

Implementing practical skills in a distance learning of agribusiness study program at universitas terbuka

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Abstrak

The Agribusiness Study Program at Universitas Terbuka, The Indonesian Open University, was created with a goal of producing graduates who are competent in the field of extension and communication of agribusiness. One way to achieve this goal is to create a curriculum that develops competencies in both hard and softskills that are relevant to the professional demands of graduates. Hard skill to be acquired include the application of methods and skills of agricultural extensions that will be applied in the field. Soft skills include competencies such as the ability to communicate, work in teams, leadership, and problem solving. The Agribusiness Study Program allows graduates to acquire key competencies by incorporating some practical courses in its curriculum. The presentation will describe the comparison of practical implementation of the management between an agricultural extension study program and the agribusiness study program. The topics discussed in this presentation will adress the implementation of practical management skills in the Agricultural Extension and Agribusiness Study Programs, including strengths and weaknesses, various obstacles, and how obstacles were overcome. The result study shows that the managing of the practical implementation of PS Agribusiness can be done independently as long as the equipments can be provided as the need in the field.