

Diploma of Agriculture

Description

The Diploma of Agriculture aims to prepare students to work on farms and stations who manage enterprise production units or work as employees in an agricultural business. Students will develop the communication and leadership skills needed to thrive in the industry whether in marketing and financial services, crop supply, crop management, agricultural merchandising, or managing a farm.

This qualification reflects the role of personnel working on farms and stations who manage enterprise production units and employees and sole operators of agribusinesses who provide crop production advice and services to production enterprises. Industry expects individuals with this qualification will take personal responsibility and exercise autonomy in undertaking complex work. They must analyse information and exercise judgement to complete a range of advanced skilled activities.

Job roles

Job roles vary across different industry sectors. Possible job titles relevant to this qualification include:

- Farm production manager
- Production unit manager
- Agronomist
- Station/property manager.

Duration: 10 months + 6 Months of Industrial Attachment

Entry Qualification Requirements

Academic

- Obtained at least C6 for any GCE O Level subject OR
- Higher National ITE Certificate (Higher Nitec) OR
- 10 years of formal education OR equivalent OR
- Matured students with 30 years and above with at least 8 years of work experience will be considered for admission.

English Proficiency

- IELTS 5.5 OR
- AAC EFL Level 5 or equivalent.

Students without formal English qualifications will be given a placement test to determine their level of proficiency.

Applicants must be of age 16 and above.

Qualification Modules

Full Time

#	Code	Module Name	Competency Code*	Competency Name*	Learning Hours	Independent Learning Hours	Assessment Preparation hours
1	DOA101	Develop climate risk management strategies	AHCAGB501	Develop climate risk management strategies	30	55	40
2	DOA102	Develop a whole farm plan	AHCAGB505	Develop a whole farm plan	30	55	40
3	DOA103	Market products and services	AHCBUS502	Market products and services	30	55	40
4	DOA104	Monitor and review business performance	AHCBUS507	Monitor and review business performance	30	55	40
5	DOA105	Prepare and monitor budgets and financial reports	AHCBUS508	Prepare and monitor budgets and financial reports	30	55	40
6	DOA106	Monitor and manage soils for production projects	AHCSOL501	Monitor and manage soils for production projects	30	55	40

7	DOA107	Prepare reports	AHCWRK503	Prepare reports	30	55	40
8	DOA108	Plan and manage long-term weed, pest or disease control in crops	AHCBAC505	Plan and manage long-term weed, pest or disease control in crops	30	55	40
9	DOA109	Develop production plan for crops	AHCBAC507	Develop production plan for crops	30	55	40
10	DOA110	Apply plant biology to agronomic practices	AHCBAC508	Apply plant biology to agronomic practices	30	55	40
11	DOA 111	Industrial Attachment**	NA	NA	-	1056	40
					300	1606	440
* Competency Code and Competency Name are taken from the AHC50116 Training Package release 4. Total learning hours 2346 hours.							

**The Industrial Attachment (if any) is an integral module of the programme. However, suppose a student is unable to participate in the Industrial Attachment module due to circumstances beyond the control of the Student or the College, like non-approval of the Training Work Permit by the Ministry of Manpower or unable to secure an intern placement due to unavailability of vacancies, the Student will be required to complete a Research-Based Project with the submission of a report to be considered for graduation for the course. While AAC will make its best efforts to secure Industrial Attachment for the students, it does not guarantee that it will be able to secure one for every student.

Synopsis			
Module Name	Competency Code*	Competency Name*	Description
Develop climate risk management strategies	AHCAGB501	Develop climate risk management strategies	This unit of competency in this module describes the skills and knowledge required to develop climate risk management strategies. It prepares the student to survey climate and enterprise data. By identifying and analysing the climate risks and opportunities, students will be trained to formulate climate risk management strategies.
Develop a whole farm plan	AHCAGB505	Develop a whole farm plan	This unit of competency in this module describes the skills and knowledge required to develop a whole farm plan. It focusses on developing the students to determine directions for the business, audit natural resources and infrastructure of the property. The students will be trained to monitor legal requirements impacting on the management of the property. It prepares the students to develop management strategies to address natural resource management issues and review the whole farm.
Market products and	AHCBUS502	Market products and services	This unit of competency in this module describes

