

## **MSc Agribusiness and Agri-Food Value Chain Management (FT/PT) (A523)**

### **1. Objectives**

The agribusiness sector is undergoing profound changes and reforms and is moving towards a more market oriented environment with environmental pressures and changing consumer tastes and expectations. This requires managers who are able to undertake complex strategic tasks and decision making in the actual global agribusiness environment. This programme is designed to prepare graduates for careers typically in the following fields: public and private sector companies involved in upstream and downstream agricultural industries; national and international non-governmental organisations who are involved in the development of the agri-food economy; in consultancy organisations in both rural and urban areas for developing countries. The programme is also well suited for potential entrepreneurs who wish to set up their own business and is in line with the vision of the Government to encourage entrepreneurial activities in all sectors to boost economic growth in the country. A value chain approach is also used to oversee all the actors in the agri-food value chains from suppliers down to consumers including producers, processors and distributors. Teaching and Learning will impart knowledge, skills and values to enhance employability and produce lifelong learners who can think and act creatively. Teaching methods will strengthen in-depth, reflective and integrative learning. This programme aims to target Mauritians as well as students from the Indian Ocean and Sub-Saharan Africa.

**By the end of this programme, the students will be able to:**

- Understand the applications of economic, management and marketing concepts and principles to an agribusiness;
- Review evolving national, regional and international market conditions for those products and services provided by agribusinesses;
- Generate innovative ideas to inspire the development and growth of economically viable small and medium agri-businesses;
- Understand the growing importance of agri-food value chain analysis for a holistic assessment of the agri-food sector and development of business competitiveness
- Apply the steps involved in a research process to any research project in the discipline area;
- Develop their ability to integrate knowledge acquired across functional areas and disciplines in Agribusiness and Agri-Food Value Chain Management;
- Prepare their continuing professional development plan towards lifelong learning; and
- Apply knowledge and skills to a practical organisational context.

### **2. General Entry Requirements**

Applicants are expected to have an undergraduate degree with

- At least a Second Class degree or a CPA  $\geq 50\%$ , whichever is applicable or
- A GPA not less than 2.50 out of 4 or equivalent from a recognised University,

OR alternative qualifications acceptable to the University of Mauritius.

### **3. Programme Requirements**

A Degree in Agricultural Sciences and allied sciences.

### **4. General and Programme Requirements – Special Cases**

The following may be deemed to have satisfied the General and Programme requirements for admission:

- Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 2 and 3 above but submit satisfactory evidence of having passed examinations which are deemed by the Senate to be equivalent to any of those listed.

- Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 2 and 3 above but who in the opinion of Senate, submit satisfactory evidence of the capacity and attainments requisite to enable them to pursue the programme proposed.

## 5. Programme Duration

	Normal (Years)	Maximum (Years)
Master's Degree (F/T)	1	2
Master's Degree (P/T)	2	4
Postgraduate Diploma (F/T)	1	2
Postgraduate Diploma (P/T)	2	4

6. **Credits per Year:** Minimum 6 credits (PT) and 12 credits (FT) subject to Regulation 6.

## 7. Minimum Credits Required for the Award of

Master's Degree:	41
Postgraduate Diploma:	29 (at least 12 credits should be from taught core modules)
Postgraduate Certificate:	15 (at least 6 credits should be from taught core modules)

Breakdown as follows:

	Credits from	
	Taught Core Modules	Project
Master's Degree	29	12
Postgraduate Diploma	29	
Postgraduate Certificate	15	

## 8. Assessment

Each taught module will be assessed over 100 marks (i.e. expressed as %). Assessment will be based on a Written Examination, carrying a weighting of 70%, and Continuous Assessment carrying 30% of total marks except for the following module:

Module	Continuous Assessment	Written Examination
AGRI 60007Y(1) - Challenges and Trends in Agri-Food Value Chains	50 % (15 % for class test, 15 % for group presentation and 20% for group portfolio)	50 %

Continuous assessment will be based on case studies; Problem-Based Learning, visits, student-led seminars, and literature based research and/or assignments and should include at least 1 class test.

Written Examinations for all modules, whether taught in semester 1 or in semester 2 or both, will be carried out at the end of the academic year and will be of 2 to 3 hours duration.

An overall total of 40% for combined Continuous Assessment and Written Examination components would be required to pass a module, without minimum thresholds within the individual Continuous Assessment and Written Examination.

