

Comprehensive Program Review Report



Program Review - Ag Management

Program Summary

2020-2021

Prepared by: Shannan Cooper

What are the strengths of your area?: The COS Agriculture Division hosted the Mid-Winter Conference in December of 2019. This event included agriculture faculty and industry partners representing various sectors of agribusiness from throughout California. The Ag Business Department was able to coordinate local industry tours for our guests highlighting key areas of agribusiness.

The success rate for AGMT courses improved 5% from 2018/19 to 2019/20. Data for AGMT 001, 102, 104 and 108 showed improvement in course success ranging from 3-18%.

Students have had the ability to actively connect with the agribusiness industry and a partner university through field trip opportunities to 5 locations. During the 2019-20 school year students visited the JG Boswell Company, Family Tree Farms, US Cold Storage, and Treesource Citrus. Students also had the opportunity to visit Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

Students had the ability to achieve 3rd party certification in HACCP processes through the AGMT 201 course in 2019-20.

The program offers an AST, an AS and a Certificate in Ag Business Management. This gives a number of options to students interested in pursuing a higher education in Agriculture Business.

The program continues to have a very active Ag Business Club creating opportunities for student leadership and student and industry engagement. Club meeting attendance has held strong ranging from 15-25 students per meeting.

As a result of COVID, the Ag Business courses were converted to a remote learning environment in March of 2020. The ability to adapt our learning environment enabled students to continue to complete their coursework remotely in spite of a pandemic.

All courses have assessments entered and all courses (based upon the 3-year cycle) have had assessments reviewed and updated.

The program has an active Advisory of industry and educational partners committed to sharing knowledge and providing input for success.

What improvements are needed?: As of the end of the 2019-20 academic year only 3 ag business courses had been approved through the curriculum process for distance education delivery. As a result of the COVID pandemic, the need for distance education delivery as an option for courses was made clear. The remaining ag business courses should be examined to see if distance education would be an effective delivery option, and if so get those courses started in the curriculum process.

Faculty have been trained and certified in online teaching practices, however, those practices had not been applied to ag business classes prior to the pandemic in Spring of 2020. Up until that time all courses had only been delivered in a face to face format. An improvement for the program would be for faculty to have refresher training on effective online delivery methods in the event that courses need to be taught using that mode of instruction.

Prior to the pandemic, faculty had little experience with Zoom. Zoom is a key component to the online and remote learning environment. It would be recommended that faculty have training opportunities, or access to additional training materials, with

the Zoom software.

Staying informed of best practices, industry trends and new regulations applicable to course content is important to ensure that courses continue to be as relevant as possible. To achieve this goal it is important for faculty to engage in professional development opportunities.

Describe any external opportunities or challenges.: Connect students with internship and career employment opportunities. Also, better prepare students for these opportunities by connecting them with career services offered on campus and through remote services.

Connect students with library resources during periods of remote services and campus closures.

Continue to develop and foster relationships with industry through professional development opportunities.

Strengthen our relationship and connection with feeder high school programs to help grow our program. This includes remaining very active in CATA and continuing to develop and utilize effective recruiting materials for outreach.

Collaborating with other faculty within the Agriculture Division to share best practices, develop division goals and brainstorm ways to achieve objectives and best use resources through professional development opportunities.

Overall SLO Achievement: Several courses went through SLO assessments in 2018-19. There were no courses scheduled for SLO assessments in 2019-20. There will be 4 courses scheduled for SLO assessment in the 2020-21 academic year.

Changes Based on SLO Achievement: As a result of the assessments in the 2018-19 academic year, implementation of effective teaching strategies learned through professional development opportunities have continued to help increase student success in courses. Providing access to course resources, including access to texts in the library and access to software in the library and student success center, and connection to support services is essential to helping students achieve success.

Overall PLO Achievement: The PLOs were assessed in 2018-19. There were no scheduled PLO assessments for 2020-2021.

Changes Based on PLO Achievement: At the time of the last assessment of PLOs there was evidence that improvements in course success rates and course SLOs had led to success in achieving PLOs.

Outcome cycle evaluation: The 3-year evaluation cycle is being met for all SLOs and PLOs. The next evaluation cycle for each course is below:

AGMT 001 Fall 2020

AGMT 103 Fall 2020

AGMT 104 Fall 2020

AGMT 108 Spring 2021

AGMT 201 Fall 2021

AGMT 006 Spring 2022

AGMT 102 Spring 2022

AGMT 005 Spring 2022

Action: 2020-21 Distance Education

Examine all courses in the ag management program to see if distance education would be an effective delivery option. If so, start the curriculum approval process for the courses to include the distance education addendum.

