



SUSTAINABLE FARM MANAGEMENT

Basic data of the subject	
Academic Unit:	Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences
Course title:	Sustainable farm management
Study program:	Agribusiness Management
Level:	Master (MSc)
Course status:	Obligatory (O)
Study year:	1 year / 2 semester
Number of hours per week:	3 + 2
Credit value – ECTS:	7 ECTS
Time / location:	To be announced
Lecturer:	Prof. Asoc. Dr. Sadik Maloku
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Course description:	This course is designed to assist and serve the students through important theoretical treatments in the field of sustainable farm management. Management and sustainable development of agriculture are important factors in the success of a business (including farming). In this context, it should be noted, that the preparation and development of this course will serve not only the students who are interested in developing business in agriculture. The methodical and practical side of management problems in this course is intertwined with the reality of agricultural farms in Kosovo and in the region. Topics covered in this course include: sustainable development of agricultural production systems; environmental and economic factors affecting the regionalization of production and the choice of activities on the farm; farm size and its growth; farm management under risk and uncertainty conditions; investment analysis, capital and credit provision and use; land provision and use; labor force provision and use; and agricultural machinery provision and use. Most of the lecture time will be devoted to discussing farm management problems by applying economic principles of management.
Course objectives:	The purpose of this course is to teach students to identify and to know the elements and factors that determine agricultural production systems; recognize the concept of sustainable of agricultural systems, and to distinguish the viability of production systems in developed and developing countries; to know the environmental and economic factors affecting the regionalization of production and farm activities choice; to understand the linkages of farm size to cost; the process, necessity, growth conditions and the ways of financing the farm size; to know the sources of risk in agriculture and strategies to control and reduce it; to understand the economics of capital use and the sources of its provision; become familiar with the characteristics of agricultural land and the plan of its use; understand the economics of using the farm labor force, measuring and improving the effectiveness of farm work; understand and determine the costs of machinery and to know the sources of their provision on the farm.



Learning outcomes:	Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to: ▪ Understand and use key terminology and concepts of sustainable farm management. ▪ Evaluate key factors that determine the agricultural production systems. ▪ Use the concepts of sustainable of agricultural systems. ▪ Discuss the environmental and economic factors that influence the regionalization of production. ▪ Evaluate and discuss the linkages of farm size to cost. ▪ Evaluate process, necessity, growth conditions and the ways of financing the farm size. ▪ Analyze sources of risk in agriculture and demonstrate the ability to identify strategies that control and reduce it. ▪ Analyze the economics use of capital and its sources of provision. ▪ Evaluate characteristics of agricultural land and the plan of its use. ▪ Discuss and analyze economics of farm labor use, the measurement and the improvement of farm labor effectiveness. ▪ Determine and analyze the costs of machinery and to know the sources of their provision on the farm.		
Contribution on student load (must correspond with learning outcomes)			
Activity	Hours	Days/week	Total
Lectures	3	15	45
Exercise theoretical/laboratory	2	15	30
Practice work	3	3	9
Contact with lecturer/consultations	1	12	12
Field exercises	3	4	12
Mid-terms, seminars	3	1	3
Homework	1	15	15
Individual time spent studying (at the library or home)	1	15	15
Final preparation for the exam	2	13	26
Time spent in evaluation (tests, quiz, final exam)	3	1	3
Projects, presentations, etc.	5	1	5
Total			175 hours (7 ECTS)
Teaching methods:	Lectures, exercises, discussions, consultations, course projects, homework, midterm exam (colloquium), exams		



Evaluation methods:	▪ Regular and active attendance: 10%, ▪ Midterm exam (colloquium): 20%, ▪ Course project: 10%, ▪ Final exam: 60%.
Literature	
Basic Literature:	Meço, M., Mehmeti, G., Murrja, A., Tomorri, I., Maloku, S. (2017). Drejtimi i Fermave. Dita 2000, Tiranë.
Additional Literature:	Ronald D. Kay, William M. Edwards, and Patricia A. Duffy, Farm Management, 6th Edition, by McGraw-Hill, 2009. Raanan Weitz, from peasant to farmer: a revolutionary strategy for development, Columbia University Press, New York and London, 1971. M. D. Boehlje, V. R. Eidman, Farm Management, by John Wiley and Sons Inc. 1984. C. S. Barnard, J. S. Nix, Farm Planning and Control, Cambridge University Press. Raymond R. Beneke, Managing the Farm Business, John Wiley and Sons, Inc.

