1050 in 131 Ag Sci. (Lectures)
F 1000-1050 in 132 Ag Sci. (Labs on assigned dates)

Text
No text is assigned for this course. Reading materials will be assigned/distributed in the class, as needed. Students are also encouraged to use other news media (print or on-line) for practical illustrations of concepts discussed in the class.

Prerequisite:
Students must have successfully completed either AECO2200 or ACCT2101.

Materials:
Lectures: Notebook with instructor-provided notes, calculator, writing implements. You will also need access to d2l, and must be familiar with word processing and spreadsheet software.
Labs: Flash drive, Notebook, instructor-provided notes, calculator, writing implements. You will also need to be familiar with spreadsheet software.

Note: Students are required to familiarize themselves with the lecture material before each class (see Course Calendar’s assigned reading).

Course Description:
This course is intended to introduce you to finance concepts used in agribusiness, and more broadly, in the financial services industry. The course teaches you to understand financial statements, appropriately analyze investment opportunities, in order to make informed managerial choices.
Course Philosophy:
So, I trust your intellectual curiosity is such that you are not learning for my sake. Rather, learning should be an interactive and pleasurable experience and a cooperative venture among you all, and between you, I, the instructor. Use me as a resource person, I am here for your benefit within and outside of this course. The following lists are incomplete, but should help clarify our roles and responsibilities to each other

- Both the Students and the Instructor:
  - Be prepared and on time for class.
  - Treat everyone in the class with respect.
- Instructor:
  - Set clear expectations and provide motivation for students.
  - Select and prepare course materials, and make them readily available to students in a timely fashion.
  - Explain difficult concepts.
  - Guide discussions and labs.
  - Provide fair and prompt feedback and grading.
  - Give students opportunities to provide feedback on the course and listen to their comments and suggestions.
- Students:
  - Study assigned readings before class.
  - Complete all assignments on time.
  - Attend and participate in class and labs.
  - Think for yourself and ask questions.
  - Contribute at least your share to group assignments.
  - Give thoughtful feedback to the instructor on how to improve the course.

Course Outcomes:
By the end of the semester you are expected to demonstrate an understanding of a farm’s financial environment by accomplishing the following:
1. Explain the 10 principles of financial management.
2. Describe the components of the financial market.
3. Explain the four tools/skills essential for proper financial management.
4. Describe and explain the basic components of the four financial statements.
5. Demonstrate the impact of production decisions on the 4 financial statements.
6. Interpret common ratios used in financial analysis.
7. Demonstrate the impact of hypothetical capital budgeting decisions on the business.
Class Grade:
Here is the breakdown of the final grade:
Test #1 25 %
Test #2 25 %
Assignments/labs 25 %
Final Exam 25 %

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

Bonus points
★ Attendance: A perfect attendance record will earn you 5 bonus points towards the final class grade.
★ Quizzes: Quiz will be given at random on material you are expected to have covered and grades will be used as extra credit points towards each test. The particular quiz to be used will be unknown to you.

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.

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.

Assignments
All assignments will be made available throughout the semester in class and on d2l®, with due dates and times specified. Assignments should be submitted at the beginning of class, uploaded as MS Word® or PDF® attachments to an email, or dropped in my office before the deadline. Multiple documents must be combined into one attachment such that a printed copy generates the appropriate presentation format. All assignments not in my possession by the deadline will be considered late and not graded.
All calculations should be carried out to the final answer suitable for discussion do not leave incomplete answers. Only work 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. Appropriate material for submission must include the students full name, course name and number, class time, and title for the submission. Incorrectly presented submissions could receive a zero grade or point deductions.

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.

Class Participation and Attendance
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 notes ⇒ no class attendance!

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. 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. Late-coming is not permitted and students will be locked out of that class session (see statement below from the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources)

Special Notice -

Students in Agriculture and Natural Resources

Classroom management is essential to academic success. Anything that disrupts the classroom is detrimental to academic success. Tardy student arrival
has become a problem in our classes. Not only is this disruptive, but it is teaching our students that it is acceptable to be late. Employers have no tolerance for late arrivals, nor should ABAC. It is the responsibility of the faculty to simulate workforce expectations to prepare our students to be successful as a professional.

Students will no longer be allowed to enter the classroom late. Tardy is equivalent to absent. There is no excuse. Mange your life to remove all risk of being late to class.

**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.

**ANY STUDENT IN THIS CLASS WITH SPECIAL LEARNING NEEDS SHOULD PLEASE COME SEE ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Chapters to be covered and Lab Days (Reading Assignment)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 - 15 Aug</td>
<td><strong>Chp 01</strong>: An Introduction to Financial Management.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 - 22 Aug</td>
<td><strong>Chp 01</strong>: An Introduction to Financial Management. <strong>Lab #1</strong></td>
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<td>25 - 29 Aug</td>
<td><strong>Chp 02</strong>: The Financial Market.</td>
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<td>1 - 5 Sept</td>
<td>Labor Day Holiday</td>
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<td><strong>Chp 03</strong>: Introduction to Financial Statements. <strong>Lab #2</strong></td>
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<td>8 - 12 Sept</td>
<td><strong>Chp 04</strong>: Financial Statements: Balance Sheet.</td>
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<td><strong>15 - 19 Sept</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chp 04</strong>: Financial Statements: Balance Sheet. <strong>Test I</strong>: September 19th Chp 1 - 3 <strong>Lab #3</strong></td>
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<td>22 - 26 Sept</td>
<td><strong>Chp 05</strong>: Financial Statements: Income Statement.</td>
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<td>29 Sep - 3 Oct</td>
<td>Midterm withdrawal deadline</td>
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<td><strong>Chp 05</strong>: Financial Statements: Income Statement. <strong>Lab #4</strong></td>
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<td>6 - 10 Oct</td>
<td><strong>Chp 06</strong>: Financial Statements: Statement of Owner Equity.</td>
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<td>13 - 17 Oct</td>
<td>Fall Break</td>
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<td><strong>Chp 06</strong>: Financial Statements: Statement of Owner Equity. <strong>Lab #5</strong></td>
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<td>27 - 31 Oct</td>
<td><strong>Chp 08</strong>: Financial Statement Analysis. <strong>Lab #6</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3 - 7 Nov</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chp 08</strong>: Financial Statement Analysis. <strong>Test II</strong>: November 7th - Chp 4-7</td>
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<td>10 - 14 Nov</td>
<td><strong>Chp 09</strong>: Agribusiness Loans.</td>
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<td>17 - 21 Nov</td>
<td><strong>Chp 09</strong>: Agribusiness Loans. <strong>Lab #7</strong></td>
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<td>24 - 28 Nov</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break</td>
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<td><strong>Chp 10</strong>: Capital Budgeting. <strong>Lab #8</strong></td>
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<td>1 - 3 Dec</td>
<td><strong>Chp 10</strong>: Capital Budgeting.</td>
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<td><strong>4 - 9 Dec</strong></td>
<td>Final Exams and Make-up Tests: See College calendar for details</td>
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I have read the course syllabus for AECO 3430 and, therefore, understand my responsibilities for the course include:

- Timely attendance at each scheduled class meeting.
- Regular and active participation in class discussions and Q&A’s.
- Regular and active participation in all computer labs.
- Timely participation in, and submission of all assigned work (Lab work is due the following Monday).
- Preparedness for each class meeting and test by completing assigned reading &/or work.
- Abidance by general class policies as stated unless otherwise modified.

Student Name (Print)______________________________________________

Signed:________________________                  Date:_____________________

Comments:_________________________________________________________________

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