



AGBU 1100 (formerly AGRI 1100)

Division: Business and Technology

Department: Agricultural Business

Course: AGBU 1100 (formerly AGRI 1100)

Title: Career Exploration in Agribusiness

Catalog Description:

This class introduces students to a variety of agriculture careers in agribusiness, production, public and private service, and sales and marketing opportunities related to agriculture. Emphasis will be on opportunities in the western United States. A variety of guest lecturers will present real-world insight into various careers. Students will also develop their own professional letter of application and resume.

General Education Requirements: N/A

Semesters Offered: TBA

Credit/Time Requirement: Credit: 2; Lecture: 2; Lab: 0

Clock/Hour Requirements: 0

Offered for Non-Credit: Yes

Justification:

This course exposes students to various occupational options in the agricultural field. The course assists students in preparing a letter of application and resume for a prospective job in agriculture. The course also assists students in making occupational decisions and helps them map out an academic pathway.

Student Learning Outcomes:

As a result of taking this course, students will:

- be familiar with some of the many different jobs available within the scope of agribusiness
- be aware of the education and skills needed to be employable in the agribusiness area
- be aware of the monetary compensation, benefits, and risks associated with various occupations in agriculture
- understand that agriculture employment encompasses production, processing, and marketing of food and fiber products
- prepare a letter of application and a resume for a job identified by the student

Content:

In addition to instructor lectures, a variety of individuals associated with agriculture/agribusiness are invited to come and address the class. These individuals are instructed to inform students about their occupation in general but also to address the following topics:

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- job skills needed for their position
- education needed for similar positions
- work environment, including location of similar jobs
- job openings per year, if applicable
- pay and benefits to be expected

Field trips are also taken to local agricultural operations. Students are assigned to write and hand in a summary of each visit or field trip. After several guest presentations or class field trips, a class period is used for a summary discussion.

Students will also be taught how to prepare a letter of application and a resume for an actual job announcement.

General Education Outcomes:

2) Write clearly, informatively, and persuasively.

Students are instructed on specific methods for writing a meaningful evaluation of each class guest visit or field trip. This amounts to 15-20 written assignments during the course of the semester. Each student will also prepare a letter of application and a resume for a prospective job. The summaries, letter of application, and resume are submitted and checked for adherence to assignment standards, including clarity, use of agriculture terminology, and obvious grammar and spelling errors. Written assignments are returned to the students with instructor feedback so observation and writing skills will improve on subsequent assignments.

Key Performance Indicators:

Attendance 50%

Written assignments 50%

Percentages are approximate.

Representative Text and/or Supplies:

No specific text is used; however, students will become acquainted with the Career Library and its resources at the college. The instructor will also provide various materials.

Optimum Class Size: 24

Maximum Class Size: 30

Signatures:

I hereby submit this course syllabus:

Jay Olsen, MS, Instructor

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Agricultural Business Department:

Jay Olsen, MS, Instructor, Chair

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Business and Technology Division:

Doug Dyreng, MS, Associate Professor, Dean

I have discussed the need for library resources related to this class with the person submitting the syllabus:

Lynn Anderson, MLIS, Technical Services Librarian (Main Campus)

Michelle Olsen, MLS, Campus Librarian (Richfield Campus)