Designed study plan:		
Week	Lectures	Exercises
<i>First week:</i>	Sustainable development of agricultural production systems (Elements and factors determining agricultural production systems, agricultural production systems in Albania and in the region)	Discussion and distribution of the semestral project topics.
<i>Second week:</i>	Sustainable development of agricultural production systems (Elements and factors determining agricultural production systems, agricultural production systems in Albania and in the region)	Assignments, quizzes and case studies related to the topic of the first week lecture.
<i>Third week:</i>	Sustainability of agricultural systems (Sustainability of production systems in developed and developing countries)	Assignments, quizzes and case studies related to the topic of the second week lecture.
<i>Fourth week:</i>	Environmental and economic factors affecting the regionalization of production and farm activities choice (Environmental factors, Economic factors, Selection of activities and their	Assignments, quizzes and case studies related to the topic of the third week lecture.



	combination, Moderate diversification, Using simple programming and Linear programming in optimizing (diversifying) production structure, Types of agricultural activities, factors affecting activity selection on farm, Vertical diversification)	
<i>Fifth week:</i>	Environmental and economic factors affecting the regionalization of production and farm activities choice (Environmental factors, Economic factors, Selection of activities and their combination, Moderate diversification, Using simple programming and Linear programming in optimizing (diversifying) production structure, Types of agricultural activities, factors affecting activity selection on farm, Vertical diversification)	Assignments, quizzes and case studies related to the topic of the forth week lecture.
<i>Sixth week:</i>	Farm size and its growth (Linkages of farm size to cost, Process of increasing farm size, Planning to increase the farm size, Factors that promote or slow the perspective of farm size in perspective)	Assignments, quizzes and case studies related to the topic of the fifth week lecture.
<i>Seventh week:</i>	Farm size and its growth (Linkages of farm size to cost, Process of increasing farm size, Planning to increase the farm size, Factors that promote or slow the perspective of farm size in perspective)	Assignments, quizzes and case studies related to the topic of the sixth week lecture.
<i>Eighth week:</i>	Midterm exam	Assignments, quizzes and case studies related to the topic of the seventh week lecture.
<i>Ninth week:</i>	Farm Management in conditions of risk and uncertainty (Resources of agricultural risk and farmers' attitudes towards it, Strategies to control and reduce risk in agriculture)	Assignments, quizzes and case studies related to the topic of the eighth week lecture.
<i>Tenth week:</i>	Investment analysis (Time value of money, Investment analysis, Other factors that influence investment analysis)	Assignments, quizzes and case studies related to the topic of the ninth week lecture.
<i>Eleventh week:</i>	Provision and use of capital and credit	Assignments, quizzes and case



	(Economics of capital use, Sources of capital provision, Types of loans, Factors affecting credit receipt and disbursement)	studies related to the topic of the tenth week lecture.
<i>Twelfth week:</i>	Provision and use of land (Land characteristics, Land use planning, Land management forms, Types of agricultural leases, Fragmentation of farm land)	Assignments, quizzes and case studies related to the topic of the eleventh week lecture.
<i>Thirteenth week:</i>	Provision and use of the labor force (Farm labor force resources, Economics of farm labor use, Measuring farm labor effectiveness, Improving labor effectiveness, Paid labor force management)	Assignments, quizzes and case studies related to the topic of the twelfth week lecture.
<i>Fourteenth week:</i>	Provision and use of agricultural machinery (Determination of machinery costs, Sources of machinery insurance, Replacement of labor with machinery work, Machinery selection, Machinery replacement decisions)	Assignments, quizzes and case studies related to the topic of the thirtieth week lecture.
<i>Fifteenth week:</i>	Presentation of the course projects.	Presentation of the course projects.
Academic policies and rules of conduct:		
▪ Students should be aware of and respect the institution and Code of ethics. ▪ Students should respect the schedule of lectures, and exercises and be attentive. ▪ It is mandatory to possess and presents a student ID card in the mid-terms and exam, ▪ During the compilation of course projects, students must adhere to the instructions given by the professor. ▪ During the exam is forbidden the use of mobile phones.		