



SYLLABUS

Course Title	Agricultural Finance
Course Number	AGR 420
Number of Credits	3 credits
Course Dates	3/9/2020 - 5/9/2020
Instructor	Matthew Willard
Email Address	matthew.willard@doane.edu
Office Hours/Availability	<p>Remote Office</p> <p>See Online Guidelines Below</p> <p>If you have questions of a personal nature such as relating a personal emergency, questioning a grade on an assignment, or something else that needs to be communicated privately, you are welcome to contact me via email or phone. My preference is that you will try to email me first. Please allow 24 hours for me to respond to emails Monday-Friday and 48 hours on the weekend.</p>
Phone Number	605-323-7896
Textbook Information: (e.g. title, edition, publisher, ISBN)	<p>Financial Management in Agriculture, 7th edition, Pearson.</p> <p>This is a digital subscription. ISBN #13: 978-0-13-300366-6</p>
Additional Course Materials	This course will be taught utilizing the Doane Blackboard Learning System.

Course Description from Catalog	This course analyzes the theory of financial decision making as applied to farms and agricultural firms. Topics include asset pricing models, financial markets, capital structure, farmland control, term structure of interest rates, risk management and credit evaluation. To develop effective leadership and management skills, students will a) produce a project through working as a team, and b) develop a business plan or case study on an agribusiness topic. In addition, to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, the students will a) apply the scientific method in an area relevant to agribusiness and economics, and b) propose and assess economic policy solutions to agricultural and food issues.
Program Outcomes	Students will a) produce a project through working as a team, b) develop a business plan or case study on an agribusiness topic, c) apply the scientific method in an area relevant to agribusiness and economics, and d) propose and assess economic policy solutions to agricultural and food issues.
Course Learning Outcomes/Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine financial trends in agriculture, review coordinated financial statements, and describe financial analysis and control. 2. Examine financial planning and feasibility analysis, credit risk assessment, lender-borrower relationships, and evaluate capital structure, leverage, and financial risk . 3. Identify risk management strategies. Understand and apply the time value of money concepts. 4. Calculate and evaluate investment analysis taking into consideration inflation and interest rates. Analyze term structure of interest rates. 5. Analyze ownership and leasing of farm land and non-real estate assets. 6. Evaluate market structure of agriculture, management environment for financial institutions, and loan pricing an analysis. 7. Identify financial intermediaries in agriculture.
Technology Requirements	https://www.doane.edu/faq/minimum-computer-requirements

Course Schedule & Grading

Module	Topic	Assessments Matched to Learning Outcomes	Due Date & Time
			*Discussions: Initial Response due Tuesday, Peer to Peer due Thursday, Final Responses due Sunday
1	Examine financial trends in agriculture, review coordinated financial statements, and describe financial analysis and control.	Self introduction Discussion Financial Trends in Agriculture (MO 1.1) Module 1 Review (MO 1.4, 1.5)	11:59 pm Sunday March 15th
2	Examine financial planning and feasibility analysis, credit risk assessment, lender-borrower relationships, and evaluate capital structure, leverage, and financial risk.	Financial Planning and Feasibility Module 2 Review (MO 2.1, 2.2) Financial Planning and Feasibility Analysis Discussion (MO 2.1, 2.2)	11:59 pm Sunday March 22th
3	Identify risk management strategies. Understand and apply the time value of money concepts.	Module 3 Review (MO 3.4, 3.5) Time Value of Money Calculations (MO 3.6, 3.7, 3.8)	11:59 pm Sunday March 29st

	Calculate and evaluate investment analysis taking into consideration inflation and interest rates. Analyze term structure of interest rates.	Investment Analysis Calculations (MO 4.1, 4.2, 4.3) Costs of Financial Capital Calculations (MO #4.4, 4.5, 4.6) Farm/Agribusiness Case Study Email (due week 4)	11:59 pm Sunday April 5th
5	Analyze ownership and leasing of farm land and non-real estate assets.	Changing Farmland Values Paper (MO #5.1,5.2) Farm/Agribusiness Case Study Email (due week 5)	11:59 pm Sunday April 12th
6	Evaluate market structure of agriculture, management environment for financial institutions, and loan pricing an analysis.	Module 6 Review (MO 6.1,6.2) Farm/Agribusiness Case Study (MO 1, 2, 3, 6)	11:59 pm Sunday April 19th

7	Identify financial intermediaries in agriculture.	Final Project (MO #7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5) Regulations Affecting Lending Institutions Discussion	11:59 pm Sunday April 26th
8	Summarize and analyze topics covered in Modules 1-7.	Final Project (MO #7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5)	11:59 pm Sunday May 3rd

Submitting Assignments

All assignments, unless otherwise announced by the instructor, **MUST** be submitted via Blackboard. Each assignment will have a designated place to submit the assignment.

