

# Bachelor of Rural Business

## Second-year subjects

### 208-117 Macroeconomics

**Availability:** Dookie campus

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Dennis O'Brien

**Prerequisites:** 207-101 Economics for Resource Use or 316-102 Introductory Microeconomics

**Contact:** Three 1-hour lectures per week and two hours of tutorial per week (*Semester 2*).

**Description:** This subject introduces macroeconomic theory and policy including aggregate demand and supply analysis as a tool for identifying and explaining the business cycle, output growth employment, inflation and the current account deficit. The emphasis will be the impact of the macroeconomy on decisions by firms and other agents in the economy and the effect of fiscal and monetary policies on business outcomes. Key strategic variables, which pertain to decision-making in the macro business environment, will be interest rates, inflation and the Australian dollar.

Topics include: Aggregate production and employment, prices and inflation, the exchange rate, the value of money and balance of payments, open economics and current economic problems and policies.

**Assessment:** A 3-hour end-of-semester examination (50%), a 1500-word assignment (20%), and a 1.5-hour written mid-semester class test (20%).

### 208-212 Agribusiness Marketing

See full subject details on page 2.

### 208-236 Introduction to Agribusiness

**Availability:** Dookie campus

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Contact:** Two 1-hour lectures per week, 24 hours of field trips and one 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 1*).

**Description:** This subject introduces breadth and depth of the agribusinesses system by product, market and stage of the value chain, the importance of agribusiness in the Australian and world economies, and major issues and key performance measures for businesses in the agribusiness system.

Topics include: the agribusiness system by product, market and stage of the value chain; commodity, industrial and branded products; agribusiness in the Australian and world economies; major issues in agribusiness: poverty and nutrition, health and safety, technological change, environmental issues, animal welfare; the changing food consumer: demographics, income and wealth distribution, ethnicity and culture; food retailing: profitability drivers, product range, managing shelf space, buying, pricing/margins, inventory/stockturn, promotion; food processing; product decisions, process engineering principles, product safety and quality, raw material procurement, HRM and industrial relations; the farm input supply industry: industry structure and organisation, farmer industrial buyer behaviour; farm supply retailing; farm input manufacturing; and the agricultural production interface with the processing and input supply sectors.

**Assessment:** Two-hour written examination (50%), four field trip reports each of 2000 words (40%), tutorial participation (10%).

### 208-248 Water, Soil and Nutrient Management

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Mr Roger Wrigley

**Prerequisites:** 202-110 Land Resources or 207-171 Sustainable Catchment Management

**Contact:** Twenty-four hours of lectures and 36 hours of tutorials/workshops (*Semester 2*).

**Description:** This subject provides students with an understanding of the importance of optimal use of nutrients and water in production to ensure maximum productivity whilst maintaining sustainability and avoiding off-site impact. The impact of tillage practices, rotational sequences, and livestock grazing on soil physical properties that influence soil fertility, infiltration and soil water availability will be assessed.

Topics include:

- evaluation of management strategies, cropping systems, and tillage systems that maximise infiltration and use stored soil water efficiently;
- developing skills in identifying major soil groups and land capability for specific land-use;
- providing a framework for evaluating soil: physical and chemical properties;

- developing an understanding of sustainable crop and integrated crop-livestock production systems that sustain soil and water quality without impacting adversely in the environment;
- evaluation of soil water and crop properties based on climatic parameters and meteorological conditions;
- developing awareness of the impact on soil and water nutrient levels as a result of intensive agricultural practices;
- the influence of intensive agriculture and horticulture on soil water and atmospheric conditions with examples of strategies to deal with these issues;
- issues associated with allocation of water between agricultural, environmental, urban industrial and recreational uses;
- developing knowledge of farm water supply systems for both stock and domestic use and irrigation in terms of both quality and quantity;
- water reclamation and re-use;
- methods of nutrient application including fertigation, broadcasting, row, deep placement and site specific will be discussed;
- efficient and economic application of nutrients including the preparation of nutrient budgets and performance monitoring.

**Assessment:** Three-hour examination (50%) and two assignments equivalent to 3000 words (each worth 25%).

### 208-277 Statistical Methods

See full subject details on page 3.

### 208-292 Accounting for Agribusiness

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Prerequisites:** 208-276 Introduction to Business and Finance

**Contact:** Twenty-four hours of lectures and 36 hours of tutorials/workshops (*Semester 2*).

**Description:** This subject introduces the concepts of recognition, capture and recording of transactions using double-entry accounting and presentation of such information in financial statements with particular emphasis on transactions relevant to rural and regional businesses. This subject then examines the business cost concepts and frameworks and cost/volume/profit relationships. Internal control concepts are also addressed along with inventory planning and control approaches as they relate to rural processing industries.

Topics include: decision making and the role of accounting and financial reports; the use of basic accounting concepts to capture and record information in the accounting system; summarising and reporting information in financial statements; basic partnership accounting and an introduction to accounting software packages; the manager's role in cost management; costs - terms and concepts; cost behaviour - cost/volume/profit relationships; job order, process costing and activity-based costing concepts (and applications in rural industries); cost estimation and benchmarking; Concept of internal control/systems for controlling cost.

**Assessment:** A 3-hour final examination (50%), a 1.5 hour mid-semester written test (25%) and assessment of tutorial problem sheets (25%), equivalent to total of 2500 words.

**Prescribed texts:** Horngren Harrison Bamber Best Fraser and Willet, *Accounting*, latest edition, Prentice Hall.

## Third-year subjects

### 202-307 Industry Project

See full subject details on page 3.

### 202-308 Human Resource Management

See full subject details on page 3.