services			the skills and knowledge required to market products and services. It prepares the students to analyse the market information, identify and evaluate factors to include in a marketing plan, develop marketing plan for the products and services, determine promotional strategies, implement marketing activities and evaluate marketing performance.
Monitor and review business performance	AHCBUS507	Monitor and review business performance	This unit of competency in this module describes the skills and knowledge required to monitor and review business performance. It prepares the students to identify performance requirements by developing realistic performance indicators within available time frame and resources. This module also trains the students to identify capacity to promote the sustainability of operations and incorporate into enterprise procedures. It covers how to evaluate enterprise performance against enterprise objectives to identify variations and scope for future development. The students after the completion of this module will also be able to review business performance of the firm in terms of its business operations, financial performance, marketing performance and business risk management performance to identify opportunities for improvement.
Prepare and monitor budgets and financial reports	AHCBUS508	Prepare and monitor budgets and financial reports	This unit of competency in this module describes the skills and knowledge required to prepare and monitor budgets and financial reports. It covers the preparation of budgets, implements and

			<p>monitor budgets and maintain financial budgets. Students will be able to ensure the plan allows the business to meet financial reporting requirements, allocate funds in accordance with budget objectives and parameters and prepare financial reports to meet both management and legislative requirements.</p>
<p>Monitor and manage soils for production projects</p>	AHCSOL501	<p>Monitor and manage soils for production projects</p>	<p>This unit of competency in this module describes the skills and knowledge required to monitor and manage soils for production projects. It trains the students to research about soil to identify relevant properties of soils and areas of homogenous soils for testing. The students will apply information from soil testing to production and/or management plan, develop soil amendment practices, monitor soil amendment practices, review and document the soil management plan.</p>
<p>Prepare reports</p>	AHCWRK503	<p>Prepare reports</p>	<p>This unit of competency in this module describes the skills and knowledge required to prepare comprehensive reports. It trains the students to research material by identifying and describing the topic of the report, collect and organize information appropriate to the task, evaluate the information and produce a document by organizing the document logically, and confirm it is structured and balanced according to the propose, audience and context within a specified timeframe. It also trains the student to deliver a</p>

			verbal presentation by using concise and well-presented support materials.
Plan and manage long-term weed, pest or disease control in crops	AHCBAC505	Plan and manage long-term weed, pest or disease control in crops	This unit of competency in this module describes the skills and knowledge required to plan and manage long-term weed, pest or disease control in crops. It focusses on identifying and accessing historical data, including recent data from organisational records for input to weed, pest or disease control planning, determining long-term weed, pest or disease control strategies, providing input to other planning processes, determine scheduling and key responsibilities, Monitoring and adjusting weed, pest or disease control strategies
Develop production plan for crops	AHCBAC507	Develop production plan for crops	This unit of competency in this module describes the skills and knowledge required to develop production plans for agricultural and horticultural crops. Students will be trained how to select crop species and variety by Establishing production targets for each crop type, consistent with marketing and enterprise objectives and selecting most profitable cultural practices and rotations, consistent with disease and pest management strategies, available machinery resources, and management for sustainability of resources, establish yield potential and quality specification for crop, preparing crop program and

			reviewing production plan.
Apply plant biology to agronomic practices	AHCBAC508	Apply plant biology to agronomic practices	This unit of competency in this module covers the application of introductory plant biology (plant taxonomy, plant morphology and plant physiology) to a wide range of agronomic practices including crop/pasture establishment, fertiliser use, irrigation, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), crop harvesting, grazing management and the provision of specialist agronomic advice. Students will be trained to apply plant taxonomy to agronomic practices, identify plant functions and their impact on growth and apply plant morphology to agronomic practices
Industrial Attachment			The industrial attachment provides the student with the opportunity to apply the concepts and principles gained in the diploma programme. Students will undertake an internship programme with the farms or farm businesses as related to their interest or area of specialization.
* Competency Code and Competency Name are taken from the AHC50116 Training Package release 4.			

