



AEC 2317.01E: AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

COURSE SYLLABUS

Fall 2024

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Rafael Bakhtavoryan

Office Location: Agricultural Science Building, Room 232

Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays at 12:30p.m.-3:00p.m., or by appointment

Office Phone: (903) 886-5367

Office Fax: (903) 886-5990

University Email Address: Rafael.Bakhtavoryan@tamuc.edu (please, use only this email address and put "AEC 2317" in the subject of the email)

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: Within an hour during business hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Class Meeting: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-10:45a.m., AGET Room 255

Readings

Required: PowerPoint Presentations: These will be provided on D2L.

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

Lecture Topics

Part I: Foundations

The Food Industry

Chapter 1

Introduction to Agricultural Economics

Chapter 2

Introduction to Market Price Determination

Chapter 3

Part II: Microeconomics

The Theory of Consumer Behavior

Chapter 8

The Concept of Elasticity

Chapter 9

The Firm as a Production Unit

Chapter 4

Costs and Optimal Output Levels

Chapter 5

Supply, Market Adjustments, and Input Demand

Chapter 6

Imperfect Competition and Government Regulation

Chapter 7

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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

After studying all materials and resources presented in this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the structure of the agricultural sector of the U.S. economy.
2. Understand the concepts of consumer choice under income constraint and market demand.
3. Apply economic principles to understand the conduct and performance of individual producers and the agricultural industry.
4. Understand the market structure in agriculture that affects farm/ranch level and consumer level prices.
5. Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances, data, texts, or art.
6. In written, oral, and/or visual communication, A&M-Commerce students will communicate in a manner appropriate to audience and occasion, with an evident message and organizational structure.
7. Students will be able to interpret, test and demonstrate principles revealed in empirical data and/or observable facts.
8. Students will demonstrate an understanding of societal and/or civic issues.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students are expected to know how to use the **D2L** learning management system, Microsoft Word and PowerPoint.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

1. Read the assigned PowerPoint presentations.
2. Complete and turn in course assignments and exams at the scheduled time.
3. Use the web to actively seek out other agricultural economics sources that fit your learning style and help you better understand the material.
4. Be prepared for exams.

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GRADING

Your grade for the semester will be a weighted average of class participation, daily review quizzes, homework assignments, three in-class exams, and one online comprehensive final exam.

Class participation	2%
Daily review quizzes	3%
Homework assignments	10%
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Exam 3	20%
Final Exam	25%
TOTAL	100%

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89.99%

C = 70%-79.99%

D = 60%-69.99%

F = 59.99% or below

Assessments

CLASS PARTICIPATION: The goal of class participation is to provide students with an incentive to come to class prepared and having read the appropriate course material. There is a couple of ways for you to earn class participation points. First, you can earn them by **correctly** answering questions posed by the instructor. Second, you can earn participation points by contributing to class discussions through thoughtful, timely, and constructive ideas/comments, as called upon by the instructor, or on a voluntary basis. You will record your own participation points and the associated questions you answered or ideas/comments you voiced to earn the participation points on a piece of paper that you will have to give the instructor at the end of the class. Make sure you also write your name, the date, and the course title on the paper. If you fail to give the instructor the paper with the points, associated questions and ideas/comments, your name, the date, and the course title at the end of the class, you will not be given any participation points for that class.

I will give full credit for class participation (2%) to a student with maximum points at the end of the semester. The rest of students' class participation will be evaluated relative to the full-credit student's total points. You can email me asking about your total participation points at the moment. I will keep you posted on the maximum points earned at the time throughout the semester so that you can see where you are at as far as class participation.

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DAILY REVIEW QUIZZES (DRQs): The DRQs will be given almost every class on material covered in the prior class period (see the course outline at the end of the syllabus). DRQs are intended to: (1) motivate you to come to every class (2) motivate you to study on a regular basis, and (3) give you and your instructor immediate feedback on your progress. No make-up DRQs will be given and a grade of zero will be assessed for the missed DRQ.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS (HAs): Homework assignments are assigned regularly (see the course outline at the end of the syllabus) and must be completed individually. As a form of experiential learning, HAs help students sharpen their analytical skills. Students must turn in their HAs via D2L according to the course outline. HAs must be completed by 11:30 p.m. (Central Time) on the due date.

