

**COURSE NAME:** Agricultural Accounting

**COURSE NUMBER:** 11:373:200

**SEMESTER:** Fall 2024

**MEETING DAYS, TIMES, AND PLACE:** FOR 138 A

**PREREQUISITE:** 11:373:121 or 01:220:101

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Instructor(s): Isaac Vellangany

Office Location: Cook Office Building, Room 117

Phone: 848-932-9131

Email: isaacv@rutgers.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment

**COURSE WEBSITE, RESOURCES AND MATERIALS:**

- [Canvas.rutgers.edu](https://canvas.rutgers.edu)
- **Financial Management in Agriculture 7<sup>th</sup> Edition** by Peter J. Barry & Paul N. Ellinger  
ISBN-13: 978-0135037591

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The course introduces general accounting concepts and offers instruction into how an accounting system is constructed and operated, with a specific focus on the basic financial infrastructure governing modern agricultural production. The course pays particular attention to using accounting methods to evaluate and manage agricultural business risks, financing alternatives, hedging strategies, and leasing vs. ownership. Additional insight will be provided into the related legal aspects of agricultural finance.

**LEARNING GOALS:**

1. To understand and recognize various accounting principles, such as the differences in financial and management accounting, accrual accounting, how assets and liabilities are classified in a balance sheet, and how financial results are captured in an income statement.
2. To understand the various agricultural-specific accounting transactions with a strong focus on financing, investing, and operating activities, in addition to related legal, regulatory, and business organizational issues.

3. To understand the nature of derivatives and the use of hedges to control agricultural business risks. Derivative and hedge accounting methodologies will also be explored.
4. To understand how to prepare agricultural-based financial statements and to perform in-depth financial analyses of farm-related businesses and projects.

**COURSE JUSTIFICATION:**

- This course will be offered to all the students pursuing their undergraduate degree. The projected number of students in this class is ~40. Students from all fields will take this course.
- The new course covering “Agricultural Accounting” will introduce broad accounting and financial concepts viewed through the lens of the agricultural production industry.
- Additionally, the course will emphasize advanced and unique aspects of agricultural accounting, such as special valuation rules, hedging strategies, and the recording farm assets, thereby providing essential, core knowledge for students interested in agricultural operations.

**ASSIGNMENTS/RESPONSIBILITIES, GRADING & ASSESSMENT:**

- Two Hourly Exams (50%)
- Research Project (25%)
- Weekly Quizzes (15%)
- Class Participation (10%)
- Attendance is mandatory.
- You will not be tested on information we do not cover in class.

<b>Grade Components</b>	<b>Possible points</b>	<b>Percentage weight</b>
Exam 1	100	25
Exam 2	100	25
Quizzes (10 highest only)	100	15
Project	100	25
Attendance, participation	100	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Grading Scale:</b>		
A = 90 % and above	B+ = 85%-89%	B = 80%-84%
C+ = 75%-79%	C = 70%-74%	D= 61%-69%
F = 60% and below		

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Please follow the procedures outlined at <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>. Full policies and procedures are at <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>  
Enter additional text here if you wish

### **ABSENCE POLICY**

Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me.

### **COURSE SCHEDULE:**

Chapters 1-8, 12, 13, and 18-21 will be covered in varying degrees of detail. Students are required to read the assigned chapter(s) prior to lectures. Short quizzes (in many cases take-home) will be given and cover the previous week's material. (Instructor reserves the right to alter the schedule when necessary during the course of the semester).

Chapter 1: Nature and Scope of Financial Management

Chapter 2: Financial Statements and Information Flows

Chapter 3: Financial Analysis and Control

Chapter 4: Financial Planning and Feasibility Analysis

Chapter 6: Capital Structure, Leverage, and Financial Risk

Chapter 7: Risk Management

- Exam 1 -

Chapter 8: Time Value of Money

Chapter 12: Ownership and Leasing of Farmland

Chapter 13: Leasing Non-Real Estate Assets

Chapter 18: Financial Intermediaries in Agriculture

Chapter 19: Legal Aspects of Agricultural Finance

Chapter 20: Business Organization in Agriculture

Chapter 21: Outside Equity Capital in Agriculture

- Exam 2-

Agricultural Hedging

Student Project Work

The project will require students to categorize raw data into financial statements and in the process formulate rudimentary hedging strategies for a fictional agricultural concern.

## **FINAL EXAM/PAPER DATE AND TIME**

Online Final exam Schedule: <http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/>

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

The university's policy on Academic Integrity is available at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy>. The principles of academic integrity require that a student:

- properly acknowledge and cite all use of the ideas, results, or words of others.
- properly acknowledge all contributors to a given piece of work.
- make sure that all work submitted as his or her own in a course or other academic activity is produced without the aid of impermissible materials or impermissible collaboration.
- obtain all data or results by ethical means and report them accurately without suppressing any results inconsistent with his or her interpretation or conclusions.
- treat all other students in an ethical manner, respecting their integrity and right to pursue their educational goals without interference. This requires that a student neither facilitate academic dishonesty by others nor obstruct their academic progress.
- uphold the canons of the ethical or professional code of the profession for which he or she is preparing.

Adherence to these principles is necessary in order to ensure that

- everyone is given proper credit for his or her ideas, words, results, and other scholarly accomplishments.
- all student work is fairly evaluated and no student has an inappropriate advantage over others.
- the academic and ethical development of all students is fostered.
- the reputation of the University for integrity in its teaching, research, and scholarship is maintained and enhanced.

Failure to uphold these principles of academic integrity threatens both the reputation of the University and the value of the degrees awarded to its students. Every member of the University community therefore bears a responsibility for ensuring that the highest standards of academic integrity are upheld.

## **STUDENT WELLNESS SERVICES**

Just In Case Web App <http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ [www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/](http://www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/)

CAPS is a university mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professionals within Rutgers Health

Services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers various services, including individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community, and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

#### Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / [www.vpva.rutgers.edu/](http://www.vpva.rutgers.edu/)

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling, and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff, and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

#### Disability Services

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the registration form on the ODS website at <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

#### Scarlet Listeners

(732) 247-5555 / <https://rutgers.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/scarletlisteners>

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.