

**AEC 219.01W AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2014**

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COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook Required:

Agricultural Economics by H. Evan Drummond and John W. Goodwin. Prentice-Hall, Inc., New Jersey, 3rd Ed., 2011. (ISBN 9780136071921)

Course Description:

A study of economic principles with emphasis on their application to the solution of farm, agribusiness, and agricultural industry problems.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of the course the student will learn to list and explain different agricultural economic fields, including the food industry, demand theory (e.g., demand and price analysis, consumer behavior, and market price determination), supply theory (e.g., production economics, cost analysis, and optimal output levels), and competitive environments (e.g., perfect and imperfect competition).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course consists of a series of assignments and examinations to assist the student in achieving the learning objectives for the course. Each week students are encouraged to work on assignments and readings in preparation for the exam.

Grading	Percent
Assignments and Exercises	30%
Quizzes	10%
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Exam 3	20%

Grading Scale

Range	Grade
90-100.00	A
80-89.99	B
70-79.99	C
60-69.99	D
Less than 60	F

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in this course.

- Internet access/connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)
- Word Processor (i.e. MS Word or Word Perfect)

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

This course will be facilitated using eCollege. To get started with the course, go to:
<https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=welcome> You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course.

If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@online.tamuc.org

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement: Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me any time. Email is the best way to contact me.

Office hours are by appointment only. Should you need to meet with me for any reason, a time and place will be determined.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES
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COURSE SPECIFIC PROCEDURES

Exams and quizzes: No makeup exams or quizzes will be offered. A grade of zero will be assigned to any missed exam or quiz. Make sure you have internet access ahead of time. Make sure your laptop battery is fully charged. Exams and quizzes will be administered through eCollege. Exams and quizzes are to be completed by 11:59 PM on the due date. Exams and quizzes will be timed.

Assignments and exercises: Exercises should be considered very important material for exams. Exercises will be available via eCollege. Students will be required to submit their individual answers via eCollege according to the class schedule provided (see Class Schedule below). Exercises will become active the first day of the week they are due and are to be completed by 11:59 PM on the due date. Students will be graded on the quality and timeliness of their exercise submissions (see exercise rubric).

Class preparation: Students should read content and complete course assignments prior to deadlines. Students are expected to actively participate in online discussions and submit assignments in-time. Students are also expected to complete quizzes and exams on the date and time allotted. It is your responsibility to be familiar with and understand all previously covered material prior to each new chapter.

UNIVERSITY POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Services for Students with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Gee Library

Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

General Policies for Classes: All students enrolled at the University will follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. See Student's Guide Handbook, Rules and Procedures, Code of Student Conduct at <http://www.tamuc.edu/CampusLife/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

Academic Integrity: In this course the need for collaboration is undeniable if you are to excel, even in cases of individual work. There is a fine line in this process. You are encouraged to seek the help and advice of others. However, you **must** do your own work. My personal policy, which will guide this course, is: I trust you to behave honestly and ethically in all circumstances. Please ask me if you have questions about what is proper and what is not.

Academic Honesty: Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Instructors “are expected to uphold and support student integrity and honesty by maintaining conditions that encourage and enforce academic honesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.” See 13.99.99.R0.10 Academic Honesty at <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/default.aspx>

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Academic Success Center is excited to announce a new support service available starting September 3, 2013 for all undergraduate students to use. Through a partnership with Tutor.com®, they offer 24/7 online tutoring that connects students one-to-one with a subject expert tutor the minute they need assistance (Business Center option is available 3:00pm to 12:00 am CST).

The tutoring service can be accessed from any internet-enabled computer or mobile device by going to www.tutor.com/TAMUC

Tutoring is available in following subject areas:

- Business: Account, Finance & Economics
- Math: Algebra, Calculus, Geometry, & Statistics
- Sciences: Biology, Chemistry, Physics & Earth Sciences
- English, Writing & History

Additionally, the program also offers study resources such as skills-building tool, lessons, test prep materials, and videos.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week of	Subject/Material Covered	Assignments Due By 11:59 PM on Due Date
Week 1 Jan 13 – Jan 19	Syllabus eCollege Tutorial	eCollege Tutorial
Week 2 Jan 20 – Jan 26	Ch. 1 The Food Industry	Exercise Quiz
Week 3 Jan 27 – Feb 2	Ch.2 Intro to Ag. Economics	Exercise Quiz
Week 4 Feb 3 – Feb 9	Ch. 3 Intro. Market Price Determination	Exercise Quiz
Week 5 Feb 10 – Feb 16	Exam 1 – Ch. 1, 2 & 3	Exam 1
Week 6 Feb 17 – Feb 23	Ch. 8 Theory of Consumer Behavior	Exercise Quiz
Week 7 Feb 24 – Mar 2	Ch. 9 Concept of Elasticity	Exercise Quiz
Week 8 Mar 3 – Mar 9	Ch.9 continued	Exercise
Week 9 Mar 10 – Mar 16	SPRING BREAK – No Class	
Week 10 Mar 17 – Mar 23	Ch. 4 Firm as a Production Unit	Exercise Quiz
Week 11 Mar 24 – Mar 30	Exam 2 – Ch. 8, 9 & 4	Exam 2
Week 12 Mar 31 – Apr 6	Ch. 5 Costs and Optimal Output Levels	Exercise Quiz
Week 13 Apr 7 – Apr 13	Ch. 6 Supply, Market Adj. and Input Demand	Exercise Quiz
Week 14 Apr 14 – Apr 20	Ch. 6 continued	Exercise
Week 15 Apr 21 – Apr 27	Ch. 7 Imperfect Competition and Government Regulation	Exercise Quiz
Week 16 Apr 28 – May 4	Exam 3 - Ch. 5, 6, & 7	Exam 3

Please Note: The instructor reserves the right to change this schedule as circumstances may dictate.

EXERCISES / ASSIGNMENTS RUBRIC

CATEGORY	100%	75%	50%	25%
Quality of Information	All information presented was clear, accurate and thorough.	Most information presented was clear, accurate and thorough.	Most information presented was clear and accurate, but was not usually thorough.	Information had several inaccuracies OR was usually not clear.
Amount of Information	All topics are addressed and all questions answered with at least 4 sentences about each.	All topics are addressed and most questions answered with at least 3 sentences about each.	All topics are addressed, and most questions answered with 1 sentence about each.	One or more topics were not addressed.
Understanding of Topic	Student clearly understood the topic in-depth and presented their information forcefully and convincingly.	Student clearly understood the topic in-depth and presented their information with ease.	Student seemed to understand the main points of the topic and presented those with ease.	Student did not show an adequate understanding of the topic.
Diagrams & Illustrations	Diagrams and illustrations are neat, accurate and add to the reader's understanding of the topic.	Diagrams and illustrations are accurate and add to the reader's understanding of the topic.	Diagrams and illustrations are neat and accurate and sometimes add to the reader's understanding of the topic.	Diagrams and illustrations are not accurate OR do not add to the reader's understanding of the topic.
Sources	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented in the desired format.	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented, but a few are not in the desired format.	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented, but many are not in the desired format.	Some sources are not accurately documented.
Mechanics	No grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	Almost no grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors	A few grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	Many grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.