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Syllabus

DAGR 0920

Current Issues in Agriculture and Food
(Winter 2021)



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COURSE DETAILS

Course Title & Number:	Current Issues in Agriculture and Food DAGR 0920
Number of Credit Hours	3
Pre-Requisites:	Grade of C or better in DAGR 0980 Farm Management Project 1
Class Times	Tuesday 10:00-11:15 Synchronous and recorded Thursday 10:00-11:15 Synchronous and recorded Tuesday, January 26 virtual field trip to Keystone Agricultural Producers Annual Meeting 9:00-5:00 Synchronous – mandatory

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor(s) Name & Preferred Form of Address:	Reg Dyck (Reg)
Office Hours or Availability:	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:30- 4:00 By email appointment
Email:	reginald.dyck@umanitoba.ca I will attempt to return email within 24 hours.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

U of M Course Calendar Description

DAGR 0920 - Current Issues in Agriculture and Food Cr. Hrs. 3

The course will present current and potential future issues facing Canada's agri-food sector. Students will be required to identify and optimize solutions to these issues, with a focus on the roles and responsibilities of farmers, food producers, consumers and agri-food industry members. The impact of these issues on farms and the agri-food industry now and in the future will be emphasized as will the role farmers can play in policy development in response to these issues. An opportunity for students to engage with several guest speakers from the agri-food community.

General Course Description

The agriculture and rural community deals with many issues from beyond the farm gate that will affect how you operate and affect conditions for success on the farm and our rural communities. In this class we will look at some of these issues like and not limited to Ag Policy (Government Relations), Climate Change, Trade, Animal Rights (Social Media and perceptions), Farming methods (organic, GMO CSA's), Land and Quota Values and Indigenous Relations, and Consumer Trends, Farm Stress and Mental Health.

Course Goals

Our goals in this course will be to analyse some of the issues facing agriculture from different perspectives, and learn how to get involved and affect the outcome of these issues as they relate to farmers, agriculture and rural communities.

Course Learning Objectives

Students will demonstrate strong critical thinking skills when looking at various agricultural issues and their impact.

Students will demonstrate strong written communication skills.

Students will demonstrate the ability to present information clearly and effectively to small and large groups.

Students will develop team skills and leadership skills.

Students will be exposed to diverse perspectives.

Students will develop networking skills interacting with agricultural and food professionals through virtual class and during the field trip. These may include professionals from General Farm Organizations, Producer and Commodity Groups, representatives from Governments and Government Programs and the Media.

COURSE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY

Required textbook – no textbook required

Supplementary readings – We will be using current electronic and print media for news and opinions on the issues facing agriculture. These will be posted on UMLearn.

Required materials (e.g. lab equipment, art supplies, computers, etc.) – Personal computer with video camera and capabilities for group presentation. Microsoft Office (Word, PDF Capable)

EXPECTATIONS AND POLICIES

I EXPECT YOU TO:

Students are expected to:

- Actively participate in and make positive contributions during class and in group projects
- Seek clarification from the Course Instructor if required, regarding the contents of this course outline
- Demonstrate strong communication and critical thinking skills on assignments
- Demonstrate effective, professional communication skills when interacting with your Instructor and classmates
- Discuss any concerns you have directly with your Instructor
- Attend all synchronous classes and actively participate in in-class activities
- Some assignments will involve group work. Class will be divided into groups at the start of term and some group work will be presented by video and some synchronously. It is the responsibility of group members to organize and communicate with each other.
- Make arrangements to obtain information presented when extra-ordinary circumstances prevent attendance at class
- Carry out independent research on topics
- Come prepared for virtual class ready to participate in discussions
- Serve as good ambassadors for the Agriculture Diploma program when interacting with industry representatives
- Comply with all University of Manitoba Policies and Procedures including the Respectful Work and Learning Policy, which requires all staff and students to be respectful of others in and outside of the classroom.
- Regularly access UM Learn site for information
- Check their University of Manitoba email account daily to access course information
- Notify instructor in advance by email to request accommodations with potential conflicts with mandatory attendance at the virtual Keystone Agricultural Producers AGM on January 26th
- Notify instructor in advance by email if unable to attend any class so that consideration for an excused absence can be granted as **this course has a minimum attendance requirement**

The University requires all students to activate an official University email account. For full details of the Electronic Communication with Students please visit:

[http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Electronic Communication with Students Policy - 2013_09_01_RF.pdf](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Electronic_Communication_with_Students_Policy_-_2013_09_01_RF.pdf)

Please note that all communication between members of the academic team and students must comply with the electronic communication with student policy

(http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic_communication_with_students_policy.html). You are required to obtain and use your U of M email account for all communication between yourself and the university.

