

A Collegiate Course on Cooperatives: A Model for Classroom-Business

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Education about Cooperatives

- Objective: group of graduates thoroughly familiar with cooperative principles, philosophy
- Topics
- Audiences

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Topics in Cooperatives Class

- Cooperative principles
- Scope and Structure
- Economic rationale
- History
- Microeconomic theory
 - Pricing
 - Agency
 - I/O & Anti-trust law
- Finance
- Governance
- Management
- How to start
- Marketing issues
 - Marketing co-ops
 - Supply co-ops
- Application of management, governance, finance to current cases
- Overview of sectors
 - REC, CU, housing, healthcare, insurance

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Conveying the Meaning of the Course

- Why do students attend the course
- Why am I teaching it
 - Scholar, analyst background
 - Quentin Burdick Center mission
 - Teaching
 - Board
 - Outreach has been critical
 - Motivation to do more

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Media

- IT in the classroom
 - Cooperative Leader in the Distance-learning Classroom
 - Online
 - Podcasts, power point, videos
- Social media in the classroom
 - What is the potential?
 - Delicious.com
 - What did I learn about student perception of co-ops?

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Bringing Companies to the Students

- Guest speakers
- Case studies
- Annual meeting
- Field trips
- Bloomquist Lecture

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Use of eXtension in Class

- What is the Col
 - Students
 - Future leaders
 - Awareness in current leaders
- How can social media be used to promote public interaction?

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What I Don't Know

- The objective: become a different person
 - Changes in attitude
- How to build a career track for co-op management
 - Internships are common for traditional corps.
 - Variety of sectors, each with different skills
 - Democratic control
 - Intermediate steps

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