EXAMS: Other than for university-excused absences or a valid doctor's excuse, no make-up exams will be given. If an exam is missed a grade of zero will be assessed for it. Final exam is **COMPREHENSIVE** and must be taken online via D2L. Students cannot use a programmable calculator for exams. A simple 4-function (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) calculator is sufficient for all problems. Also, no use of cell phones as calculators is allowed for exams. You will have to bring a scantron for all in-class exams.

PRACTICE PROBLEMS: Practice problems provided by the instructor will be used to reinforce and apply concepts learned in the classroom. After completing each chapter, it is strongly recommended that you try to solve those problems on your own before we solve them in class. **Practice problems are not graded and do not have to be submitted.** However, it is in your best interest to solve them in preparing for homework assignments and exams since you will encounter similar problems on homework assignments and exams as well.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

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ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

The instructor's communication response time is stated clearly on page 1.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

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TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

AI Use in Course

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

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Students with Disabilities - ADA Statement

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

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library - Room 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

COURSE OUTLINE

AEC 2317_01E: Agricultural Economics

Fall 2024

TR 9:30-10:45a.m.

Lecture #	Weekday	Date	Topic/Homework assignments (HAs) must be submitted via D2L and are due on specific dates listed below by 11:30 p.m. Daily Review Quizzes (DRQs), in-class exams, and practice problems are done in class. Final exam has to be taken online on the specified date at the specified time.
1	Tue	27-Aug	Syllabus, D2L tutorial
2	Thur	29-Aug	Chapter 1. The Food Industry
3	Tue	3-Sep	Chapter 1. Continued, DRQ 1, HA 1
4	Thur	5-Sep	Chapter 2. Introduction to Agricultural Economics, DRQ 2
5	Tue	10-Sep	Chapter 2. Continued, DRQ 3
6	Thur	12-Sep	Chapter 2. Continued, Practice Problems, HA 2
7	Tue	17-Sep	Chapter 3. Introduction to Market Price Determination
8	Thur	19-Sep	Chapter 3. Continued, DRQ 4
9	Tue	24-Sep	Chapter 3. Continued, Practice Problems, HA 3, Review for Exam 1
10	Thur	26-Sep	EXAM 1. Chapters 1, 2, 3
11	Tue	1-Oct	Chapter 8. The Theory of Consumer Behavior
12	Thur	3-Oct	Chapter 8. Continued, DRQ 5
13	Tue	8-Oct	Chapter 8. Continued, Practice Problems, HA 4
14	Thur	10-Oct	Chapter 9. The Concept of Elasticity
15	Tue	15-Oct	Chapter 9. Continued, DRQ 6
16	Thur	17-Oct	Chapter 9. Continued, Practice Problems, HA 5
17	Tue	22-Oct	Chapter 4. The Firm as a Production Unit
18	Thur	24-Oct	Chapter 4. Continued, DRQ 7
19	Tue	29-Oct	Chapter 4. Continued, Practice Problems, HA 6, Review for Exam 2

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20	Thur	31-Oct	EXAM 2. Chapters 8, 9, 4
21	Tue	5-Nov	Chapter 5. Costs and Optimal Output Levels
22	Thur	7-Nov	Chapter 5. Continued, DRQ 8
23	Tue	12-Nov	Chapter 5. Continued, Practice Problems, HA 7
24	Thur	14-Nov	Chapter 6. Supply, Market Adjustments, and Input Demand
25	Tue	19-Nov	Chapter 6. Continued, Practice Problems, HA 8
26	Thur	21-Nov	Chapter 7. Imperfect Competition and Government Regulation
27	Tue	26-Nov	Chapter 7. Continued, DRQ 9
28	Thur	28-Nov	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY: NO CLASS
29	Tue	3-Dec	Chapter 7. Continued, Practice Problems, HA 9, Review for Exam 3
30	Thur	5-Dec	EXAM 3. Chapters 5, 6, 7
31	Tue	10-Dec	Study Day: No class
32	Thur	12-Dec	FINAL EXAM (online via D2L), Chapters 1 through 9, 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

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