

Dakota College at Bottineau Course Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Title: AGEC 141 Introduction to Agribusiness Management

Number of credits: 3

Course Description: This is an introductory course dealing with the economic importance of the agribusiness community and the potential for employment in the agricultural sector. Topics include marketing, production, risk, financial management, and human resource management in agribusiness firms. Particular attention is given to the application of economic principles to the management of marketing and farm supply firms.

Pre-/Co-requisites: None

Course Objectives: The purpose of this course is to understand the scope and functions of agribusiness management. Exploration of decision-making tools and strategy in agribusiness will be covered.

Instructor: Linda Burbidge, PhD

Office: Molberg 20

Office Hours: MW 9am – 11am; TH 2pm to 3pm, Or by appointment

Phone:228-5442

Email: Linda.Burbidge@dakotacollege.edu

Lecture/Lab Schedule: TH 12:30pm-1:45pm Molberg 28

Textbook(s): Barnard, F. L., Akridge, J. T., Dooley, F. J., Foltz, J. C., and Yeager, E. A. 2016. *Agribusiness Management*, 5th ed. Routledge, New York, NY.

Course Requirements: This is an introductory course. Students are expected to read the text and come to class prepared to listen and discuss during lectures. Points will come from homework, professionalism, four exams, and a course project. The breakdown will be as follows:

| Requirement | Points | Percentage |
|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| Homework | 160 | 30% |
| Professionalism | 55 | 10% |
| Course Projects | 160 | 30% |
| Exams | 160 | 30% |
| Total | 535 | 100% |

Homework: There will be a combination of assigned readings, papers, and traditional assignments. Homework must be submitted on time to receive full credit. Late homework will be accepted with a deduction of 20%.

Professionalism: In preparation for the real world, your class grade will be dependent upon professionalism. This means you will be graded on a combination of attendance, engagement in learning, and meeting deadlines.

Course Projects: Each student will line up interviews with **two** different agribusiness professionals to learn about the skills and training necessary for a job in those fields. Once complete, the student will type up a summary of the interview.

Exams: There will be 4 exams over the material covered during the semester. Each will be worth 40 points. Exams will be administered on Blackboard.

*Make up exams are offered only under extenuating circumstances. All make-up exams should be taken within a week of the missed exam.

Grading and Evaluation:

| Total Point Percentage | Letter Grade |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 90% and ↑ | A |
| 80% - 89.99% | B |
| 70% - 79.99% | C |
| 60% - 69.99% | D |
| 59.99% and ↓ | F |

Tentative Course Outline:

| Week of: | Chapter | | Topics |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Jan 13 - 17 | 1 | | The Business of Agribusiness |
| Jan 20 - 24 | 2 | | Managing |
| Jan 27 - 31 | 2,3 | | Economics for Agbus. |
| Feb 3 - 7 | 3, 4 | | Econ/Organization |
| Feb 10 - 14 | 4, 5 | Tentative Exam #1 | Organization/International Agbus. |
| Feb 17 - 21 | 6, 7 | | Strategic Planning/ Marketing |
| Feb 24 - 28 | 7, 8 | | Marketing Decision Tools |
| Mar 2 - 6 | 8, 9 | Tentative Exam #2 | Marketing Tools/Financials |
| Mar 9 - 13 | 9, 10 | | Financials |
| Mar 16 - 20 | | Spring Break | |
| Mar 23 - 27 | 11 | | Financing |
| Mar 30 - Apr 3 | 11, 12 | | Financing/Decision Making |
| Apr 6 - 10 | 12, 13 | Tentative Exam #3 | Decision making tools |
| Apr 13 - 17 | 14 | | Operations Management |
| Apr 20 - 24 | 15 | | Operations Management |
| Apr 27 - May 1 | 16, 17 | Course Projects Due 4/28 | Human Resource Management |
| May 4 - May 8 | Review | Exam #4 | FINAL |

Career and Technical Education Goals/Objectives: Employ industry-specific skills in preparation for workplace readiness.

1. Expand critical thinking competence.
 - a. Identify different organizational structures in agribusiness management and discuss the benefits and drawbacks to each.
 - b. Apply economic principles to management.
 - c. Understand financial statements and marketing tools used in agribusiness.
2. Develop robust communication skills.
 - a. Improve researching and writing skills.
 - b. Build interpersonal communication skills.

Relationship to Campus Theme: This course supports the campus theme of “Nature, Technology and Beyond” by fostering the skills and knowledge necessary to utilize natural, human and technological resources successfully and confidently.

Classroom Policies: Be respectful of other students, instructors, and guests. Use of *cell phones* and other *electronic devices* is prohibited during exams AND lectures.

Student Email Policy: Dakota College at Bottineau is increasingly dependent upon email as an official form of communication. A student’s campus-assigned email address will be the only one recognized by the campus for official mailings. The liability for missing or not acting upon important information conveyed via campus email rests with the student.

Academic Integrity: All students are expected to adhere to the highest level of academic integrity. Dishonesty and plagiarism with assignments, projects, or exams is a serious offense and is subject to disciplinary action by the instructor and college administration. For more information refer to the student handbook.

Disabilities and Special Needs: Any students with disabilities or other special needs, who need special accommodations in this course are invited to share these concerns or requests with the instructor and the Learning Center (701-228-5479) as soon as possible.