I will treat you with respect and would appreciate the same courtesy in return. See [Respectful Work and Learning Environment Policy](#).

Expectations: You Can Expect Me To

- Develop and present course content
- Develop and deliver engaging class activities
- Facilitate class participation and discussion
- Provide support for group projects and assignments
- Give feedback and grade assignments in a timely manner

Student Accessibility Services:

The University of Manitoba is committed to providing an accessible academic community. [Students Accessibility Services \(SAS\)](#) offers academic accommodation supports and services such as note-taking, interpreting, assistive technology and exam accommodations. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. mental illness, learning, medical, hearing, injury-related, visual) are invited to contact SAS to arrange a confidential consultation.

Student Accessibility Services

520 University Centre

Phone: (204) 474-7423

Email: Student_accessibility@umanitoba.ca

Recording Synchronous Sessions/Online Lectures

Synchronous classes will be recorded to be available to students at the instructor's discretion.

No audio or video recording of lectures or presentations is allowed in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part without permission. Course materials are for the participant's private study and research.

COURSE SCHEDULE

This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor and/or based on the learning needs of the students but such changes are subject to [Section 2.8 of ROASS](#).

Date	Class Content & Teaching Strategies	Sync/Async Times and attendance	Required Readings or any Pre-class Preparation	Evaluation		
				Type of Assessment	Due Date	Value of Final Grade

Tues Jan 5	Review Syllabus and Guidelines for Student Projects Group Identification, KAP Assignment	Sync. class: 10:00-11:15 Video Asynchronous	Read syllabus in preparation for class	KAP Video Analysis Assignment	Tues. Jan 12	5%
Thurs. Jan 7	Group Project Assignment Guidelines	Sync: class 10:00-11:15		KAP Resolution Group Presentation to class	Tues. Jan 19	7%
Tues Jan 12	Guest Lecture Andrew Campbell	Sync: class 10:00-11:15				
Thurs. Jan 14	Guest Presentation KAP representative	Sync: class 10:00-11:15				
Tues. Jan 19	KAP resolution Group Presentations	Sync: class 10:00-11:15		Pitch to the Ag Minister	Tues Feb. 2	10%
Thurs. Jan 21	Voting on KAP resolutions	Sync: class 10:00-11:15		KAP Resolution Peer Assessment done in class	Thurs. Jan. 21	5%
Tues. Jan 26	KAP AGM Field Trip Mandatory	Sync:	9:00 AM to 5:30 PM	Group chosen to bring resolution forward will present to the KAP AGM		Group chosen will be graded 25% Includes Media scrum. No further group project.
Thurs. Jan 28	Media scrum and Q and A					
Tues. Feb 2	Guest Lecture Heather Watson Business Plans	Sync: class 10:00-11:15		Supply Chains Assignment	Thurs. Feb 11	10%
Thurs. Feb 4		Sync: class 10:00-11:15				
Tues. Feb 9	James Frey China and North Korea	Sync: class 10:00-11:15				
Thurs. Feb 11		Sync: class 10:00-11:15				
Feb 15-19	U of M Winter Break	No Classes				