Modules will carry credits in the range of 3 to 6. Project will carry 12 credits.

### Submission Deadlines for Dissertation

- First Draft: by last week day of July of the Academic Year.
- Final Copy: not later than the last week day of August of the Academic Year:
- Three copies of the dissertation (two spiral-bound copies, printed on both sides with black and white and one soft copy in a single PDF text file on electronic storage media) should be submitted to the Faculty/Centre Registry.
- In addition a soft copy of the dissertation (main body i.e. Introduction up to the last Chapter) should be uploaded on the Turnitin Platform, as a single PDF file in the appropriate

class/assignment provided by the Project Supervisor **by 3.00 p.m.** In case a student is allocated a Part-Time Supervisor, the class is to be created by the Programme/Project Coordinator.

- All the above should be submitted not later than the last week day of August by 4.00 pm at latest.
- Failure to submit the Project/Dissertation through the Turnitin Platform will result in the Project/Dissertation of the student, whether the bound copy or the soft copy, being unreceivable.

## 9. List of Modules

<u>Code</u>	<u>Module Name</u>	Hr / Yr	Credits
		L+P	
AGRI 60001Y(1)	Applied Economics and Management for Agribusiness Managers	60+0	4
AGRI 60002Y(1)	Applied Marketing in the Agri-Food Value Chain	60+0	4
AGRI 60003Y(1)	Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods for Agribusiness Managers	45+45	4
AGRI 60004Y(1)	Agri-Food Value Chain Analysis and Development	60+0	4
AGRI 60005Y(1)	Investment Appraisal, Risk Analysis and Decision-Making for Agribusiness Managers	45+0	3
AGRI 60006Y(1)	Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Agri-Food Value Chains	60+30	5
AGRI 60007Y(1)	Challenges and Trends in Agri-Food Value Chains	60+30	5
AGRI 6000Y(1)	Project	-	12
<b>Total</b>		<b>390+105</b>	<b>41</b>

## 10. Programme Plan - MSc Agribusiness and Agri-Food Value Chain Management

### 10.1 FULL-TIME

#### YEAR 1 (FULL-TIME)

##### CORE MODULES

<u>Code</u>	<u>Module Name</u>	Hr / Yr	Credits
		L+P	
AGRI 60001Y(1)	Applied Economics and Management for Agribusiness Managers	60+0	4
AGRI 60002Y(1)	Applied Marketing in the Agri-Food Value Chain	60+0	4
AGRI 60003Y(1)	Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods for Agribusiness Managers	45+45	4
AGRI 60004Y(1)	Agri-Food Value Chain Analysis and Development	60+0	4
AGRI 60005Y(1)	Investment Appraisal, Risk Analysis and Decision-Making for Agribusiness Managers	45+0	3
AGRI 60006Y(1)	Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Agri-Food Value Chains	60+30	5
AGRI 60007Y(1)	Challenges and Trends in Agri-Food Value Chains	60+30	5
AGRI 6000Y(1)	Project	-	12
<b>Total</b>		<b>390+105</b>	<b>41</b>

### 10.2 PART-TIME

#### YEAR 1 (PART-TIME)

##### CORE MODULES

<u>Code</u>	<u>Module Name</u>	Hr / Yr	Credits
		L+P	
AGRI 60001Y(1)	Applied Economics and Management for Agribusiness Managers	60+0	4
AGRI 60002Y(1)	Applied Marketing in the Agri-Food Value Chain	60+0	4
AGRI 60003Y(1)	Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods for Agribusiness Managers	45+45	4

AGRI 60004Y(1)	Agri-Food Value Chain Analysis and Development	60+0	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>225+45</b>	<b>16</b>

## YEAR 2 (PART-TIME)

### CORE MODULES

<u>Code</u>	<u>Module Name</u>	<u>Hr / Yr</u>	<u>Credits</u>
		<u>L+P</u>	
AGRI 6000Y(1)	Project	-	12
AGRI 60005Y(1)	Investment Appraisal, Risk Analysis and Decision-Making for Agribusiness Managers	45+0	3
AGRI 60006Y(1)	Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Agri-Food Value Chains	60+30	5
AGRI 60007Y(1)	Challenges and Trends in Agri-Food Value Chains	60+30	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>165+60</b>	<b>25</b>

**Total Number of Credits = 41**