

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

**Instructor:** Priscilla Argüello  
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**Office hours:** Monday and Wednesday 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

<b>COURSE INFORMATION</b>
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***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).

<b>COURSE REQUIREMENTS</b>
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This course consists of a series of exercises and examinations to assist the student in achieving the learning objectives for the course. Each week you are encouraged to work on exercises and readings in preparation for the exam.

Grading	Percent
Exercises – Short Exercises and Short Answer Questions	25%
Exercises – MC questions	10%
Video Summaries	5%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Exam 3	15%
Exam 4	15%

## 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 into the course.

If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password contact the Help Desk. The HelpDesk can be reached by sending an email to [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org) or by calling 1-866-656-5511.

## 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 for this class are Monday and Wednesday 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### COURSE SPECIFIC PROCEDURES

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

**Exercises:** Exercises should be considered very important material for exams. Exercises (short exercises, short answer and multiple choice questions) will be available via eCollege. You are required to submit your 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. You will be graded on the quality and timeliness of your exercise submissions (see exercise rubric).

**Video Summaries:** Every other chapter you will watch a video online. You will be required to submit your individual video summaries via eCollege according to the class schedule provided (see Class Schedule below). The videos will highlight current agricultural economic issues and trends.

**Class preparation:** You should read content and complete course exercises prior to deadlines. You are expected to actively participate in online discussions and submit exercises in-time. You are also expected to complete 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](mailto: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/aboutus/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/studentAffairs/13.02.99.R0.06StandardsOfStudentConduct.pdf>

**Academic Integrity:** In this course the need for collaboration is undeniable if you are to excel, even in cases of individual work. 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/rulesProcedures/13students/13.99.99.R0.10AcademicHonesty.aspx>

## SUPPORT SERVICES

Through a partnership with Tutor.com<sup>®</sup>, A&M-Commerce offers 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](http://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

The Academic Success Center also offers FREE one-on-one tutoring in this subject. Agricultural Economics tutors are available in the **JAMP room, STC 110 (Science Building)**. A schedule is posted in the JAMP room with tutoring hours.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

Week of	Subject/Material Covered	Exercises Due By 11:59 PM on last day listed
Week 1 Aug.25-31	Syllabus eCollege Tutorial	eCollege Tutorial
Week 2 Sept.1-7	Ch. 1 The Food Industry	Exercises Video Summaries
Week 3 Sept.8-14	Ch.2 Intro to Ag. Economics	Exercises
Week 4 Sept.15-21	Exam 1 – Ch. 1 & 2	Exam 1
Week 5 Sept.22-28	Ch. 3 Intro. Market Price Determination	Exercises Video Summaries
Week 6 Sept.29-Oct.5	Ch. 8 Theory of Consumer Behavior	Exercises
Week 7 Oct.6-12	Exam 2 – Ch. 3 & 8	Exam 2
Week 8 Oct.13-19	Ch. 9 Concept of Elasticity	Exercises Video Summaries
Week 9 Oct.20-26	Ch. 9 continued	Exercises
Week 10 Oct.27-Nov.2	Ch. 4 Firm as a Production Unit	Exercises
Week 11 Nov.3-9	Exam 3 – Ch. 9 & 4	Exam 3
Week 12 Nov.10-16	Ch. 5 Costs and Optimal Output Levels	Exercises Video Summaries
Week 13 Nov.17-23	Ch. 6 Supply, Market Adj. and Input Demand	Exercises
Week 14 Nov.24-30	Exam 4 – Ch. 5 & 6	Exam 4
Week 15 Dec.1-7	Ch. 7 Imperfect Competition and Government Regulation	Exercises Video Summaries

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

**EXERCISE RUBRIC**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>25%</b>
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.