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Implementation Timeline: 2020 - 2021

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Identify related course/program outcomes:

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Shannan Cooper

Rationale (With supporting data):

Priority: High

Safety Issue: No

External Mandate: No

Safety/Mandate Explanation:

Link Actions to District Objectives

District Objectives: 2018-2021

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District Objective 1.1 - The District will increase FTES by 1.75% over the three years

District Objective 2.1 - Increase the percentage of students who earn an associate degree or certificate (CTE and Non-CTE) by 5 percentage points over three years

District Objective 2.2 - Increase the number of students who transfer to a four-year institution by 10 percent over three years

District Objective 2.4 - By 2021, Increase the percentage of CTE students who achieve their employment objectives by 5 percentage points

Action: 2020-21 Effective Online Teaching Practices

Faculty should complete refresher training in effective online teaching practices. This training could better prepare faculty to effectively teach and deliver content to students in a remote environment.

Leave Blank:

Implementation Timeline: 2020 - 2021

Leave Blank:

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Identify related course/program outcomes:

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Shannan Cooper

Rationale (With supporting data):

Priority: High

Safety Issue: No

External Mandate: No

Safety/Mandate Explanation:

Link Actions to District Objectives

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Action: 2020-21 Zoom Training

Faculty should seek additional training opportunities and training materials to learn how to effectively use the Zoom software in a remote learning environment.

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Implementation Timeline: 2020 - 2021

Leave Blank:

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Identify related course/program outcomes:

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Shannan Cooper

Rationale (With supporting data):

Priority: High

Safety Issue: No

External Mandate: No

Safety/Mandate Explanation:

Link Actions to District Objectives

District Objectives: 2018-2021

Program Review - Ag Management

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District Objective 2.4 - By 2021, Increase the percentage of CTE students who achieve their employment objectives by 5 percentage points

Action: 2020-21 Professional Development

Faculty need to be committed to continued professional development to stay abreast of current industry information and collaborate with other educators to learn best practices. Faculty should seek out and engage in professional development opportunities available in both virtual formats and traditional formats.

Leave Blank:

Implementation Timeline: 2020 - 2021

Leave Blank:

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Identify related course/program outcomes:

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Shannan Cooper

Rationale (With supporting data):

Priority: High

Safety Issue: No

External Mandate: No

Safety/Mandate Explanation:

Link Actions to District Objectives

District Objectives: 2018-2021

District Objective 2.2 - Increase the number of students who transfer to a four-year institution by 10 percent over three years

District Objective 2.4 - By 2021, Increase the percentage of CTE students who achieve their employment objectives by 5 percentage points

Action: 2020-21 Remote Services

Help students learn about library and career services that are available to aid in their success with courses and career opportunities. Making sure that students are aware of how to access library resources during periods of remote learning and campus closures. Also make sure that students are aware of career services offered remotely and how to schedule those services to better prepare them for employment opportunities.

Leave Blank:

Implementation Timeline: 2020 - 2021

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Identify related course/program outcomes:

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Shannan Cooper

Rationale (With supporting data):

Priority: High

Safety Issue: No

External Mandate: No

Safety/Mandate Explanation:

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District Objective 2.4 - By 2021, Increase the percentage of CTE students who achieve their employment objectives by 5 percentage points

Action: 2019-20 Economics Collaboration

Work collaboratively with the Economics Department to get AGMT 001 approved as a prerequisite option to ECON 50.

Leave Blank:

Implementation Timeline: 2019 - 2020

Leave Blank:

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Identify related course/program outcomes:

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Shannan Cooper, Ag Business Faculty and Christian Anderson, Economics Faculty

Rationale (With supporting data):

Priority: High

Safety Issue: No

External Mandate: No

Safety/Mandate Explanation:

Update on Action

Updates

Update Year: 2020 - 2021

09/30/2020

Status: Action Completed

Faculty did work collaboratively with the Economics Department to get AGMT 001 approved as a prerequisite to ECON 50. The course now shows up as a prerequisite in the 2020-2021 catalog.

Impact on District Objectives/Unit Outcomes (Not Required):

Link Actions to District Objectives

District Objectives: 2018-2021

District Objective 2.1 - Increase the percentage of students who earn an associate degree or certificate (CTE and Non-CTE) by 5 percentage points over three years

District Objective 2.2 - Increase the number of students who transfer to a four-year institution by 10 percent over three years

District Objective 2.4 - By 2021, Increase the percentage of CTE students who achieve their employment objectives by 5 percentage points

District Objective 4.2 - Improve organizational effectiveness by strengthening operations of and communication between District departments, divisions, and constituents

Action: 2019-20 Improved Communication Regarding New Courses

Communicate with students and counselors regarding new course offerings in AGMT. This communication should provide information on the proposed schedule of when the courses will be offered and how they will help students achieve their academic goals.

