**Course Title**: Special Topics - Crops

**Course Number**: FBMT 2229

**Credits:** 2

**Course Description:**

These courses cover special topics of interest in crop management. This course focuses on the analysis of special topics in oilseed or biofuel crop management, the economics related to cost of production, and the potential for processing the oilseed crop on the farm. On-farm processing of energy crops will result in both a biodiesel supply and a by-product that has been approved for livestock feed in some states. This course will provide basic principles to assist in researching new biofuel crop opportunities, incorporating the energy crop into a normal rotation, and basic economics of production and processing on the farm.

**Course Outline:**

1. Determine a crop management specific focus for the course based on your farm business
   * Select crop management area to be evaluated
   * Identify factors for consideration
   * Examine tools needed to assist with analysis
2. Investigate information related to the crop management special focus
   * Research publications and other sources of pertinent data
   * Compare data for options related to focus area
3. Develop an implementation plan
   * Identify key factors to include in plan
   * Incorporate findings into plan
   * Finalize the plan
4. Implement the plan
5. Evaluate the plan
   * Monitor actions
   * Record findings
   * Consider modifications to the plan as needed, based on findings

**Course Specific Outcomes:**

1. Identify budget inputs;
2. Determine farm actual production history (APH);
3. Develop enterprise budget;
4. Formulated detailed production records;
5. Evaluate profitability; and
6. Develop a nutrient and/or pest management plan.