

Program Description

The primary emphasis of the Farm Business Management Program is to assist farm families in meeting their business and personal goals through quality farm records and sound business decisions. This program is primarily taught at the student's place of business, but classroom and group instruction are also very important. Individualized instruction is used to the fullest extent. Students are enrolled in the program on a continuous, part-time basis. Normal credit load is 10 credits per year, for the equivalent of 1/3 of a full-time college student. The instructor visits the farm on a regular basis and understands the strengths and weaknesses of each student's business.

Developing a set of sound farm records is the basis for the program. Primarily, computerized accounting is used to handle the complex records, which must be kept in an efficient farm business. At the close of the calendar year, these records are summarized by the instructor and a computerized business analysis is prepared for each student to show how well his/her business did financially during the year. Each student also receives an area Farm Business Analysis Summary, which allows them to compare their information with averages of other Farm Business Management students (farmers) in their local area and around the state.

The Farm Business Management Program offering consists of four certificate programs. The first three certificate programs are 30 credits in length. These three programs include Essentials of Farm Business Management, Applications in Farm Business Management, and Advanced Farm Business Management. The fourth certificate option is the Marketing Certificate, consisting of 25 credits.

Program Outcomes

By completing this program, students will achieve the following learning outcomes:

- Maintain accurate records regularly.
- Complete business analysis annually.
- Complete accurate balance sheets annually or as needed.
- Complete business planning annually and strategically.
- Continue in business after completing award area(s).

Program Course Requirements

FBMT 2141	Interpreting and Evaluating Financial Data	4 cr
FBMT 2142	Interpreting Trends in Business Planning	4 cr
FBMT 2151	Strategies in Farm System Data Management	4 cr
FBMT 2152	Integrating System Information for Financial Planning.....	4 cr
FBMT 2161	Examination of the Context of Farm System Management	4 cr
FBMT 2162	Refining Farm System Management	4 cr

Student must choose an additional 6 credits from the following classes

FBMT 1233	Application of Productive Enterprise Info	2 cr
FBMT 2203	Special Topics-General Farm Management.....	1 cr
FBMT 2204	Special Topics-General Farm Management.....	1 cr
FBMT 2210	Special Topics-Marketing.....	1 cr
FBMT 2211	Special Topics-Marketing.....	1 cr
FBMT 2222	Special Topics-Crops	1 cr
FBMT 2224	Special Topics-Crops	1 cr
FBMT 2228	Special Topics-Crops	2 cr
FBMT 2229	Special Topics-Crops	2 cr
FBMT 2233	Special Topics-Livestock	1 cr
FBMT 2234	Special Topics-Livestock	1 cr
FBMT 2235	Special Topics-Livestock	2 cr
FBMT 2236	Special Topics-Livestock	2 cr
FBMT 2237	Special Topics-Livestock	2 cr
FBMT 2238	Special Topics-Livestock	2 cr
FBMT 2253	System Plans and Projections	2 cr
FBMT 2310	Environmental Interactions in Agriculture	2 cr
FBMT 2325	Ethics in this Business of Agriculture	2 cr

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT - 30 CREDITS

**Denotes Prerequisites*

Program Admissions Requirements

The Farm Business Management Program is primarily offered as individualized instruction at the business. Classroom instruction is also offered on a limited basis. Normal credit load is 10 credits per year, for the equivalent of 1/3 of a full-time college student.

Course Prerequisites

Some courses may require appropriate test scores or completion of basic math, basic English and/or reading courses with a “C” or better. CLC utilizes a multiple measure approach for placement which may include high school MCA, SAT, ACT scores in addition to high school GPAs. For insurance purposes, internships may require that students be 18 years old.

Semester Course Requirements

Individual semester plans are determined between instructor/advisor and student to best meet the needs of the student.

Graduation Requirements

In addition to the program requirements, students must meet the following conditions in order to graduate:

1. College Cumulative GPA Requirement: cumulative grade point average (GPA) of credits attempted and completed at CLC must be at least 2.0;
2. College Technical Core GPA Requirement: cumulative GPA of credits attempted and completed towards the technical core of the diploma or degree must be at least 2.0;
3. Residency Requirement: students must complete 25% of their credits at Central Lakes College.