

AEB 3122 – Financial Planning for the Agribusiness

3 Credits
Spring 2015

Instructor: Richard Weldon
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Class Details: Tuesday - Thursday 4:05 – 4:55 p.m. in TUR - Room L005

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| Wednesday Lab: { | Section | 14A1 | 12:50pm – 1:40pm |
| | “ | 141B | 1:55pm – 2:45pm |
| | “ | 141F | 3:00pm – 3:50pm |
| | “ | 1416 | 4:05pm – 4:55pm |

Wednesday’s lab will meet in the CALS computer lab in McCarty (B) 3086.

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
or when mutually convenient.

Course Prerequisites: None.

Course Materials: Understanding Financial Statements (Required)

Author(s): Fraser and Ormiston
Pearson Prentice Hall, Edition: 10th
ISBN-10: 0132655063

QuickBooks Fundamentals Learning Guide 2013 (Optional)

Author: Doug Sleeter, ISBN 978-1-57338-116-1,

Intuit (Publisher). This textbook includes a 140 day student trial edition of the QuickBooks software. QuickBooks is available in the CALS computer lab, BUT NO WHERE ELSE ON CAMPUS. Purchase of the guide will allow you to complete the assignments on your own computer. Would recommend buying a new copy to ensure that it has the software. It's the software that you need not the actual book!

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| Calendar: | January 6 | First Day of Class |
| | January 14 | First Day of Lab |
| | February 10 or 12 | Exam 1 |
| | March 19 or 24 | Exam 2 |
| | April 21 | Exam 3 (last class) |

Course Description: The successful management of any business requires a basic understanding of financial and managerial accounting concepts. These concepts are the basis for financial analysis and managerial decision-making. In this class using lectures, discussion and labs you will learn how to interpret financial statements and use computer software tools that are the foundations for providing the necessary information to solve financial problems faced by the agribusiness, or the entrepreneur starting a new business. A complete understanding of the material covered in this course will also benefit individuals that are evaluating a firm as an investment opportunity.

Course Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course the student will be able to:

1. develop and use a management information system for historically interpretation and forecasting key business financial statements for the business,
2. articulate the usefulness, complexity, and shortcomings of the
 - a. the balance sheet
 - b. the income statement, and
 - c. the statement of cash flows,
3. analyze and evaluate these financial statements,
4. set up a company, enter business transactions, generate financial statements and reports in the accounting software QuickBooks, and

5. apply basic computer decision making aids to firm level financial management problems.

Grading and Exams: Weighing of exams and assignments.

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|-------------------|-----------|
| 3 In class exams | 60% |
| 5 Lab Assignments | 30 |
| Class Attendance | <u>10</u> |
| | 100 |

Exam Policy: There will be no makeup exams; should you miss one exam your grade will be the **LOWER** of;

- A. the average grade earned on the missed exam for the lower 25% of the students that actually took the exam (last semester the average for the lower 25% was 64, 62, and 60 for exams 1,2 and 3, respectively), **or**
- B. the two grades earned on the exams that you do take.

Read this very carefully – it is not “a drop the lowest exam” policy!

If you miss a second exam you will receive a zero for the second missed exam.

Class Attendance Policy: Class and lab attendance makes up 10% of your grade. Attendance sheets will be used (periodically) in class and lab. In fairness to punctual students to be counted as present and receive full credit for that day you must be on time and in the class for the entire period. If you attend at least 95% of these you will get the full 10% for attendance, If you attend at least 90% (but below 95%) you will get 9% for attendance, etc. If you have attendance below 50% you get **ZERO** attendance points.

The purpose of the attendance policy is to reinforce learning as an interactive process. I also want to reward and encourage those students that are engaged and contributing to the learning environment of the class. I have found that those students that attend class and participate are the students that not only learn the subject matter but also are able to develop critical thinking skills.

Honor code: Students should NEVER sign the name of another student for the attendance sheet. This is unethical and is considered academic misconduct and will result in dismissal from the course.

Absences and Make-Up Work

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Final grades will be assigned as follows * Previous grades distribution

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| 94 - 100 | A | 260* | 19.9% |
| 90 - 93 | A- | 136 | 10.4 |
| 87 - 89 | B+ | 200 | 15.3 |
| 83 - 86 | B | 252 | 19.3 |
| 80 - 82 | B- | 115 | 8.8 |
| 77 - 79 | C+ | 121 | 9.3 |
| 73 - 76 | C | 104 | 8.0 |
| 70 - 72 | C- | 30 | 2.3 |
| 67 - 69 | D+ | 28 | 2.1 |
| 63 - 66 | D | 23 | 1.8 |
| 60 - 62 | D- | 13 | 1.0 |
| < 60 | E | 23 | 1.8 |

Information on UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be obtained from this website.
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Extra Credit Policy: There will be no individual extra credit opportunities. The best way to insure that you get the highest grade possible is by attending over 95% of the class and getting the 10 points – this method provides the “biggest bang for your buck.”

Class Demeanor or Professional Etiquette: Adherence to the following guidelines is expected:

1. Students are expected to be on-time for class and leaving class early without prior consent of the instructor is not tolerated.
2. Cellular phones are to be turned off, as it is very disruptive when these devices ‘go off’ during class. No TXT-ing or any other use of cellular devices is permitted or tolerated in class. Turn off your devices before the class begins. The same goes for of any other portable electronic equipment.
3. No laptops or tablets are allowed in class, unless approved by the instructor.
4. You should avoid talking amongst each other once the lectures begin. If you have any questions during class about the material, please raise your hand and I will be happy to address any concerns you may have.

If you cannot abide by these simple rules you may be asked to leave the classroom. I also reserve the right to penalize any student continuously violating these rules by deducting ‘attendance’ points at my discretion.

Academic Honesty

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: *"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."* You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."*

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/SCCR/honorcodes/honorcode.php>.

Software Use:

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/*
Counseling Services
Groups and Workshops

Outreach and Consultation
Self-Help Library
Training Programs
Community Provider Database

- *Career Resource Center*, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu/

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation

0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/