

Faculty of Economics and Political Science

Agricultural Economics

Information :

Course Code : ECO 207

Level : Undergraduate

Course Hours : 3.00- Hours

Department : Department of Economics

Instructor Information :

Title	Name	Office hours
Associate Professor	Noura Abdel Maksoud Abdullah Eissa	1

Area Of Study :

This course focuses on the economics of agricultural production and the decisions taken by the farmer and by the food markets dictating the pricing structure for agricultural products. It also emphasizes the reasons behind changes in supply, the agricultural land ownership structure and schemes behind agricultural marketing. This course assists students to acquire theoretical models that will help in analyzing agricultural prices, demand and supply, and the linkage between the agricultural sector and other nonagricultural sectors in the Egyptian market.

Course Goals:

- "Outline various economic theories related to agricultural economic with special emphasis on developing countries.
- "Identify economic facts related to decision making and production in agricultural economics such as agricultural problems in developing countries, the role of agriculture in economic development, and the prime movers of agricultural development and constraints.
- "Estimate and analyze economic variables both in theory and practice.
- "Develop mathematical, graphical, and research skills in understanding microeconomics.
- "Specify the characteristics and performance of Egyptian agriculture and the agricultural reform policy in Egypt.
- "Begin to understand the ways in which different areas of Economics relate to one another.
- "Appraise how the laws of Economics are developed along with the relevance of Economics to society.

Description :

This course main focus is the economics of agriculture production, decision taking on the farm level, food markets, and structure of pricing policy for agricultural products, response of supply, agriculture land ownership structure and agriculture marketing. It assists the students to have their theoretical tools to analyze the agriculture prices and the link between agriculture sector and other sectors focusing on the Egyptian market.

Course outcomes :

a. Knowledge and Understanding: :

1 -	Design five common goals of Agricultural economic systems and illustrate how they may conflict.
2 -	Identify Egyptian Agricultural economic policies and their tools
3 -	Recognize the wider economic and social implications of processes of economic development in agriculture.
4 -	Identify issues that arise when considering the likely economic impact of government intervention, and of the framework and constraints, within which policy is formulated.
5 -	Outline how economic forces impact agricultural production and the food chain, the rural economy, and how markets work (or sometimes do not work) to co-ordinate economic activity.

b. Intellectual Skills: :

1 -	Develop skills in oral and written communication of agriculture and economic development issues.
2 -	Subdivide the plan and execution of a research project.
3 -	Examine the role and impact of government intervention.
4 -	Interpret the role of agriculture in processes of economic development within the context of low and middle-income countries.
5 -	Interpret the importance of agricultural development within overall development strategies and policies at the national and international levels.
6 -	Analyze contemporary agricultural and economic development issues.

c. Professional and Practical Skills: :

1 -	Use quantitative skills in understanding economic integration such as trade gravity models.
2 -	Use and construct a sound knowledge of core economic theory.
3 -	Construct a SWOT analysis of farm production and financial plans for agribusiness.
4 -	Dramatize on government policies related to agriculture food supply, food production, and the rural economy.
5 -	Prepare analytical methods, theory based and model based arguments.

d. General and Transferable Skills: :

1 -	Experience with conceptual frameworks effective for problem solving and decision making.
2 -	Acquire analytical reasoning skills, numeric and clear effective communication skills.
3 -	Test the ability of students to work under pressure and as part of a team.

Course Topic And Contents :

Topic	No. of hours	Lecture	Tutorial / Practical
Introductory lecture and course outline - Agriculture and food sector General overview	3	1	
The meaning of development and the economic characteristics of developing countries and the agricultural problems of developing countries such as Egypt.	3	1	
The historical role of agriculture in the economic development of the Middle East with specific focus on Egypt and other developing countries. - Agriculture in economic development theories such as the growth stage theories and dual economy models.	3	1	
Conducting a business plan for agribusiness projects. - From Agriculture and agro-good to agri-business	6	2	
Marketing plan for Agri-business companies	3	1	
Midterm Exam		1	
Models of agricultural development, the concept of integrated rural development and agricultural extension. - Cost structure for the food system	6	2	
Financial plan for Agri-business companies - Farming systems research	6	2	
The marketing of agricultural and food products in developing countries (Egypt) - Agricultural planning: identification, preparation and evaluation of agricultural development projects.	3	1	
SWOT analysis for the Food and Agriculture Sector	6	2	

Course Topic And Contents :

Topic	No. of hours	Lecture	Tutorial / Practical
Final Exam		1	

Teaching And Learning Methodologies :

Demonstration videos

Presentation

Simulations

Debates

Group discussion

Research Paper

Course Assessment :

Methods of assessment	Relative weight %	Week No	Assess What
Attendance and Participation	10.00		To assess understanding and assess theoretical background of the intellectual and practical skills.
Final Exam	40.00	15	To assess knowledge and intellectual skills.
Midterm Exam	30.00	7	To assess professional skills.
Research paper	20.00		

Recommended books :

1. F. Ellis Ellis, Peasant Economics: Farm Households and Agrarian Development. Cambridge University Press, 1998.
2. K. Carl and M. John. International Agricultural Development. Baltimore M.D., The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998.
3. M. Gillis (et al.), Economies of Development. W.W. Norton & Company, New York, 1999.
4. M. Todaro and S. Smith, Economic Development, Addison Wesley, 2012.
5. M. Upton, The Economics of Tropical Farming Systems, Cambridge University Press-cutting themes, 1996.

Periodicals :

Web Sites :

1. www.fao.org
2. <http://mises.org/Books/Mengerprinciples.pdf>
3. www.uv.es
4. <http://www.econlib.org/library/Marshall/marP2.html>