

AE 450
Student Managed Farm II
3 Credits

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AE 450 Version: 24



Student Managed Farm II

Calendar Description

Students integrate and apply the techniques of management in an actual operating crop farm enterprise. Students learn these techniques in a business environment by participating in the management of the Lakeland College Student Managed Farm.

Rationale

This is a required course for Crop Technology students. Although it is useful to break learning down into specialized areas, there comes a time when it is necessary to put the pieces together. This course brings all your knowledge and experience from previous courses and life experiences to the business of managing a farm.

Prerequisites

As all courses in the program are essential, implementation of the knowledge learned is fundamental to reaching the course learning outcomes. Successful completion (minimal pass) of all first year courses is required.

Co-Requisites

None

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

1. integrate and apply what they have learned and are learning in other courses.
2. demonstrate team spirit and comradeship as they participate in the challenges and satisfactions of operating a real farm.
3. evaluate a farm business to determine what happened as a result of carrying out previous decisions and to provide sound information upon which to implement new decisions.
4. work in a business group making decisions with understanding and respect for the opinions of others.

Resource Materials

There is no assigned text.

Conduct of Course

Students in this course participate in the operations and management of the Lakeland College Student Managed Farm.

Each student in this course belongs to a Management Activity Team. Within those teams a student has one of the following roles: General Manager (Executive Team), Assistant Manager (Executive Team), Public Relations/Communications Coordinator (Executive Team), Team Managers and Team Members. Each student participates in one of the roles throughout the course. The Manager, Assistant Manager, Public Relations/Communications Coordinators and Team Manager positions are filled through a recruitment process; students apply for these positions. Other second year students serve in a team position.

The Seven Management Teams are Executive, Analysis, Marketing, Finance, Production, Research and Sustainability / Stewardship.

As well as the Management Activity Teams, each student is required to participate in a "Field Interest Group". Each Field Interest Group chooses their own leader. The Field Interest Groups are the mechanisms where any SMF member can be exposed to and participate in the managing activities (Marketing, research, analysis, production, finance, sust/stew) as they relate to specific fields and the commodities grown or potentially grown on those fields.

The class as a whole has regular business meetings. Teams and Groups meet as necessary to carry out their duties. Management Teams are directed by the course advisors (instructors).

Specific requirements for managing the farm are given each year.

Evaluation Procedures

Peer Evaluation by Group and Team members Evaluation:	20%
General Meeting Presentations	14%
Goals Setting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to be set with advisor • Plan for Achievement 16 • Progress Reports (4) 12 • Achievement of Goals 8 	36%
Harvest Event Presentation	20%
Work Hours	<u>10%</u>
Total	100%

The details of the evaluation procedure differ depending on student roles.

The accumulated percentage from the above evaluations is converted to a grade according to the following grid.

Grade Equivalents and Course Pass Requirements

A minimum grade of D (50%) (1.00) is required to pass this course.

Letter	F	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Percent Range	0-49	50-52	53-56	57-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95-100
Points	0.00	1.00	1.30	1.70	2.00	2.30	2.70	3.00	3.30	3.70	4.00	4.00

Students must maintain a cumulative grade of C (GPA - Grade Point Average of 2.00) in order to qualify to graduate.

Attendance

Classroom and laboratory attendance is considered vital to the learning process and as significant to the students' evaluation as examinations and reports.

- a. Students having a combination of excused and/or unexcused absence of 20 percent or higher for the scheduled course hours will be required to withdraw and will automatically receive a "RW" (required withdrawal) for the course, regardless of any other evaluation results. (RW is a failing grade.)
- b. An excused absence is one that is verified with your Instructor. Verification should be prior to the absence or the next class day following the absence. Verification of the absence may take the form of a note from your doctor/College nurse regarding illness, or a note from another Instructor regarding a field trip or other activity, or authorization by your Instructor. An unexcused absence is anything NOT verified by the instructor prior to the absence or the next class day following the absence.

NOTE: Any exceptions to the above attendance policy (e.g. timetable conflicts, work-related issues) must be approved in writing by the Department Chair prior to the beginning of the course.

It is the students' responsibility to know their own absentee record.

Normal hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., with potential for evening courses, exams or extended field trips. Students are expected to be available for classes during these times.

Course Units/Topics

1. Farm work as required.
2. Update records into field, record-keeping software.
3. Analyze previous crop year performance relative to budget forecasted.
4. Make decisions regarding next year's cropping plan.
5. Prepare market and financial reports including next year budget forecast.
6. Present market and financial information.



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