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**AEB6942: Advanced Applications in Agribusiness Experience – Spring 2026**

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**Course Time and Location:** Asynchronous Online.

**Instructor information:** Ms. Hope Nelson ([hope.nelson@ufl.edu](mailto:hope.nelson@ufl.edu))

**Office Hours and Location:** McCarty A 1197. **Office Hours by Appointment.**

**Course Description** The MAB capstone provides professional learning experiences for students through an internship or special project. This course consists of three components (1) participation in an internship or special project, (2) periodic advising with faculty/staff and (3) the oral presentation and final written report.

Internships are heavily encouraged for non-working students or those not in their desired career path. Students currently working in job positions within the agribusiness industry may choose to do a special project, in which they take on an additional role/project within their company that shows an understanding and application of the MAB coursework.

**Graduate Advisor:** Ms. Jess Herman; 1170B McCarty Hall A; 352-294-7622;  
Email: [FRE-GradPrograms@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:FRE-GradPrograms@ifas.ufl.edu)

**MAB Coordinator:** Dr. Derek Farnsworth; 1083 McCarty Hall B; 352-294-7698;  
Email: [dfarnswo@ufl.edu](mailto:dfarnswo@ufl.edu)

**Expected Student Learning Outcomes:**

The purpose of the capstone course is to:

- Provide opportunity for learning experiences relevant to the degree
- Assist in forming and achieving career goals
- Provide opportunities for students to independently plan, execute, and present a project of their choosing

Goals for students within the course include:

- Independent exploration of fields of interest
- Improvement of knowledge and skills in current or prospective vocation
- Preparation for employment through field training and professional development
- Preparation for promotion through new and enhanced professional experiences

**Required Course Materials:**

- **Text:** *No textbook required*
- **E-learning:** There is an [E-Learning Canvas webpage](#) for this course. E-learning can be accessed via <http://elearning.ufl.edu> using your Gatorlink username and password. If you are having difficulties accessing E-learning, please contact the UF Computing Help Desk by calling (352)-392-HELP or via email [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

**Class Structure:** Asynchronous online. Final Presentations will be conducted via Zoom.

**Course Assignments and Expectations:**

**1. Faculty Advisor Matching & Meeting**

- Students should decide upon their faculty advisor prior to beginning their internship or project. This faculty advisor will be available to guide the student throughout their capstone experience.
- Students will be matched with a suggested faculty member based on their personal statements submitted in their applications, though they may select their own faculty advisor from the FRE department.
- After the student selects their faculty advisor, they must attend an introductory meeting with the advisor and MAB Coordinator Dr. Farnsworth. This meeting will discuss the student's internship/project topic, their goals for the experience and presentation, and the general timeline for the course.
- While the student does not need to have accepted an internship or begin their project at this point, they should have career goals prepared to share with their advisor.

**2. Approved Internship/Project Plan**

- Once the student has secured their internship or decided upon their project, they should complete the Approved Internship Plan or Approved Project Plan. This document details the student's internship/project responsibilities & goals, and how they will be measured.
- The plan must be signed by the student, faculty advisor, and employer, and should be submitted before the start date of the internship or project. Submit the plan to Program Specialist Hope Nelson at ([hope.nelson@ufl.edu](mailto:hope.nelson@ufl.edu)) if completed before the semester begins.

**3. Final Oral Presentation**

- Oral presentations provide the student with an opportunity to practice skills used in the workplace and other areas of life. Students should develop applied problem-solving capabilities, prepare persuasive arguments, demonstrate a logical flow of ideas, present information clearly and concisely, and foster discussion. In addition, the presentation enhances one's confidence and self-image, leadership skills, and ability to communicate effectively in work and interpersonal relationships.
  - **Components of the Presentation:**
    - PowerPoint-style presentation
    - 20-30 minutes total. 15-20 minutes for the presentation, 5-10 minutes of questions
    - Brief, concise, and focused on the subject

- Include interesting details and relevant visual illustrations as appropriate
- The successful final presentation satisfies the Graduate School's Final Oral Examination requirement for non-thesis students. This is the non-thesis equivalent of the defense required of thesis students
- The faculty advisor will guide the student on the formatting and content of the presentation. It will be graded Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory by the faculty advisor.
- The presentation should be formatted around their internship/project experience, with a background explaining their professional experience, the internship/project itself, and how they perceive their professional future after the project's conclusion.
- The presentation should be conducted via zoom before the non-thesis student final exam milestone deadline according to the UF Graduate School Academic Calendar ([Graduate School Calendars](#)). The presentation should be scheduled for the week of March 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### 4. Written Report

- The written paper provides the opportunity to enhance the student's communication skills as well as the student's knowledge of a topic and contribution to a particular field. In addition, it challenges the ability to analyze evidence, ask thoughtful and probing questions, gather, and interpret information, and form intelligent opinions and logical conclusions.
  - **Components of the Report**
    - A longer and more detailed version of the presentation
    - Approximately 5-10 pages, double spaced
    - Contains objectives, context and background, methodology, data, and conclusions
    - Well-organized, coherent, cohesive, informative, with good use of language and mechanics
- The faculty advisor will guide the student on formatting and content when needed. The deadline for the final report is set by the faculty advisor (but must be submitted before final term grades are due) and it is letter graded based on the faculty's criteria.
- While there is no mandatory minimum or maximum page count, a satisfactory final report is expected to be detailed and comprehensive, using specific examples of internship/project activities.

### 5. Student Personal Evaluation

- After the oral presentation and written report are submitted, the student will complete a self-evaluation of their experience in AEB 6942. The completed evaluation form is due on Canvas by April 17th.
- Employers will also complete evaluations. Students can either submit their employer's evaluations through Canvas, or employers can directly email their evaluations to [hope.nelson@ufl.edu](mailto:hope.nelson@ufl.edu)

### Composition of Final Score:

Course Assignments	Total Points	% of Total
Faculty Advisor Meeting	5 points	5%
Approved Internship Plan	10 points	10%
Final Oral Presentation	30 points	30%
Written Report	50 points	50%
Student Evaluation	5 points	5%
<b>Total</b>	100 points	100%

### Student Evaluation:

Grade	Percentage	Total points	Grade Points
A	93% or more	$\geq 372$	4.00
A-	90.0 – 92.9%	360 - 371	3.67
B+	86.0 – 89.9%	344 - 359	3.33
B	83.0 – 85.9%	332 - 343	3.00
B-	80.0 – 82.9%	320 - 331	2.67
C+	76.0 – 79.9%	304 - 319	2.33
C	73.0 – 75.9%	292 - 303	2.00
C-	70.0 – 72.9%	280 - 291	1.67
D+	66.0 – 69.9%	264 - 279	1.33
D	63.0 – 65.9%	252 - 263	1.00
D-	60.0 – 62.9%	240 - 251	0.67
E	59.9% or less	$\leq 239$	0.00

This course adheres to all UF Academic Policies: <https://go.ufl.edu/syllabuspolicies>

**Schedule of Assignments:** Failure to submit an assignment before a deadline may result in failure of the course. For this reason, it is strongly suggested to complete and turn in assignments before their deadlines.

AEB 6942 Syllabus Spring 2026

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Faculty Advisor Meeting	January 23rd
Approved Internship Plan	January 23rd
Final Oral Presentation	March 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup>
Written Report	April 3rd
Student Evaluation	April 17th