# Welcome to AGB 202 (CRN 33859)
# Introduction to Agriculture Business – Distance Education

Dear Student:

Welcome to Distance Education at Cuesta College and the online version of Introduction to Agriculture Business.  My name is Amy Stapp and I will be your instructor for this course.  This letter is to inform you of some of the important details prior to the start of this Spring 2019 class.

## Instructor Contact Information

Instructor:     Amy Stapp
Phone:          805.704.4728 (cell)
Email:          amy_stapp@cuesta.edu

## Course Overview

Welcome to AGB 202 Introduction to Agriculture Business, a Distance Education course.  In this course you will be exposed to key business disciplines including Economics, Finance, Accounting, Marketing, Human Resources, International Business and Ethics, all through the lens of agriculture.  You will become familiar with concepts and current thinking in each area, and will have the opportunity to analyze and apply these ideas to the agribusiness world. This is a course where you will bring your own work experience to our virtual classroom to create a robust learning environment.  Expect your business acumen to grow through group discussions, and thought-provoking case study analysis.

Please be prepared to spend **6 - 9 hours per week** on coursework for this class.  Are you wondering how successful you may be at a distance education course?  Take the Self-Assessment Survey.

This course is taught using Canvas and Connect.  These are web-based tools used to facilitate teaching an online class. These platforms provides the framework for the AGB 202 class including PowerPoint presentations, student data files, the tools to receive and send course materials, and a grade book. Using Canvas you can communicate with other students, and you can share materials and ideas with other course participants via the discussion forum.

## Student Learning Outcomes

-   Explain how economic principles relate to agriculture business management

-   Recognize and describe agricultural business organizational structures including sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations, franchises, and cooperatives

-   Develop an awareness of the basic laws, regulations, and regulatory agencies that interact with the agricultural community

-   Describe the various styles of leadership

-   Identify the role of the agricultural manager

- Recognize, evaluate, and propose solutions to problems in personnel, ethics, and communication

## Class Requirements

This class is entirely online with no in-person class sessions. You will need to have access to an e-mail account and the internet.  You will also need to purchase your textbook(s) right away.  The textbook(s) are available in the college bookstore or directly through McGraw-Hill. I have listed the textbook details below.

Understanding Business, Nickels 11th edition with Connect Access Code. There may be a Rental Program available through the Cuesta bookstore. Otherwise, you can buy Connect directly from McGraw-Hill after the first day of class when given the link in the course syllabus.

ISBN: **9781259784019**

Authors: Nickels
Publisher: McGraw-Hill

Connect is the textbook's online learning platform that will contain all of the course textbook reading, homework and exams. One option is to only purchase Connect directly through McGraw-Hill, which comes with an e-text.  If you want a hard copy textbook, you may be able to rent it at the bookstore (I'm unsure if this will be an option but you can check with the Cuesta bookstore.) with the Connect access or you can purchase a used Understanding Business 11th edition but you will still need to purchase Connect for access to all homework, exams, and quizzes. **I discourage students from purchasing a used textbook because Connect access is the primary cost of our textbook.**

It is essential that you understand the basic concepts of email, web navigation and online communication to succeed in this course.  Please visit Cuesta College's Distance Education website for FAQs, online resources, and information on "how to survive an online course."

## Computer Requirements

The browser requirements and minimum qualifications required for this class are detailed here.

- **Web Browser:** Microsoft Explorer 6.0 or Mozilla Firefox 5.6 or higher.
- **Computer Specs:** 1 GHz or equivalent computer and a minimum of 512 MB of system RAM (memory) running Windows XP or better.  Speakers, Sound Card, Reliable DSL or Cable (not dial-up modem) Internet Connection.
- **Software:**
  - Microsoft Word 2007 or higher.
    Microsoft Windows and Microsoft Word (or the entire Office 2010/2013 Professional Suite) may be purchased at a discount through CollegeBuys, JourneyED, o College Software.
  - Adobe Acrobat Reader.
  - Adobe Flash Player.

## First Assignment & Accessing Canvas

Your first assignment is to log into the class through Canvas (cuesta.instructure.com)

- Your login ID is the same as your my.Cuesta login.  It is: firstname_lastname.
- Your password is the same as your Cuesta password.

**You will NOT be able to access Canvas until the semester begins.**  Once you locate the site, please bookmark it or add it to your favorites for future reference.

Canvas Quick Reference


Technical Support

**College Policies / Assistance**

Each student is required to follow all school guidelines and comply with all school deadlines including **personal responsibility for adding and/or dropping this class**.  Drop dates are available on the academic calendar .  Each student is responsible for obtaining updates or changes to the syllabus and/or assignments for the course.

### Academic Honesty:

Students are responsible for being aware of and complying with the Academic Honesty Policy (refer to Cuesta College Schedule or Cuesta College Catalog).  At the discretion of the instructor, students being academically dishonest (submitting another student's work as your own, e.g. copying a computer file that contains another student's work) will be dropped from the course.  If the drop deadline has passed, students will receive a failing grade in the course.  In addition, a "Student Incident Report" will be filed with the Vice President of Academic Affairs office.

### Students With Disabilities:

If you have a disability and need accommodations in this class, please contact Disabled Student Program & Services at (805) 546-3148 or (805) 591-6215 NCC as soon as possible to ensure that you receive the accommodations in a timely manner.  You may also discuss your need for accommodations with the instructor.

### Veteran:

If you are a Veteran, please contact Karen Andrews, Cuesta College's VA Certifying Official - 546-3142. The Veteran Center is in room 6903. The Veteran Center hours are Mon. - Thurs. 9:00am to 4:00pm.

### Counseling Center:

College life can compound other issues in one's life. If you are feeling overwhelmed and feel you need help to maintain your personal balance – please contact our counseling center at 546-3138.

### Library Services:

Circulation/Reserves: (805) 546-3155
Reference Desk - SLO: (805) 546-3157 NC: (805) 591-6200 Ext. 4410.

**Library hours:**
<u>SAN LUIS OBISPO CAMPUS</u>: Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 8:00 pm,
Friday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday: Closed.
<u>NORTH COUNTY CAMPUS</u>: Monday & Thursday: 8:30 am - 7:00 pm,
Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:30 am - 8:00 pm, Friday, Saturday & Sunday: Closed.
<u>ARROYO GRANDE HIGH SCHOOL CENTER</u>: Monday & Thursday: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm.

**<u>Tutorial Services:</u>**
Promoting the academic skills, learning strategies and attitudes necessary for student success in all disciplines for ALL students.
**Hours**:
SLO: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm, Room 3300
NCC: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Room N3130

If you have any further questions prior to the first day of class, please feel free to email me at amy_stapp@cuesta.edu.  Otherwise, I look forward to getting to know you during the course of the semester.

Thank you,
Amy Stapp