

US AGRICULTURAL LAW
AGEC 342 – FALL 2009
Department of Agriculture – Western Illinois University

INSTRUCTOR

Michael E. Massie
Office Phone: 309-932-2168
Office Fax: 309-932-3427
Email: mmassie@mchsi.com

Office: 115 NW 3rd Ave
Galva, IL 61434
Business Office Hours: M-F 8-4:30
Home Phone: 309-879-2347
Cell Phone: 309-368-0440
WIU Office – Room 318
Hours: 2:00 pm – 2:55 pm
T-Th and times scheduled
individually

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

AGEC 342 meets on Tuesday/Thursday in KH 306 from 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND OTHER MATERIAL

- Looney, JW and Uchtmann, Donald L. Agricultural Law – Principles & Cases, Second Edition, McGraw-Hill, Inc.
- Supplemental Handouts

COURSE OBJECTIVES & OUTLINE

At the conclusion of this course the student will have better understanding of US law with an agricultural application in the following areas:

1. Introduction to Law and Agricultural Law
2. Torts
3. Contracts
4. Nature & Meaning of Property
5. Acquiring & Disposing of Real Property
6. Rights & Limitations in the Ownership of Agricultural Property
7. Rights & Limitations in the Use of Agricultural Property
8. Liability for Farm Animals
9. Protecting the Environment & the Productivity of Agricultural Land
10. Water & Drainage
11. Sales, Warranties & Products Liability
12. Marketing of Agricultural Products
13. Agricultural Credit, Finance & Bankruptcy
14. Agricultural Labor, Agents & Independent Contractors
15. Farm Tenancy
16. Farm Partnership
17. Farm Corporations
18. Farm Limited Liability Companies

Participation in mock trials, transactions and business plans will be used to provide a “learning by doing” opportunity.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, September 4	Last day to get full tuition refund
Monday, September 7	Labor Day – No classes
Sunday, November 1	Last day to drop
November 23-27	Fall Break
December 14-18	Final Exams

GRADING POLICY

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

Classroom Participation & Quizzes	50%
Trials, Transactions & Business Plans	30%
<u>Comprehensive Final Exam</u>	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

An average for the course of 90% or above will earn an A, 80-89% a B, 70-79% a C, and 60-69% will earn a D. 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.

The final **will be comprehensive**. Makeup exams will be given only in extreme situations.

Assignments are due at the beginning of class.

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

Participation: Students are expected to regularly attend class and to actively participate in discussions.

Academic Integrity: The rules and regulations outlined in the University's policy on academic integrity are applied to this course.

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 stop by and discuss your needs or contact Disability Support Services at 309-298-2512.

NOTICES

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