Assessment Arrangements

Module Code	Module Name	Demonstration	Practical	Activities	Observation	Role play	Case study/Scenario Questions and Answers	Project/Report	Presentation,	Portfolio/Journal	Online
DOA101	Develop climate risk management strategies		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
DOA102	Develop a whole farm plan		✓				✓	✓	✓		
DOA103	Market products and services			✓		✓	✓	✓			
DOA104	Monitor and review business performance			✓			✓	✓			
DOA105	Prepare and monitor budgets and financial reports			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
DOA106	Monitor and manage soils for production projects		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
DOA107	Prepare reports		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	
DOA108	Plan and manage long-term weed, pest or disease control in crops		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
DOA109	Develop production plan for crops		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
DOA110	Apply plant biology to agronomic practices		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
DOA 111	Industrial Attachment		✓		✓			✓		✓	

The assessment objectives tested in these modules are broadly categorised in the following hierarchical order:

1. **Knowledge:** Exhibit memory of previously learned materials by recalling facts, terms, basic concepts and answers
2. **Comprehension:** Demonstrate understanding of facts and ideas by organizing, comparing, translating, interpreting, giving descriptions, and stating the main ideas
3. **Application:** Using new knowledge. Solve problems in new situations by applying acquired knowledge, facts, techniques and rules in a different way
4. **Analysis:** Examine and break information into parts by identifying motives or causes. Make inferences and find evidence to support generalizations
5. **Evaluation:** Present and defend opinions by making judgments about information, validity of ideas or quality of work based on a set of criteria

Specification Grid

The relationship between the assessment objectives and components of the scheme of assessment is as follows

Knowledge	Comprehension	Application	Analysis	Evaluation
20%	20%	20%	30%	10%

The assessment objectives are weighted to give an indication of their relative importance.

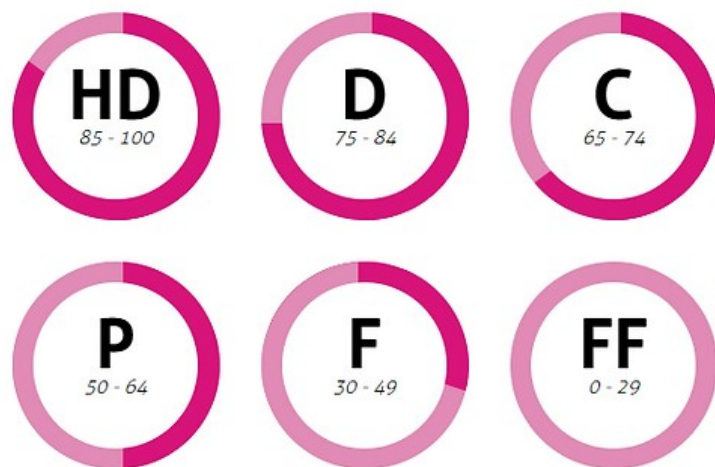
They are not intended to provide a precise statement of the number of marks in particular skills.

Code	Name of the module	Assessment 1	Assessment 2
DOA101	Develop climate risk management strategies	30%	70%
DOA102	Develop a whole farm plan	30%	70%
DOA103	Market products and services	30%	70%
DOA104	Monitor and review business performance	30%	70%

DOA105	Prepare and monitor budgets and financial reports	30%	70%
DOA106	Monitor and manage soils for production projects	30%	70%
DOA107	Prepare reports	30%	70%
DOA108	Plan and manage long-term weed, pest or disease control in crops	30%	70%
DOA109	Develop production plan for crops	30%	70%
DOA110	Apply plant biology to agronomic practices	30%	70%
DOA 111	Industrial Attachment	30%	70%

Marks and Grades

The infographic below shows the academic grading of this course with the breakdown of marks.



Graduation Requirement:

In order to be awarded the Diploma of Agriculture, a student must obtain at least a Pass Grade in all the modules within the eligibility period of 2 years from the original completion date.

Certificate will be awarded by Academies Australasia College.