

COURSE STRUCTURE

You must complete 10 units to gain the Diploma of Agriculture.

- a minimum of five (5) units must come from group A
- a minimum of three (3) units must come from groups A or B
- a maximum of two (2) units may be selected from units aligned to Certificate IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma in AHC or from any other currently endorsed Training Package or accredited course. Selected units must be relevant to job outcomes in agriculture.

Please note some subjects listed below cluster multiple units.

For full packaging rules see <http://training.gov.au/Training/Details/AHC50116>

FOUNDATION SUBJECTS

Tocal College suggests four (4) foundation subjects be completed before selecting electives.

AHCAGB518 Develop climate risk management strategies (Group A)
AHCSOL505 Monitor and manage soils for production projects (Group A)
AHCAGB513 Develop a farm plan (Group A)
AHCWHS502 Manage work health and safety processes (Group A)

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

Livestock

AHCLSK505 Develop production plans for livestock (Group A)
AHCLSK503 Develop and implement a breeding strategy (Group A) <i>Note: You must have access to a breeding unit (40 plus) of beef cows or its equivalent in other livestock to undertake this subject.</i>
AHCLSK504 Develop livestock health and welfare strategies (Group A)

Crop and Pasture

AHCBAC507 Develop production plans for crops (Group A)
AHCBAC503 Manage integrated crop and pasture production (Group A)
AHCBAC508 Apply plant biology to agronomic practices (Group A) <i>Note: completion of this subject involves setting up and monitoring two small plant experiments.</i>

Business

AHCAGB512 Plan and manage infrastructure (Group B)
AHCBUS513 Market products and services (Group B)
AHCBUS511 Manage enterprise staff requirements (Group A) <i>Note: you need to be a workplace supervisor to complete this subject.</i>
AHCBUS516* Develop and review a business plan (Group A) Subject name – Farm business planning
AHCBUS517* Monitor and review business performance (Group A) Subject name – Farm business planning

**Note: AHCBUS516 and AHCBUS 517 are delivered in the one subject. Book keeping experience is strongly recommended.*

SUBJECT DETAILS

FOUNDATION SUBJECTS

AHCAGB508 Develop climate risk management strategies (Group A)

In this subject you will develop a climate risk management plan. This will include:

- researching climate and enterprise data
- analysing and interpret climate and enterprise data
- preparing risk management strategies
- integrating climate risk and opportunities for management strategies at a business management level.

AHCSOL505 Monitor and manage soils for production projects (Group A)

In this subject you will develop a soil management plan. This will include:

- interpreting soil analytical data for the purposes of developing management or production plans
- developing and conducting soil improvement programs
- reviewing and analysing ongoing soil monitoring programs.

AHCAGB513 Develop a farm plan (Group A)

In this subject you will develop a whole farm plan including a map (either electronic or hard copy). This will include:

- an audit of the natural resources of the property
- monitoring legal requirements impacting on the management of the property
- developing management strategies to address the key natural resource management issues of water, soils, vegetation and wildlife
- developing management strategies to address natural resource management issues
- integrating business objectives and production plans with sustainable land management in a whole farm plan.

AHCWHS502 Manage work health and safety processes (Group A)

In this subject you will:

- develop work health and safety policies and procedures
- establish and maintain processes to ensure the participation of all employees in the application of work health and safety
- establish and maintain procedures for identifying hazards and assessing risks
- plan and manage enterprise procedures for dealing with hazardous events
- establish and maintain a work health and safety induction and training program
- establish and maintain a system for work health and safety records
- evaluate the enterprise work health and safety system and related policies, procedures and programs.

LIVESTOCK ELECTIVES

AHCLSK505 Develop production plans for livestock (Group A)

In this subject you will develop and implement a production plan for livestock. This will include:

- assessing the potential livestock enterprises for their market potential and gross margin returns
- defining production objectives for the chosen livestock enterprise
- incorporating livestock selection, health and grazing strategies into production planning
- developing cash flow budgets and marketing strategies for the enterprise
- preparing the production plan.

AHCLSK503 Develop and implement a breeding strategy (Group A)

In this subject you will develop and implement a livestock breeding program. This will include:

- defining the standard required to develop a breeding objective
- implementing selection strategies for livestock
- using industry programs to benchmark
- identifying sources of genetic material
- monitoring progress in a breeding program.

Note: you must have access to a breeding unit (40 plus) of beef cows or its equivalent in other livestock to undertake this subject.

AHCLSK504 Develop livestock health and welfare strategies (Group A)

In this subject you will develop a livestock health and welfare strategy. This will include:

- designing and implementing preventative health treatment and programs for livestock
- defining the standard required to identify common livestock diseases
- developing prevention and treatment strategies for diseases
- handling and using veterinary medicines
- maintaining records of animal health treatment
- implementing a risk management approach to managing animal health.