Tues. Feb 23	Guest lecture Robert Guildford Garden Hill	Sync: class 10:00-11:15		Rural Crime	Tues. Mar 2	10%
Thurs. Feb 25		Sync: class 10:00-11:15				
Tues. Mar 2	Guest lecture Jerry Friesen Farm Stress and Mental Health	Sync: class 10:00-11:15		Farm Stress and Mental Health	Tues. Mar 9	10%
Thurs. Mar 4		Sync: class 10:00-11:15				
Tues. Mar 9	Senate of Canada Representative TBD	Sync: class 10:00-11:15		Rural Issues and Opportunities	Tues. Mar 23	10%
Wed. Mar 10	VW Deadline					
Thurs. Mar 11	Student Group Presentations	Sync: class 10:00-11:15				
Tues. Mar 16	Student Group Presentations	Sync: class 10:00-11:15				
Thurs. Mar 18	Student Group Presentations	Sync: class 10:00-11:15				25%
Tues. Mar 23	TBD	Sync: class 10:00-11:15				
Thurs. Mar 25	TBD	Sync: class 10:00-11:15				
Tues Mar 30	Quiz and course evaluation	Sync: class 10:00-11:15		Quiz on class content		8%
	No Final Exam					

Voluntary Withdrawal

The last day for Voluntary Withdrawal is **March 10**. Students who do not withdraw by March 10 will be given a final grade in the class. Withdrawal courses will be recorded on official transcript. Students may refer to the [Registrar's Office](#) web page for more information. Discuss any grade concerns with instructor before VW deadline.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS: Assignments with instructions and **rubrics** will be posted on UM Learn. All assignments must include: Student name and Assignment name.

Students will receive grades on assignments/quizzes on at least 40% of the grade contributing to the total grade by the VW deadline of March 10.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: Assignments are to be uploaded to UM Learn

Individual Assignments (60%)

Due

KAP Video Analysis (5%)	Jan 12 12:00 Noon
KAP Resolution Peer Assessment (5%)	Jan 21 Done in class/submitted end of class
Pitch to Ag Minister (10%)	Feb 2 12:00 Noon
Supply Chain (10%)	Feb 11 12:00 Noon
Rural Crime (10%)	Mar 2 12:00 Noon
Farm Stress and Mental Health (10%)	Mar 9 12:00 Noon
Rural Issues and Opportunities (10%)	Mar 23 12:00 Noon

Quiz (8%)

Mar 30 submitted in class

Group Assignments (32%)

KAP Resolution (7%)	Jan. 19
Group Project (25%)	Jan. 26*, March 11, 16, 18

Note*: Group Chosen to Present to KAP AGM* will participate in Media Scrum on Jan. 28. This group will receive a bonus of 8% on final grade.

Grading

Letter Grade	Percentage out of 100	Grade Point Range	Final Grade Point
A+	95-100	4.25-4.5	4.5
A	90-94	3.75-4.24	4.0
B+	85-90	3.25-3.74	3.5
B	80-85	2.75-3.24	3.0
C+	75-80	2.25-2.74	2.5
C	70-7	2.0-2.24	2.0
D	60-70	Less than 2.0	1.0
F	Less than 50		0

Referencing Style

The referencing style to be used in assignments and projects will be explicitly stated in the instruction page for those assignments and projects. The library is a good resource if you have doubts about how to cite materials. Please refer to: <http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/citingandwriting> for more information. Librarians are also available to any questions you may have regarding referencing and citations.

Assignment Feedback

Formative and summative feedback will be provided. When possible feedback will be provided within two or three weeks.

Assignment Extension and Late Submission Policy

Assignments that are late, or cannot be opened, will be given a grade of zero. Extensions may be granted if students communicate **in advance** with the Instructor and provide supporting documentation to warrant an extension. When no extension is granted, late assignments will be assigned a grade of zero.

Academic Integrity

Each student in this course is expected to complete their coursework and programs of study with integrity by making a commitment to the six fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage. <http://umanitoba.ca/student-supports/academic-supports/academic-integrity>

Academic integrity looks like referencing the work of others that you have used and completing your assignments independently unless otherwise specified

If you are encouraged to work in a team, ensure that your project is completed with integrity. Plagiarism, duplicate submission, cheating on quizzes, tests, and exams, inappropriate collaboration, academic fraud, and personation are in violation of the Student Discipline Bylaw and will lead to the serious [disciplinary action](#). Visit the [Academic Calendar](#), [Student Advocacy](#), and [Academic Integrity](#) web pages for more information and support.

