

**MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
COURSE SYLLABUS OUTLINE**

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

COURSE NUMBER: AGR 531

CREDIT HOURS: 3

I. TITLE:

Agricultural Finance

II. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

A study of the needs and problems of financing farm and farm service businesses, including a study of credit institutions serving American agriculture.

III. PURPOSE:

To provide students in the MSU Agriculture graduate program with a broad overview of the fundamental business concepts necessary to persons working in managerial positions.

IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The student will be able to understand the terms relevant to agribusiness in the United States. Topics include agricultural economics, agricultural finance, agricultural accounting and statistics.

V. CONTENT OUTLINE:

- A. Supply and demand of agricultural commodities.
- B. Elasticity and effects.
- C. Overview of commodity marketing in agriculture.
- D. Review of statistics needed for agricultural finance.
- E. Time value of money.
- F. Net present value.
- G. Variations on net present value.
- H. Estate planning.
- I. Case studies.
- J. Capital budgeting.
- K. Economics of project analysis.

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

One lecture per week, with short unannounced quizzes and outside assignments, a mid-term, and final.

Assignments- oral and extemporaneous

Classroom activity- lecture, discussion and participatory projects

Other Information:

- A. Obtaining assignments and the pursuant work is the responsibility of each individual student.
- B. Conditions of this syllabus may be changed and announced at any time.
- C. Every effort will be made to inform the students of course expectations. Trickery and subterfuge will be avoided. Students are encouraged to consult with the teacher on academic progress or any other matters affecting class performance. Extra group or individual study periods will be scheduled if requested but the student(s).

VII. FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:

None

VIII. RESOURCES:

None

IX. GRADING PROCEDURES:

Your mid term and final grade will be determined by your cumulative scores on all examinations and project assignments to the point in time grades are to be turned in to the appropriate university office. In order for you to approximate your grade at any point in time, you may rest assured that the following grade structure will be strictly enforced:

- A = 90 - 100
- B = 80 - 89
- C = 70 - 79
- D = 60 - 69
- E = 50 - 0

No extra credit work will be allowed in order to enhance one's grade. All makeup exams will be handled on an individual basis. Makeup exams will only be allowed for reasonable excuses, such as hospitalization, a family crisis or official representation at a university-sanctioned function.

X. ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Please refer to the most current copy of the *Murray State University's Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin*.

XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

(Adopted by the MSU Board of Regents)

Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person's material as one's own), or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, term papers, or the presentation on unacknowledged material as if it were the student's own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the faculty member who teaches the course in which the cheating took place.

NOTE: The School of Agriculture Faculty have adopted and implemented an Academic Honesty Policy in addition to the University Honesty Policy, which can be found in the current *Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin*. The policy sets guidelines regarding acts of dishonesty and the procedure to follow should an event occur. It is each Agriculture student's responsibility to obtain and read a copy of this document. The School's Academic Honesty Policy can be obtained by asking for a copy from any Agriculture Faculty member or the Secretary.

XII. TEXT AND REFERENCES:

Assigned Reading.

XIII. PREREQUISITES:

Graduate Standing.

XIV. STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL

OPPORTUNITY: Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, marital status, age, or disability in employment, admission, or the provision of services, educational programs and activities, and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in all programs and activities. For information regarding nondiscrimination policies contact the Office of Equal Opportunity, 270-762-3155.

