

AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT
AGEC 349 – SPRING 2021
School of Agriculture – Western Illinois University

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Graciela Andrango
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Office Hours: 11:00 to 11:50 a.m. on M, W, TH, and F
or by appointment via Zoom (Check your
email or Western Online for Zoom link and
passcode)

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS: AGEC 349 will meet from 1:00 to 1:50 p.m. as follows:

- Lectures: M, W, and F via Zoom
- Labs: TH via Zoom

Check your email or Western Online for Zoom link and passcode.

EMAILS: Please be sure to include the course in which you are enrolled in any email.

TEXTBOOKS & WEB RESOURCES:

1. Textbook- Recommended:

- Kay, Ronald D., Edwards, William M., and Duffy, Patricia A. Farm Management. McGraw Hill. New York, NY. 9th edition. 2020.
- Barnard, Freddie L., Akridge, Jay T., Dooley, Frank J., Foltz, John C., Yeager, Elizabeth A. Agribusiness Management. Routledge. New York, NY. 5th edition. 2016.

PREREQUISITE:

AGRI 220 or equivalent.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

AGEC 349 *Agribusiness Management* is a lecture-discussion course that explores management functions and economics of agribusinesses, including input-output analysis, efficient allocation of resources, enterprise combinations, and budget analysis.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To understand the size, nature, and importance of the agribusiness sector in the U.S. economy.
2. To involve students in actual agribusiness problem-solving and decision-making through the use of case studies.
3. To increase students' ability in the use of economic concepts to understand and improve agribusiness' performance.

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS:

Participation: Students are expected to attend to class virtually and keep the video camera on. Attendance is required and will be graded through Kahoot! Quizzes. Students' participation in class is strongly encouraged.

Absences: If at any time you have a family emergency, funeral, or just not feeling well, please use the Online Absence Reporting System (OARS) system to report your absence (www.wiu.edu/oars). Please note that OARS system does not excuse your absence – it merely documents. It is still up to the instructor to excuse the absence. I will need the email generated from this system prior to class and not after. If I receive the email after class has started then the late grade policies come into effect. Excessive absences will result in failure of the course.

Academic Integrity: The rules and regulations outlined in the University's policy on academic integrity are applied to this course. See <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php>. Any violation of the Academic Dishonesty Policy in Student Handbook will result in automatic failure of the course.

Plagiarism is not tolerated in this class. Works evidenced as plagiarism (accidental or willful use of someone else's words, ideas) will be penalized by a failing grade on the homework, quiz, project, or exam. **Furthermore, the instructor will follow the procedure according to the Student Academic Integrity Policy- see link above.**

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Detailed information regarding student rights and responsibilities can be found at <http://www.wiu.edu/provost/student/>. It is your responsibility to be familiar with the posted information.

Special Accommodations: If you need special accommodations, please feel free to discuss your needs with me. Set an appointment with me via Zoom during office hours or any time that works better for you.

IMPORTANT DATES:

January 18, Monday	Dr. Martin Luther King Day – No Class/ University Closed
February 12, Friday	Lincoln's birthday – No Class/ University Closed
March 10	No classes
April 4, Sunday	Last Day to Drop with a W
April 13, Tuesday	No classes
May 6, Thursday	Final Exam: 1:00 – 2:50 pm

GRADING POLICY:

The course grade will be based on the following factors, with weightings as indicated:

Exam I	15%	A = 93% or above	C = 73 - 76.99%
Exam II	15%	A- = 90 - 92.99%	C- = 70 - 72.99%
Comprehensive Final Exam	20%	B+ = 87 - 89.99%	D+ = 67 - 69.99%
Final Project	15%	B = 83 - 86.99%	D = 63 - 66.99%
Homework and Class Exercises	10%	B- = 80 - 82.99%	D- = 60 - 62.99%
Lab Projects	10%	C+ = 77 - 79.99%	F = <60%
Weekly online quizzes	10%		
Participation & Kahoot! Quizzes	5%		
Total		100%	

Grade breaking points may be lowered, but in no case will they be raised. These breaking points will be evaluated only after final numerical grades have been calculated.

Attention Education Majors: Changes within the state teaching license require all education majors to receive a grade of a "C-" or better in this course in order to meet Illinois teaching license requirements. With the university +/- grading system, receiving a "D+" or below will require you to retake this course or find a substitute course to meet School of Agriculture graduation requirements.

EXAMS:

There will be three midterms and one final exam. Exams will consist mostly of multiple choice questions, and essay questions and/or problem solving questions. Midterm exams will open the scheduled Sunday (see below for specific dates) at 12:00 am and will remain open until 11:59 pm. **The final exam will be comprehensive** (same format as semester exams). Makeup exams will only be given in extreme situations. **The instructor reserves the right to use of Lockdown Browser.**

HOMEWORK AND CLASS EXERCISES:

Case studies, discussion questions, and problem solving questions are designed to strength students' analytical skills while reinforcing key concepts. Homework will open on Monday as we start the chapter and will close on Sundays at 11:59 p.m. Late assignments will be docked 10% per day and will not be accepted after the assignment key has been uploaded on Western Online or the rest of the students have received back their homework graded.

FINAL PROJECT:

Information will be provided in class

LAB PROJECTS:

Lab projects will focus on exploring agribusiness management topics, as well as learning & mastering some of the most common features of Excel and basic data analysis. These projects will be primarily Excel-based, however, the use of other tools to collect and analyze data may also be presented. Projects will include collection, analysis, and interpretation of primary and secondary data to enhance students' analytical skills and decision-making through the analysis of current data.

Every Thursday we will meet via Zoom. The instructor will provide a lab project, which will be solved during the lab session. Each student will submit the solved exercise at the end of the lab session in the Western Online dropbox. A homework related to Thursday lab will be assigned to be submitted by Friday of that same week via Western Online.