CROP AND PASTURE ELECTIVES

AHCBAC507 Develop production plans for crops (Group A)

In this subject you will develop a crop production plan. This will include:

- preparing budgets and gross margins
- sourcing and interpret relevant benchmark
- interpreting information from consultants or peers
- sampling soils and plant tissue for testing
- selecting crop species and variety and determine yield potential for crop
- preparing individual paddock plans and a whole farm cropping plan
- interpreting information on pest and weed numbers, density and control
- establishing processes/strategies, procedures and controls for long-term weed, pest and/or disease control
- implementing and monitor long-term weed, pest and/or disease control strategies
- using records and observations to evaluate weed, pest and/or disease control strategies
- planning land use incorporating long term weed, pest and/or disease control strategies.

AHCBAC509 Plan and manage long-term weed, pest and/or disease control in crops (Group A)

In this subject your will prepare long term strategies for weed, pest and or disease control in crops. This will include:

- sourcing information for input to weed, pest or disease control planning
- planning and managing long-term weed, pest or disease control including amending plans during the operations
- planning land use incorporating appropriate weed, pest or disease control measures
- negotiating and arranging contracts and agreements
- observing, identifying and reacting appropriately to environmental implications and work health and safety hazards
- interpreting information on pest and weed numbers, density and control
- establishing processes or strategies, procedures and controls for long-term weed, pest or disease control
- implementing and monitoring long-term weed, pest or disease control strategies
- using records and observations to evaluate weed, pest or disease control strategies.

AHCBAC503 Manage integrated crop and pasture production (Group A)

In this subject you will develop a crop and pasture production plan. This will include:

- developing a pasture and crop program to meet production targets and enterprise objectives
- maintaining the productivity of crops and pastures in a farming system
- monitoring soil structure and erosion and make required changes to cultural practices and grazing management
- implementing grazing strategies to optimise pasture and livestock production levels and support the cropping program
- evaluating grazing and cropping programs for efficiency and effectiveness
- using physical and financial records of production to evaluate production performance.

AHCBAC508 Apply plant biology to agronomic practices (Group A)

In this subject you will apply introductory plant biology to common agronomic practices. This will include:

- identifying botanical terminology of plant taxonomy
- applying the rules of plant nomenclature
- identifying a range of plants used in agronomy to species level
- using correct botanical terminology to discuss plant taxonomy in agronomic practices
- investigating and identifying plant cell structures, their functions and the organization of cells into primary tissues
- researching and documenting specialist botanical knowledge of plant morphology
- identifying critical growth stages for crop/pasture monitoring, nutrient assessment and spray applications.

Note: completion of this subject involves setting up and monitoring two small plant experiments.

BUSINESS ELECTIVES

AHCAGB512 Plan and manage infrastructure (Group B)

In this subject you will:

- identify infrastructure requirements for the enterprise
- source, construct and/or modify infrastructure to meet enterprise requirements
- develop an infrastructure maintenance program including scheduling and responsibilities
- establish a recording system for infrastructure purchase, construction and maintenance.

AHCBUS513 Market products and services (Group A)

In this subject you will:

- identify the marketable features of the product and potential markets
- develop a range of marketing alternatives
- collect and analyse data to assess alternatives in a marketing plan
- evaluate performance targets and recommend modifications or improvements
- implement and evaluate a marketing plan.

AHCBUS511 Manage enterprise staff requirements (Group A)

In this subject you will:

- identify industrial relations requirements to ensure compliance with relevant award conditions
- negotiate contracts of employment
- determine the most employment arrangements for the employer and employee
- develop and deliver induction programs to support the new employee
- develop and implement communication strategies
- manage conflicts and resolve disputes
- develop and design safety policies
- develop strategies to identify and address skill and knowledge gaps
- implement procedures for the administration of staff records.

Note: you need to be a workplace supervisor to complete this subject.

AHCBUS516* Develop and review a business plan (Group A)

In this subject you will develop a formal marketing plan. This will include:

- setting strategic goals, targets and directions for the enterprise
- determining clear and measurable indicators of operational performance
- identifying and designing appropriate risk management strategies
- developing appropriate operational plans
- documenting the business plan
- monitoring the business plan to identify strengths, weaknesses and areas for improvement.

AHCBUS517 Monitor and review business performance (Group A)

In this subject you will:

- identified, gathered and analysed data relating to enterprise performance
- developed realistic performance indicators
- reviewed operations against performance indicators
- monitored resources
- assessed sustainability of resource use
- plan to improve business performance by addressing results of review.

***Note:** AHCBUS516 and AHCBUS 517 are delivered in the one subject. Book keeping experience is strongly recommended.