|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **STUDY PROGRAMME:** | **Professional Undergraduate Study Programme *Agriculture***  Specific field of study: Course foundations | |
| **Course:** | **PRINCIPLES OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS** | |
| **Course code: 241305**  **Course status:** compulsory | **Semester:**  II | **ECTS credits: 5,5** |
| **Course holder:** | **Dragutin Kamenjak,** M.Eng.Agr., senior lecturer | |
| **Course associates:** | **Dušanka Gajdić,** Ph. D.,professor of professional studies | |
| **Modes of delivery:** | **Number of hours** | |
| **Lectures** | 45 | |
| **Excersises** | 30 | |
| **Practical training** | 8 | |

**Course objectives:** Enable students to acquire basic macroeconomic knowledge related to the functioning of a country's entire economy, with a special focus on the agriculture and agribusiness sectors, as well as basic microeconomic knowledge that forms the foundation for the operations of all business entities.

**Course content**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Course units** | **Modes of delivery:** | | | **Places of delivery** |
| **L** | **E** | **S** |
| **1.** | Introduction to the Course: Definitions, classifications of economics / positive and normative economics / microeconomics and macroeconomics of agriculture / methods in economics and potential errors, connection between economics and other sciences. | 4 |  |  | Lecture hall |
| **2.** | Historical development of economic and agricultural economic thought, economic schools of thought. | 3 |  |  | Lecture hall |
| **3.** | Economic process, problems of economic organization, economic role of the state. | 4 |  |  | Lecture hall |
| **4.** | Concept, classification, specificities of agricultural production, regional aspects of agricultural development. | 3 |  |  | Lecture hall |
| **5.** | **Economic laws in production, distribution, exchange, and consumption of goods.** | 4 |  |  | Lecture hall |
| **6.** | **Market mechanism, analysis of supply and demand.** | 4 |  |  | Lecture hall |
| **7.** | **Production resources, theory of production, production function, production factors in agriculture / land, labor, capital, management.** | 3 |  |  | Lecture hall |
| COLLOQUIUM I | | | | | Lecture hall |
| **8.** | **Position of agricultural economics in the economic system, basic functions (roles) of agriculture.** | 4 |  |  | Lecture hall |
| **9.** | **Agriculture and agribusiness / industries alongside and downstream of agriculture.** | 3 |  |  | Lecture hall |
| **10.** | **Agrarian structure of agriculture in Croatia, with a focus on the agrarian structure of the EU.** | 4 |  |  | Lecture hall |
| **11.** | **Agricultural production in Croatia, state and assessment of development by agricultural branches.** | 5 |  |  | Lecture hall |
| **12.** | **Common agricultural policy (CAP): objectives, measures, stakeholders, effects.** | 4 |  |  | Lecture hall |
|  | COLLOQUIUM II |  |  |  | Lecture hall |
| **13.** | Introduction to the subject – basic concepts and theories of microeconomics. Microeconomic variables. Market. Behavior of producers and consumers. |  | 2 |  | Lecture hall |
| **14.** | Scientific research methods in economics – rationalist and empirical methods of knowledge, types and sources of data, application of statistical methods in agricultural economics. |  | 4 |  | Lecture hall |
| **15.** | Statistical analysis of time series in agriculture  Exercises 1. Relative numbers of coordination and percentage change  Exercises 2. Relative numbers of dynamics  Exercises 3. Base and chain indices |  | 6 |  | Lecture hall |
| **16.** | Supply and demand, factors affecting supply and demand for agricultural products, specifics of supply and demand for agricultural products, elasticity of supply and demand  Exercises 4. Analysis of supply and demand |  | 4 |  | Lecture hall |
|  | COLLOQUIUM I. | | | | Lecture hall |
| **17.** | Accounting and analysis of business operations; revenues and expenses of entrepreneurs (types and classification), basic financial statements, determination of entrepreneurial business results.  Assets and sources of assets for entrepreneurs (types and classification).  Exercises 5. Classification of entrepreneurial assets; financial results of entrepreneurs. |  | 6 |  | Lecture hall |
| **18.** | Performance measurement – absolute and relative performance metrics, calculating and interpreting fundamental business performance indicators (profitability, efficiency, and productivity), financial performance indicators.  Exercises 6. Business performance indicators for entrepreneurs. |  | 4 |  | Lecture hall |
| **19.** | Investment economics – concept, types, and purpose of investments, reasons for investing in agriculture, investment components, analysis of planned investments, financing investments, dynamic and static methods for evaluating investment profitability (net present value, internal rate of return, return on investment, payback period).  Exercises 7. Methods for calculating investment profitability. |  | 4 |  | Lecture hall |
|  | COLLOQUIUM II | | | | Lecture hall |
| **20.** | **Practical training – Integrated Project Assignment (IPA)**  The integrated project assignment is part of the courses Principles of agricultural economics and Rural sociology.  Students are required to complete an assignment on a specified topic in the field of socio-economic analysis of agriculture in the local region-county-municipality-village, including the development of a research instrument, analysis, and interpretation of the obtained data.  Students work on the project individually. They receive instructions and support from course instructors. Students act as researchers of the socio-economic characteristics of the area in which they live or reside (village/municipality/county/region). Their task is to investigate the economic, political, and social aspects of agriculture.  Data collection is carried out from available information sources (libraries, internet, statistical sources, and survey research). Data analysis is performed using mathematical-statistical and informational models and programs. After the analysis, the project data is interpreted correctly and a professional report is prepared. | 8 | | | Outside the University of Applied Sciences  Lecture hall |
|  |  | **L** | **E** | **PT** |  |
|  | **In total** | **45** | **30** | **8** |  |

**L=Lectures, E=Excersises, PT=Practical training**

**Learning outcomes (LO)**

LO 1. Argument the basic concepts and theoretical foundations in the field of micro and macroeconomics.

LO 2. Present economic systems and the characteristics of the basic factors of agricultural production functions.

LO 3. Assess macroeconomic indicators and the impact of various macroeconomic policies on agriculture and agribusiness.

LO 4. Identify the specifics and interconnections between agriculture and other economic sectors (agribusiness and beyond).

LO 5. Present the agricultural structure and agricultural policy of Croatia as an EU member.

LO 6. Evaluate the dynamics of trends based on statistical analysis of time series data in agriculture.

LO 7. Assess price elasticity of supply and price and income elasticity of demand based on calculations.

LO 8. Evaluate business performance of a company or production by calculating and analyzing basic performance indicators.

LO 9. Assess the economic justifiability of investments based on dynamic and static indicators.

Course holder:

Dragutin Kamenjak, M.Eng.Agr., senior lecturer

Križevci, July 2024