Campus Network or Blackboard Outage

When access to Blackboard is not available for an extended period of time (greater than one entire evening - 6pm till 11pm) you can reasonably expect that the due date for assignments will be changed to the next day (assignment still due by midnight).

Grade Scale

A+ = 97-100% A = 94-96% A- = 90-93% B+ = 87-89% B = 84-86% B- = 80-83%
 C+ = 77-79% C = 74-76% C- = 70-73% D+ = 67-69% D = 64-66% D- = 60-63%
 F = 59% or below

Participation Policy	<p>A student is expected to be prompt and regularly attend on-ground classes in their entirety. Regular engagement is expected for online courses. Participation in class discussions is an integral part of your grade.</p> <p><i>Preparation</i> for class means reading the assigned readings & reviewing all information required for that week. <i>Attendance</i> in an online course means logging into the Blackboard and on a regular basis and <i>participating</i> in the all of activities that are posted in the course.</p> <p>You should plan to work on this course everyday. This means that you absolutely must have a reliable and consistent internet connection throughout the duration of the course. This also strongly suggests that you should not plan to take any vacations during this course. This is a</p>
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	condensed, fast-paced course and it would be extremely difficult to catch
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	up after a prolonged absence.
Study Time	Expectation of the amount of time the course requires students to spend preparing and completing assignments. Typically, students could expect to spend approximately 12 hours a week preparing for and actively participating in this 8-week 3 credit hour course. This actual time for study varies depending on students' backgrounds.
Late Work	ALL assignments must be finished and turned in to complete the course. Unless the instructor is notified BEFORE the assignment is due, it is automatically docked 20% each day it is late.
Submitting Assignments	All assignments, unless otherwise announced by the instructor, MUST be submitted via Blackboard. Each assignment will have a designated place to submit the assignment.
Communication Policy including Assignment Feedback	Feedback on assignments is given one week after assignments are due. Emails, texts, and calls will be returned within 3 days from receipt.
Academic Integrity Policy	<p>Doane University expects and requires all its students to act with honesty and integrity and respect the rights of others in carrying out all academic assignments. Academic dishonesty, the act of knowingly and willingly attempting or assisting others to gain academic success by dishonest means, is defined in four categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cheating - "Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information or study aids in an academic exercise." 2. Fabrication - "Intentional and unauthorized falsification of invention or any information or citation in an academic exercise." 3. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty - "Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of dishonesty," and/or coercing others to do the same. 4. Plagiarism - "Intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise," in both oral and written projects. <p><i>Gehring, D., Nuss, E.M., & Pavela, G. (1986). Issues and perspectives on academic integrity. Columbus, OH: National Association of Student Personnel Administrators</i></p> <p>For more information on the sanctions for academic dishonesty, please visit the website:</p> <p>https://catalog.doane.edu/content.php?catoid=16&navoid=1333</p>

Academic Support	Please contact academicsupport@doane.edu https://www.doane.edu/graduate-and-adult/academic-support
Disability Services	https://www.doane.edu/disability-services Doane University supports reasonable accommodations to allow participation by individuals with disabilities. Any request for accommodation must be initiated by the student as soon as possible. Each student receiving accommodations is responsible for his or her educational and personal needs while enrolled at Doane University.
Military Services	https://www.doane.edu/graduate-and-adult/military
Anti-Harassment Policy	http://catalog.doane.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=452
Grade Appeal Process	http://catalog.doane.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=238
Credit Hour Definition	Doane University follows the federal guideline defining a credit hour as one hour (50 minutes) of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks (one semester), or the equivalent amount of work over a different time period (e.g., an 8-week term). This definition applies to courses regardless of delivery format, and thus includes in-person, online, and hybrid courses (combination of in-person and online). It also applies to internship, laboratory, performance, practicum, research, student teaching, and studio courses, among other contexts.
Syllabus Changes	Circumstances may occur which require adjustments to the syllabus. Changes will be made public at the earliest possible time.