WEEKLY ONLINE QUIZZES:

Ten-point quizzes on lectures, readings and/or other references – True/False, fill in the blank, multiple choice, essay, and/or problem solving questions will be due every Sunday. Weekly online quizzes will open in Western Online every Sunday at 12:00 am and will remain open until 11:59 p.m. You will have one attempt only to take the quiz.

There will be no makeups, no taking the quizzes earlier or later than Sunday, unless the student submits an official excuse in writing (illness, judging team, etc.) for not taking the quiz before Sunday, in which case the total quiz score will be adjusted with no penalty. The instructor reserves the right to use both announced and unannounced quizzes, **as well as the use of Lockdown Browser.**

PARTICIPATION & KAHOOT! QUIZZES:

Kahoot! quizzes will be taken during class and will count as your participation score. Kahoot! quizzes will be based on lectures, readings and/or other references. We will use True/False, fill in the blank, and multiple choice Kahoot! quiz format.

I will also use other methods such as Menti or BitPaper on which you will be able to answer random questions during the class session.

GRADING DISAGREEMENTS:

If a student disagrees with a particular answer, it is the student's responsibility to provide a logical reason in writing as to the reason for their disagreement. This does not apply to scoring errors. All instructors are human and occasional errors in grading will occur. Please bring any such errors to the instructor's attention immediately.

ACCREDITATION:

The School of Agriculture is housed in the College of Business and Technology which is accredited by AACSB-International.

AGEC 349- COURSE OUTLINE

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic/ Material</i>	<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Assignments/ Activities/ Due dates</i>
1	Jan 18 – Jan 24	Farm management now and in the future <i>Monday, Jan 18- Dr. Martin Luther King Day- No classes</i>	1	<i>Due: Jan 24 (11:59 p.m.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Weekly online quiz- Chapter 1
2	Jan 25 – Jan 31	Management and decision making	2	<i>Due: Jan 29 (11:59 p.m.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lab assignment 1 <i>Due: Jan 31 (11:59 p.m.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Weekly online quiz- Chapter 2
3	Feb 01 – Feb 07	Acquiring and organizing management information	3	<i>Due: Feb 05 (11:59 p.m.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lab assignment 2 <i>Due: Feb 07 (11:59 p.m.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Weekly online quiz- Chapter 3 ▪ Homework: Chapter 3
4	Feb 08 – Feb 14	The balance sheet and its analysis <i>Friday, Feb 12- Lincoln's Birthday- No classes</i>	4	<i>Due: Feb 14 (11:59 p.m.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Weekly online quiz- Chapter 4 ▪ Homework: Chapter 4
5	Feb 15 – Feb 21	The income statement and its analysis	5	<i>Due: Feb 21 (11:59 p.m.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Homework: Chapter 5 ▪ Midterm 1: Ch 1 – 5
<i>Midterm 1. Feb 21</i>				

AGEC 349- COURSE OUTLINE...

6	Feb 22 – Feb 28	Farm business analysis	6	<p><i>Due: Feb 26 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lab assignment 3 <p><i>Due: Feb 28 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online quiz- Chapter 6 ▪ Homework: Chapter 6
7	Mar 01 – Mar 7	Economic principles: choosing production levels	7	<p><i>Due: Mar 05 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lab assignment 4 <p><i>Due: Mar 07 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online quiz- Chapter 7 ▪ Homework: Chapter 7
8	Mar 08 – Mar 14	Economic principles: choosing input and output combinations <i>Wednesday, March 10- No classes</i>	8	<p><i>Due: Mar 14 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online quiz- Chapter 8 ▪ Homework: Chapter 8
9	Mar 15 – Mar 21	Costs concepts and decision making	9	<p><i>Due: Mar 19 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lab assignment 5 <p><i>Due: Mar 21 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online quiz- Chapter 9 ▪ Homework: Chapter 9
10	Mar 22 – Mar 28	Enterprise budgeting	10	<p><i>Due: Mar 28 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Homework: Chapter 10 ▪ Midterm 2: Ch 6 – 10
<i>Midterm 2. March 28</i>				

AGEC 349- COURSE OUTLINE...

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic/ Material</i>	<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Homeworks/ Activities/ Due dates</i>
11	Mar 29 – Apr 04	Whole-farm planning	11	<p><i>Due: Apr 02 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lab assignment 6 <p><i>Due: Apr 04 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online quiz- Chapter 11 ▪ Homework: Chapter 11
12	Apr 05 – Apr 11	Partial budgeting	12	<p><i>Due: Apr 09 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lab assignment 7 <p><i>Due: Apr 11 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online quiz- Chapter 12 ▪ Homework: Chapter 12
13	Apr 12 – Apr 18	Cash flow budgeting <i>Tuesday, April 13- No classes</i>	13	<p><i>Due: Apr 16 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lab assignment 8 <p><i>Due: Apr 18 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online quiz- Chapter 13 ▪ Homework: Chapter 13
14	Apr 19 – Apr 25	Managing risk and uncertainty	15	<p><i>Due: Apr 25 (11:59 p.m.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online quiz- Chapter 15 ▪ Homework: Chapter 15
15	Apr 26 – May 02	<i>Semester wrap up- Presentations</i>		No quizzes/ No Homeworks
16	May 03 – May 07	<p><i>Final Comprehensive Exam- Chapters 1 – 13 and 15</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Thursday, May 6th from 1:00 – 2:50 p.m.</i> 		

NOTE: Please be advised that this syllabus is tentative. All classes are different and we may or may not be able to address all of the content areas or stick with the anticipated number of exams. Any deviations from the syllabus will be announced as soon as possible.