

COURSE OF STUDY *Degree in Sustainable Agriculture Techniques (LP-02)*

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024

ACADEMIC SUBJECT *Agricultural economics and policy – 6 ECTS (Economia e politica agraria – 6 CFU)*

General information	
Academic subject	Agricultural economics and policy
Degree course	Degree in Sustainable Agriculture Techniques (LP-02)
Academic Year	First
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)	6
Language	Italian
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	II semester (11 th March 2024 – 21 st June 2024)
Attendance	No compulsory

Professor/ Lecturer	
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Department and address	2° floor, 4° building - ex Faculty of Agriculture
Virtual headquarters	Microsoft Teams Class (code: 4yhna2o)
Tutoring (time and day)	Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm, by appointment. Tutoring is also provided through Microsoft Teams.

Syllabus	
Learning Objectives	The course aims to provide basic knowledge on the main tools for agricultural enterprise management, on the functioning of the agri-food system, on European Union policies for the agricultural sector and rural areas.
Course prerequisites	Basic knowledge of Mathematics: concept of function, graphs of functions.
Contents	<p>Microeconomics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theory of supply and demand and market equilibrium. • The choice of the consumer and the choice of the entrepreneur. • Market structure: perfect and imperfect competition. • Welfare economics and market failures. <p>Agricultural economics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main peculiarities of farming activities. • The agricultural entrepreneur and the production factors. • The classification of agricultural enterprises. • Economic assessment of the agricultural enterprise. <p>Agricultural policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Union policies for the agricultural sector and rural development.
Books and bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Lecture notes and lecture materials provided during the course. – Begg D., Vernasca G., Fischer S., Dornbusch R., Besana A. (2018). <i>Economia</i>, Mc Graw Hill Education. – Torquati B. (2003). <i>Economia e gestione dell'impresa agraria</i>. Sole24Ore Edagricole, Bologna.

Additional materials	– Mariani A., Viganò E. (2002). Il sistema agroalimentare dell'Unione Europea, Carocci, Milano.
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Work schedule			
Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
Hours			
150	32	28	90
ECTS			
6	4	2	
Teaching strategy	<p>The teaching activity, divided into theoretical lessons and classroom exercises, represents the main teaching method. The theoretical lessons are supplemented by the illustration of practical examples. The exercises are based on the execution guided by the teacher of exercises which facilitate the understanding of the theoretical concepts. Also, there will be group work of students aimed at giving a presentation on specific material provided by the teacher or proposed by the students.</p> <p>The topics of the course are covered with the help of Power Point presentations.</p>		
Expected learning outcomes			
Knowledge and understanding on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Knowledge of the fundamentals of Microeconomics. ○ Knowledge and understanding of the theoretical and operative aspects for the management of the agricultural enterprise. ○ Knowledge of the main features of the agri-food system and European Union policies for the agricultural sector and rural development. 		
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Knowledge and understanding of the main tools for the management of the agricultural enterprise. ○ Knowledge and understanding of the main agricultural policy tools for agricultural enterprises. 		
Soft skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Making informed judgments and choices</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to evaluate, through a critical approach, the relevant aspects of agricultural enterprise management. ○ Ability to analyse complex problems and identify solutions for the management of the agricultural enterprise. • <i>Communicating knowledge and understanding</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to communicate the main issues of agricultural enterprise management and the main agricultural policy tools for agricultural enterprises. • <i>Capacities to continue learning</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to deepen and update knowledge of the economic dynamics of the agricultural sector. ○ Ability to deepen and update knowledge of agricultural policy tools for agricultural enterprises. ○ Ability to learn the emerging problems in the management of the agricultural enterprise. 		

Assessment and feedback	
Methods of assessment	For students enrolled in the year in which the lectures are given there will be a midterm test. This midterm test is carried out in written form on the topics

	<p>developed during the lectures. The evaluation is awarded in thirtieths and the achievement of a minimum mark of 18/30 is needed. The mark of the midterm test contributes to the final mark, but only within one academic year.</p> <p>The final exam consists of an oral test on the topics developed during the lectures, both theoretical and practical, with the aim to verify the acquired knowledge and the ability to face practical issues.</p> <p>The evaluation of the student's preparation is done based on established criteria, as detailed in Annex A of the Teaching Regulations of the Degree Programme in Sustainable Agriculture Techniques (TAS).</p> <p>The evaluation of the Foreign students' preparation can be made by written test.</p>
Evaluation criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Knowledge of the basic principles of supply and demand theory, the market equilibrium and the main market structures. ○ Knowledge and understanding of the theoretical aspects for the management of the agricultural enterprise. ○ Knowledge of the main features of the agri-food system and European Union policies for the agricultural sector and rural development. • Applying knowledge and understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Knowledge and understanding of the operational aspects for the management of the agricultural enterprise. • Autonomy of judgment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to evaluate, through a critical approach, the relevant aspects of agricultural enterprise management. ○ Ability to analyse complex problems and identify solutions for the management of the agricultural enterprise. • Communicating knowledge and understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to communicate the main issues of agricultural enterprise management and the main policy tools for agricultural enterprises. • Capacities to continue learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to learn emerging issues in agricultural enterprise management.
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	<p>The assessment of the student's preparation is based on predetermined criteria in accordance with the Didactic Regulations of the Degree Programme in Sustainable Agriculture Techniques (TAS).</p> <p>The Examination Committee has a score ranging from a minimum of 18 to a maximum of 30 points for a positive assessment of the student's performance. By unanimous vote of its members, the Board may award honours in cases where the final mark is 30.</p>
Additional information	