Refer to specific course requirements for academic integrity for individual and group work such as:

- I. Group projects are subject to the rules of academic dishonesty; Specific instructions will be given for group projects.
- II. Group members must ensure that a group project adheres to the principles of academic integrity;
- III. Students should not use study groups for individual assignments;
- IV. All assignments except group assignments should be completed independently.
- V. All work should be completed independently unless otherwise specified;
- VI. Sharing of notes and other materials, such as assignments and quiz questions that were provided by the instructor is prohibited, unless otherwise stated. This means that you are not allowed to upload the instructor's intellectual property to a note-sharing or tutoring website without explicit permission.

LEARNER SUPPORT

Schedule "A"

Section (a)

Student Accessibility Services

If you are a student with a disability, please contact SAS for academic accommodation supports and services such as note-taking, interpreting, assistive technology and exam accommodations. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. mental illness, learning, medical, hearing, injury-related, visual) are invited to contact SAS to arrange a confidential consultation.

Student Accessibility Services website:

<http://umanitoba.ca/student/saa/accessibility/>

520 University Centre

204 474 7423

Student_accessibility@umanitoba.ca

Writing and Learning Support

The Academic Learning Centre (ALC) offers writing and learning supports to help you throughout your academic program. These supports are offered online during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Make an appointment with an ALC writing tutor who can give you feedback at any stage of the writing process, whether you are just beginning to work on a written assignment or already have a draft. The ALC also has an English as an Additional Language (EAL) specialist available to work with students on improving their English-language academic writing skills.

Consult an ALC learning specialist or attend an academic skills workshop to improve your time management, learning strategies and test-taking strategies. Get support in select courses by making an appointment with an ALC content tutor. The ALC also offers peer-facilitated study groups called Supplemental Instruction (SI) for certain courses that students have typically found difficult. In SI study groups, students ask questions, compare notes, discuss content, solve

practice problems, and develop new study strategies in a group-learning format.

In addition to one-to-one and group sessions, you can also find writing and study tip sheets and videos on the ALC website.

Academic Learning Centre services are free for U of M students. For more information, please visit the Academic Learning Centre website at: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/>

Contact the Academic Learning Centre by calling 204-480-1481 or emailing academic_learning@umanitoba.ca. Bannatyne students can contact the Bannatyne Student Services office at 204-272-3190.

University of Manitoba Libraries (UML)

Research begins at [UM Libraries](#). [Learn at the Libraries](#) is a great place to start, with information for students on academic writing, how to search the library, evaluating resources, and writing citations. As the primary contact for all research needs, your [liaison librarian](#) can play a vital role when completing academic papers and assignments. Liaisons can answer questions about locating appropriate resources or managing citations, and will address any other concerns you may have regarding the research process. Liaisons can be contacted by email or phone, and are also available to meet with you online. When working remotely, students can also receive help online through [Ask Us!](#) chat. For further detail about the libraries' services and collections, [visit the Libraries' web site](#). Regularly check our [COVID-19 Update](#) page for available library services and access to resources for Fall 2020

Section (b)

For 24/7 mental health support, contact the Mobile Crisis Service at 204-940-1781.

Student Counselling Centre

Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns. SCC offers crisis services as well as individual, couple, and group counselling. *Student Counselling Centre:* <http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/index.html>

474 UMSU University Centre or S211 Medical Services Building

(204) 474-8592

Student Support Case Management

Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself or another student and don't know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team.

<http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html>

520 UMSU University Centre

(204) 474-7423 (Student Support Intake Assistant)

University Health Service

Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including psychiatric consultation. Note that due to fire displacement, UHS is unable to provide in-person medical care on the Fort Garry Campus until October, 2020.

University Health Service <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/>

(204) 474-8411 (Business hours or after hours/urgent calls)

Health and Wellness

Contact our Health and Wellness Educator if you are seeking information on health topics, including physical and mental health concerns, alcohol and substance use harms, or sexual violence. You can also access peer support from a *Healthy U* peer health educator.