Leave Blank:

Implementation Timeline: 2019 - 2020

Leave Blank:

Leave Blank:

Identify related course/program outcomes:

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Shannan Cooper, Ag Business Faculty

Rationale (With supporting data):

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Priority: High

Safety Issue: No

External Mandate: No

Safety/Mandate Explanation:

Update on Action

Updates

Update Year: 2020 - 2021

09/30/2020

Status: Action Completed

Faculty did attend a counselor event to discuss course offerings in Ag Management, including new courses, as well as the proposed scheduling for all AGMT courses. One of the new courses in Ag Management, Ag Sector Analysis, also received approval to be included in the COS GE pattern under Area D. Students will not only benefit from this course being offered in Ag Management, but they will also benefit by the fact that it helps fulfill some of their COS GE requirement. In addition, faculty shared the proposed schedule of courses with students in classes and at Ag Business Club meetings.

Impact on District Objectives/Unit Outcomes (Not Required):

Resources Description

Equipment - Non-Instructional - Funds to print information to help communicate course information with counselors and students. (Active)

Why is this resource required for this action?:

Notes (optional):

Cost of Request (Nothing will be funded over the amount listed.):

Link Actions to District Objectives

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District Objective 4.2 - Improve organizational effectiveness by strengthening operations of and communication between District departments, divisions, and constituents

Action: 2019-20 Food Safety Training

Get training in the Produce Safety Rule and Food Defense to enhance curriculum in courses being offered in the program. Attend a professional development conference to increase depth of knowledge in food safety content.

Leave Blank:

Implementation Timeline: 2019 - 2020

Leave Blank:

Leave Blank:

Identify related course/program outcomes:

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Shannan Cooper, Ag Business Faculty

Rationale (With supporting data):

Priority: High

Safety Issue: No

External Mandate: No

Safety/Mandate Explanation:

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Update on Action

Updates

Update Year: 2020 - 2021

09/30/2020

Status: Action Completed

Faculty did attend training in the Produce Safety Rule and completed training in Food Defense to help enhance the food safety curriculum. The scheduled conference, Safe Food California, was cancelled as a result of the COVID situation. However, faculty did have the opportunity to collaborate with other agriculture faculty from throughout California at the Mid-Winter Conference. All faculty with food safety programs were able to share information related to food safety curriculum.

Impact on District Objectives/Unit Outcomes (Not Required):

Resources Description

Equipment - Non-Instructional - Funds to participate in a food safety conference and specific food safety training. (Active)

Why is this resource required for this action?:

Notes (optional):

Cost of Request (Nothing will be funded over the amount listed.):

Link Actions to District Objectives

District Objectives: 2018-2021

District Objective 1.1 - The District will increase FTES by 1.75% over the three years

District Objective 2.1 - Increase the percentage of students who earn an associate degree or certificate (CTE and Non-CTE) by 5 percentage points over three years

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Action: 2019-20 Student Leadership Skills

Create opportunities for students to further develop their leadership skills outside of the classroom to compliment the academic material they are learning in the classroom.

Leave Blank:

Implementation Timeline: 2019 - 2020

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Identify related course/program outcomes:

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Shannan Cooper, Ag Business Faculty

Rationale (With supporting data):

Priority: High

Safety Issue: No

External Mandate: No

Safety/Mandate Explanation:

Update on Action

Updates

Update Year: 2020 - 2021

09/30/2020

Status: Action Completed

There were a number of ways for students to further develop leadership skills outside of the classroom in the 2019-2020 academic year. There was an active Ag Business Club, where students had the opportunity to run for officer positions if they were interested. There was a first-year field day event where students had the opportunity to volunteer to work with high school students in contest areas related to ag business. There were numerous FFA events where students had the opportunity to

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volunteer to serve as judges or help with event coordination. Students had the opportunity to volunteer to attend the CAL Conference in the fall and the CAL Contest in the spring focused on leadership skills. Students had the opportunity to volunteer to attend an Ag Ambassador Conference at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo to learn about leadership skills. Students were also able to volunteer and participate in outreach activities at the World Ag Expo.

Impact on District Objectives/Unit Outcomes (Not Required):

Link Actions to District Objectives

District Objectives: 2018-2021

District Objective 2.4 - By 2021, Increase the percentage of CTE students who achieve their employment objectives by 5 percentage points

District Objective 4.2 - Improve organizational effectiveness by strengthening operations of and communication between District departments, divisions, and constituents

Action: 2019-20 Early Alert System

Improve communication with students regarding the Early Alert system. Make sure all students are aware of their performance in the course with the Early Alert system prior to the final drop date. Help connect those students with unsatisfactory performance with student resources that might help improve their success in courses.

Leave Blank:

Implementation Timeline: 2019 - 2020

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Identify related course/program outcomes:

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Shannan Cooper, Ag Business Faculty

Rationale (With supporting data):

Priority: High

Safety Issue: No

External Mandate: No

Safety/Mandate Explanation:

Update on Action

Updates

Update Year: 2020 - 2021

09/30/2020

Status: Action Completed

The early alert system was used with all students in Agriculture Management classes for the Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 semester. Students were made aware of their progress in the course prior to the final drop date. At the beginning of the semester students were made aware of the various support services that COS has available. After the early alerts were sent, students were reminded about the support services that are available through COS.

Impact on District Objectives/Unit Outcomes (Not Required):