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| **STUDY PROGRAMME:** | **Professional Graduate Study Programme *Management in Agriculture*** | |
| **Course:** | RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS | |
| **Course code:** 194099  **Course status**: elective | **Semester: II** | **ECTS credits: 4** |
| **Course holder:** | **Kristina Svržnjak , Ph.D., professor of professional studies** | |
| **Course associates:** | Sandra Kantar, Ph.D., professor of professional studies | |
| **Modes of delivery:** | **Number of hours** | |
| **Lectures** | 25 | |
| **Excersises** | 10 | |
| **Seminars** | 5 | |

**Course objectives:** To acquaint students with the meaning of rural development measures and the possibilities of applying for rural development projects. Train them to recognize indicators that affect rural competitiveness through rural development projects.

**Course content**

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|  | **Course unit** | **Modes of delivery:** | | | **Places of delivery** |
| **L** | **E** | **S** |
| 1. | Introduction to the subject. General characteristics of rural areas, socio-economic analysis of rural areas in Croatia. | 4 |  |  | Classroom |
| 2. | Main development factors in the rural area. | 3 |  |  | Classroom |
| 3. | Institutions and services in the field of rural development, rural hubs. | 5 |  |  | Classroom |
| 4. | Priorities, programs and measures of rural development (rural interventions) in Croatia and the EU. The concept of smart villages. | 5 |  |  | Classroom |
| 5. | LOCAL ACTION GROUPS, analysis of rural development projects in Croatia and comparison with projects within LEADER program in the European Union. | 5 |  |  | IT Classroom |
| 6. | Competitiveness of rural areas. | 3 |  |  | IT Classroom |
| 7. | Simulation of filling out the application form for a project related to rural development and evaluation of project ideas |  | 3 |  | IT Classroom |
| 8. | Research of the best rural development projects with an emphasis on the LEADER program, connecting the LEADER application with similar programs in EU  Possibility of field work or guest lecturer. |  | 2 |  | IT Classroom, outside KUAS |
| 9. | Presentation of project ideas. |  |  | 5 | Classroom |
| 10. | How many LAGs are there in Croatia, how to find them through the Register of Associations. |  | 2 |  | IT Classroom |
| 11. | Calculating the competitiveness of rural areas. |  | 3 |  | IT Classroom |

**L=Lectures, E=Excersises, S=Seminars**

**Learning outcomes (LO)**

LO 1. Present the importance of rural development in Croatia and institutions supporting development and projects

LO 2. Present rural interventions through opportunities that can be implemented by applying to rural development projects

LO 3. Discover LAGs in certain rural areas through the Register of Associations

LO 4. Creating your own project idea based on already implemented projects in the EU

LO 5. Evaluate project ideas

LO 6. Critically assess the competitiveness of a certain rural area based on the competitiveness index

Course holder:

Kristina Svržnjak, Ph.D., professor of professional studies

Križevci, July 2024