Health and Wellness Educator

<https://umanitoba.ca/student/health-wellness/welcome-about.html>

britt.harvey@umanitoba.ca

469 UMSU University Centre

(204) 295-9032

Sexual Violence Resource Centre

Contact SVRC if you have experienced sexual violence or are seeking information about how to help somebody else. SVRC provides inclusive, survivor-centred, trauma-informed services, such as consultation, referrals, safety planning, and a range of on-site supports, including counselling by Clinic.

Sexual Violence Resource Centre

<https://umanitoba.ca/student-supports/sexual-violence-support-and-education>

svrc@umanitoba.ca

537 UMSU University Centre

(204) 474-6562 (Sexual Violence Intake and Triage Specialist)

Section (c) sample:

All students are required to respect copyright as per Canada's *Copyright Act*. Staff and students play a key role in the University's copyright compliance as we balance user rights for educational purposes with the rights of content creators from around the world. The Copyright Office provides copyright resources and support for all members of the University of Manitoba community.

Visit <http://umanitoba.ca/copyright> for more information.

Section (d)

Your rights and responsibilities

As a student of the University of Manitoba you have rights and responsibilities. It is important for you to know what you can expect from the University as a student and to understand what the University expects from you. Become familiar with the policies and procedures of the University and the regulations that are specific to your faculty, college or school.

The [Academic Calendar](http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/academiccalendar.html) <http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/academiccalendar.html> is one important source of information. View the sections *University Policies and Procedures* and *General Academic Regulations*.

While all of the information contained in these two sections is important, the following information is highlighted.

- If you have questions about your grades, talk to your instructor. There is a process for term work and final **grade appeals**. Note that you have the right to access your final examination scripts. See the Registrar's Office website for more information including appeal deadline dates and the appeal form <http://umanitoba.ca/registrar/>
- You are expected to view the General Academic Regulation section within the Academic Calendar and specifically read the **Academic Integrity** regulation. Consult the course syllabus or ask your instructor for additional information about demonstrating academic integrity in your academic work. Visit the Academic Integrity Site for tools and support <http://umanitoba.ca/academicintegrity/> View the **Student Academic Misconduct** procedure for more information.
- The University is committed to a respectful work and learning environment. You have the right to be treated with respect and you are expected conduct yourself in an appropriate respectful manner. Policies governing behavior include the:

Respectful Work and Learning Environment

http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/230.html

Student Discipline

http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/student_discipline.html and,

Violent or Threatening Behaviour

http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/669.html

- If you experience **Sexual Assault** or know a member of the University community who has, it is important to know there is a policy that provides information about the supports available to those who disclose and outlines a process for reporting. The **Sexual Assault** policy may be found at:
http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/230.html
More information and resources can be found by reviewing the Sexual Assault site
<http://umanitoba.ca/student/sexual-assault/>

For information about rights and responsibilities regarding **Intellectual Property** view the policy:
https://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/235.html

For information on regulations that are specific to your academic program, read the section in the Academic Calendar and on the respective faculty/college/school web site
<http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/>

Contact an **Academic Advisor** within our faculty/college or school for questions about your academic program and regulations <http://umanitoba.ca/academic-advisors/>

Student Advocacy

Contact Student Advocacy if you want to know more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, have questions about policies and procedures, and/or want support in dealing with academic or discipline concerns.

<http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy/>

520 University Centre

204 474 7423

student_advocacy@umanitoba.ca

Acknowledgements

The course author is Reg Dyck

Using Copyrighted Material

Please respect copyright. We will use copyrighted content in this course. I have ensured that the content I use is appropriately acknowledged and is copied in accordance with copyright laws and university guidelines. Copyrighted works, including those created by me, are made available for private study and research and must not be distributed in any format without permission. Do not upload copyrighted works to a learning management system (such as UM Learn), or any website, unless an exception to the *Copyright Act* applies or written permission has been confirmed. For more information, see the University's Copyright Office website at <http://umanitoba.ca/copyright/> or contact um_copyright@umanitoba.ca.

Note: You hold the copyright to all of your course material that you prepare and present. Course materials (both paper and digital) are for the participant's private study and research and should not be shared.