

Equipment Management & Employee Safety

ABUS 487, Spring 2012

TH 5:00 – 7:50 p.m.; Plumas 303

Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. or by appointment

California State University, Chico

Instructor: Marnie R. Dalton

Email: mdalton@propacificfresh.com
mdalton@csuchico.edu

Phone: (530) 898-4908

Cell: (530) 228-1269

Description: Agribusinesses in today's competitive environment expect college graduates to have a variety of skills. Employers consistently say that they are looking for employees with the following abilities: 1) excellent communication skills (both written and oral); 2) good problem-solving and critical-thinking skills; 3) listening skills and a willingness to understand the opinions of others; 4) the ability to work well in teams; and 5) the ability to conduct themselves in a professional manner.

This course is designed to help you develop these skills in the context of farm equipment management and safety. We'll use lectures, class discussions, presentations, guest speakers, and group activities to explore these management techniques. Three of our most important goals are: 1) to develop an appreciation of the role and importance of employee safety and compliance; and 2) to introduce approaches that are useful when analyzing potential equipment purchases/leases; and 3) to develop a solid maintenance schedule for farm equipment.

Required Materials:

Pesticide Safety, A Reference Manual for Private Applicators, University of California, Publication 3383, 1998 or sooner.

Additional articles and information will be distributed in class for future discussion.

Course Requirements:

1. Active participation in class discussions is a must; hence attendance is required in class. Students are to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.
2. A detailed outline of each lecture is to be turned in at the beginning of class of the following week, unless otherwise noted on course outline or announced in class. Each outline must be typed. This is an individual assignment and group efforts will not be accepted. Yes, students are required to outline the lectures of guests speakers as well. If a student knows that he/she will be absent it must be turned in to the instructor's mailbox prior to that class in order to receive credit, **late outlines will not be accepted or graded** (each outline is worth 10 points).
3. Be prepared to work in groups in class.
4. Exams: There will be two exams and a mandatory final; exams may consist of multiple choice, true/false, mathematical/graphical, and short answer questions. A scantron may be required; an announcement of such will be made prior to the exam date(s). There are no make-up exams.
5. Current article reviews will be conducted at the beginning of each class and student selections for article presentation will be random. The review will last approximately 5 minutes and **NO** make-up reviews will be allowed.
6. The nature of the CLASS PROJECT, its formatting requirements, and the due date will be handed out in class at a later date. **NO** late work will be accepted following the due date without a compelling reason. Notice of the compelling reason must be personally delivered in writing to the instructor well in advance of the scheduled due date. Then and only then will instructor decide whether or not to make other arrangements.

7. Term paper and Oral Presentation: Paper will be a maximum of 5 pages in length, typed double-spaced, with list of sources. Oral presentations should be approximately 10 minutes in length. Your grade will be determined by the written presentation (75%) and oral presentation (25%). Questions and comments from the class will follow presentation. Topics for your paper must be cleared with the instructor by the fifth week of class. Please, have at least three different choices, we want to avoid duplications.
8. The course outline will be followed as closely as possible; and it is your responsibility to be prepared for each class by reading the pages and doing the outline as assigned. It is the instructor's discretion to make appropriate changes to the course outline.
9. Academic Honesty:
Violations of CSUC Academic Honesty Policy will result in a failing grade for the course. If there is evidence that you have been involved in any form of academic dishonesty, you will receive an "F" Grade for the course, be locked from the WebCT, and a report will be provided to Student Judicial Affairs for further action
10. If you have a disability that requires special accommodations, you must contact a Counselor at Disability Support Services, Building E, Room 107 (530) 898-5959. In Addition please let me know as soon as possible and I will provide you with the information you will need to receive services.

Grading:

(2) Exams	= 30%	A = 93-100%	C = 73-76
Project	= 25%	A- = 90-92	C- = 70-72
Individual Paper/Presentation	= 10%	B+= 87-89	D+= 66-69
Weekly Article Reviews	= 5%	B = 83-86	D = 60-65
Class Participation	= 15%	B- = 80-82	Other = <60
Final Exam	= <u>15%</u>	C+= 77-79	
Total	100%		

If I make an error in grading, bring it to my attention immediately. I am happy to entertain a discussion about anything I grade up to one week after it is returned to you. After one week any grade stands as given.

Equipment Management & Employee Safety, ABUS 487

Tentative Course Outline

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chapter & Description</u>	<u>Required Readings/Outlines</u>
1/26	Introduction to Course and Instructor's expectations	
2/2	OUTLINE for Chapter 1 and 2 are due Farm Profile The Pesticide Label (Chapter 1) Mixing and Applying Pesticides (Chapter 2)	PG 4 - 20 PG 21 - 30 PG 38 - 59
2/9	OUTLINE for Chapter 3 and 4 are due Recognizing & Avoiding Pesticide Hazards (Chapter 3) Pesticide Emergencies (Chapter 4)	PG 63 - 74 PG 78 - 86
2/16	Guest Speaker(s) – Pesticide Safety and the Environment	
2/23	Group Project I Presentation Worker Safety Introduction Topic for Term Paper Due	TBA
3/1	Guest Speaker – Worker Safety and Compliance Review for Midterm if time allows	
3/8	Possible Class Cancellation	
3/15	Midterm 1 Equipment Management Introduction	TBA
3/19-3/23	<i>Spring Break No Class</i>	
3/29	Guest Speakers - Equipment Management	
4/5	Equipment Management	
4/12	Group Project II Presentation Review for Midterm	
4/19	Selecting New or Used Equipment Introduction Midterm 2	TBA
4/26	Guest Speaker - Selecting New/Used Equipment Individual Term Paper Due	
5/3	Group Project III Presentation Other	
5/10	Individual Presentations Review for Final	
5/17	Final Exam	