# AOM 4933: Professional Practices in Agricultural Operations Management

## Spring 2010

**Credits:** 1

## Catalog Description:

Professionalism and interfacing of technical skills. Topics include ethics, continuing education, placement skills and professional development in Agricultural Operations Management.

## Pre-requisites/Co-requisites:

Junior standing in Agricultural Operations Management.

## Course Objectives:

The objective of this course is to expose students to some of the many issues that will impart a sense of professional, ethical and societal responsibility upon them, as well as an awareness of the global and international impact of the profession.

## Instructor:

Richard V. Scholtz, III  
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Web site: [http://www.abe.ufl.edu/~rscholtz/ABE4933.shtml](http://www.abe.ufl.edu/~rscholtz/ABE4933.shtml)

## Class Materials Required:

**Textbook:** No official text.

Handout material will be provided in class and on the web site as it becomes available.

## Course Outline:

### Format:

The schedule will be a mix of a few formal lectures, guest speakers, and in class discussions. Assignments will give students more experience in professional communication. Topics of discussion include ethics, resume and cover letter preparation, interview skills, continuing education, and the future of agriculture and the population.

### Lectures:

Lectures will cover material from many references, so it is imperative that students make every effort to attend classes and take good
notes. Students are especially encouraged to ask questions during lectures.

**Announcement Policy:** Students will be held responsible for all announcements made in class, which includes any and all changes to this syllabus and the course lecture schedule. Students are expected to attend all lectures and any guest speakers scheduled.

**Expectations:** Attendance is required. Signing in is mandatory. Late Arrivals will be penalized.

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**Grading:**

**Grading Policy:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>Attendance (Sign-in).</td>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Class Participation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Assignments.</td>
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**Grading Scale:**

- A: 921-1000 Points
- A-: 891-920 Points
- B+: 861-890 Points
- B: 821-860 Points
- B-: 791-820 Points
- C+: 761-790 Points
- C: 721-760 Points
- C-: 691-720 Points
- D+: 661-690 Points
- D: 621-660 Points
- D-: 591-620 Points
- E: < 591 Points

**Make-up Policy:** The arrangements for missed classes should be made before the date in question, unless there is an emergency situation which will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

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**Academic Honesty:**

Students will be strictly held to the University of Florida's policy on Academic Honesty. Any act of cheating, plagiarism, or any other dishonest act will be prosecuted to the fullest extent. Students should also strive to think and act as professionals. Students should extend all guests professional and common courtesy.

In the process of enrolling and registering for classes at the University of Florida, every student has signed and presumably understands the following statement: "I understand that the
University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University. The following information will be placed on examinations. On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this examination.

**Use of Library, Personal References, PC Programs and Electronic Databases:**

These items are university property and should be utilized with other users in mind. Never remove, mark, modify nor deface resources that do not belong to you. If you're in the habit of underlining text, do it only on your personal copy. It is inconsiderate, costly to others, and dishonest to use common references otherwise.

**Software Use:**

All faculty, staff and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

**UF Counseling Services:**

Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals which interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:

1. University Counseling Center, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575, personal and career counseling;
2. Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center, 392-1171, personal counseling;
3. Center for Sexual Assault/Abuse Recovery and Education (CARE), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual assault counseling;
4. Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance and counseling.