### 202-313 Agricultural Systems Analysis

See full subject details on page 3.

### 208-237 Business Finance

**Availability:** Dookie campus

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Prerequisites:** 208-276 Introduction to Business and Finance, 208-292 Accounting for Agribusiness

**Contact:** Two 1-hour lectures per week and two hours of tutorial per week (*Semester 1*).

**Description:** This subject introduces the financial environment, the scope and basic principles of finance and their impact on rural and regional businesses.

Topics include: introduction to the financial environment and the role and scope of finance; time value of money; financial statement analysis; capital budgeting and structure; cost of capital and inflation; introduction to pricing

of risky assets; capital asset pricing model; introduction to risk; introduction to financial markets; introduction to options and derivatives; foreign currency issues.

**Assessment:** A 3-hour end-of-semester examination (50%), a 2-hour written mid-semester test (25%) and assessment of tutorial worksheets equivalent to 2500 words (25%).

**Prescribed texts:** TBC G Pierson, R Brown, S Easton and P Howard, *Business Finance*, McGraw Hill, 7th ed, 1998.

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### 208-334 Supply Chain Management

**Availability:** Dookie campus

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Prerequisites:** 208-212 Agribusiness Marketing, 208-236 Introduction to Agribusiness

**Contact:** Two 1-hour lectures per week and two hours of tutorial per week (*Semester 2*).

**Description:** This subject introduces measures of supply chain performance and discusses their strengths and limitations; issues in supply chain management for the agribusiness value chain; alternative models for supply chain coordination and the appropriateness of each model for different types of agribusiness supply chains; communication, trust, and cooperation in maintaining supply chain relationships; least-cost inventory replenishment and transport schedules, and the influence of product and market factors on supply design.

Topics include: what is supply chain management? challenges facing supply chain managers; managing information in the supply chain; importance of interorganisation information systems; customer value in the supply chain; supply chain alliances; developing and maintaining supply chain relationships; efficiency and effectiveness in supply chains; supply chain competition; social responsibility in supply chains; future challenges in supply chain management.

**Assessment:** End-of-semester 3-hour exam (50%), three 1000-word assignments (10% each), one 2000-word assignment (20%).

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### 208-335 International Business Strategies

**Availability:** Dookie campus

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Prerequisites:** 207-114 Land, Food and Resource Economics, 208-212 Agribusiness Marketing

**Contact:** Two 1-hour lectures per week and two hours of tutorial per week (*Semester 1*).

**Description:** This unit introduces students to international business issues affecting rural and regional businesses and the operation of organisations in the international economy.

Topics include: International business and globalisation; culture in business; politics and law in business; economic systems and development; regional economic integration; international trade and business government relations; international financial markets; international monetary system; international strategic management and strategic alliances; selecting and managing entry modes; doing business in Asia; case studies.

**Assessment:** A 3-hour end-of-semester examination (50%) and assessment of tutorial worksheets (50%, equivalent to 5000 words maximum).

### Year-long

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#### 202-005 Industry Placement#

See full subject details on page 3.

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### Fourth-year subjects (honours)

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#### 208-415 Research Philosophies and Statistics

See full subject details on page 3.

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#### 207-414 Social Research Methods

See full subject details on page 4.

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#### 220-404 Methods for Forest & Ecosystem Research

See full subject details on page 3.

### Year-long

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#### 202-410 Honours Research Project

See full subject details on page 3.

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#### 202-416 Honours Research Project (MYE)

See full subject details on page 3.

### Elective subjects

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#### Second-year - summer

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#### 208-244 Australia in the Wine World

See full subject details on page 3.

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#### Second-year - semester 1

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#### 208-206 Vineyard & Winery Operations S-A

See full subject details on page 5.

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#### 208-337 Plant Protection Systems

See full subject details on page 4.

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#### Second-year - semester 2

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#### 208-107 Vineyard & Winery Operations W-S

See full subject details on page 6.

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#### 208-245 Animal Management and Production

See full subject details on page 4.

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#### 208-246 Crop Production

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Rob Norton

**Prerequisites:** As for 208-208 Crop Production.

**Contact:** As for 208-208 Crop Production (*Semester 2*).

**Description:** As for 208-208 Crop Production.

**Assessment:** As for 208-208 Crop Production.

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#### 208-249 Landscape Information Systems

See full subject details on page 2.

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### Third-year - semester 1

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#### 208-308 Irrigation and Water Management

See full subject details on page 8.

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#### 208-329 Viticulture

See full subject details on page 5.

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#### 208-332 Entrepreneurship

**Availability:** Dookie campus

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Ms Ros Gall

**Contact:** Two 1-hour lectures per week and two hours of tutorial per week (*Semester 1*).

**Description:** This course introduced the concept of entrepreneurship and the skills and knowledge required to establish and grow a successful new enterprise. The course is designed to stimulate the real-life activities of entrepreneurs in the start-up stage of a new venture. Students are required to work in teams to develop and evaluate a new venture concept. The feasibility of the venture must be analysed including potential demand for the product or service, finance/venture capital options and the long-term viability of the venture. The course also provides the opportunity to learn from the experiences both positive and negative of those who have already established ventures.

Topics include: finding and managing employees; trade marks and copyrights patents; market research for new ventures; entrepreneurial experiences and opportunities; developing the business plan; ethics and social responsibility of entrepreneurs; case studies.

**Assessment:** A 2-hour end-of-semester examination (50%), a 500-1000-word assignment (10%), and a 3000-5000-word assignment (including oral presentation) (40%).

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#### 208-342 Animal Production Systems

See full subject details on page 5.

## Third-year - semester 2

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### **208-316 Oenology**

See full subject details on page 4.

