

**AEB 3935 FOOD AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS SEMINAR**  
**SYLLABUS – FALL 2015**

**Time:** Tuesday – 8<sup>th</sup> period (3:00-3:50 pm)

**Location:** Engineering Building Room 0202 (NEB 0202)

**Instructors and Contact Information:**

Spiro E. Stefanou, Professor and Chair of Food and Resource Economics

Office: 1171 McCarty Hall A

Office Hours: 10-11 am Tuesday

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Derek Farnsworth, Assistant Professor of Food and Resource Economics

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Office Hours: 2 – 3 pm Tu/Th

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Brandon McFadden, Assistant Professor of Food and Resource Economics

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Office Hours: 2 – 3 pm M/W

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Staff Contact:

Ms. Kathy Green, Program Assistant

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**Course Description:**

The course is designed to aid students in achieving a smooth transition to the University of Florida. Students will explore the richness and diversity of CALS and UF; debate social and food, agricultural and resource issues at the local, state, national, and international levels; and develop mentoring relationship with faculty.

Three broad components are addressed this semester: professionalism, educational discovery opportunities, and critical food and resource system issues.

The activities will include researching and presenting topics for discussion; reviewing study skills for reading, writing, and speaking as they apply to critical issues; understanding the scope of agriculture, food and resources, and the broad range of career opportunities open to FRE graduates. The course will enhance students' abilities to study and effectively participate within the entire university community.

### **Course Objectives**

Students will acquire skills for success, learn how to cope with the system, explore the range of education opportunities available to them at UF, establish mentoring relationships, and understand the scope and role of agriculture in today's society.

### **Course Materials:**

Readings to be assigned.

### **Canvas**

- Canvas is used for emails, announcements, course discussions, posted lecture notes, and assignments.
- To access Canvas you will need your Gatorlink username and password. Canvas can be accessed via <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>. Should you have difficulties accessing Canvas, please contact UF Computing Help Desk directly by calling (352) 392-HELP or via email at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

### **Grading:**

There will be no formal examinations. There will be a number of activities over the course of the semester and your preparation and participation are essential.

Activities Assignments	60%
Participation	30%
Professionalism	10%

*Participation* refers to the quality of your participation and engagement in the class activities.

*Professionalism* refers to your conduct as a student and contributor to the course. In short, this component of your overall grade states the expectation that you will be present, prepared for class, and ready to participate for all activities. Mobile phones will be shut off during class.

## Course Outline

Day/Date	Topic	Assignments	Lead
25-Aug	Syllabus, Dept. Resources and Introduction	Post Picture on Canvas	Profs. McFadden & Stefanou
1-Sep	Who is Responsible for your Learning?	In class Activity	Prof. Stefanou
8-Sep	Student and Business Ethics	Reading	Prof. Farnsworth
15-Sep	Graduation and Job Market	Develop Timeline	Prof. Farnsworth
22-Sep	Networking	Reading	Prof. Farnsworth
29-Sep	Globalization and your Education		Prof. Wysocki
6-Oct	Challenge 2050		Profs. Andenoro & McFadden
13-Oct	UF Resources and Internships	Exploration Activity	Peter McKay
20-Oct	Food Insecurity		Prof. McFadden
27-Oct	Case 1: Citrus Greening and Florida Citrus Industry		Prof. Farnsworth
3-Nov	Case 2: Water Policy and Conflicts in Florida		Prof. Borisova
10-Nov	Case 3: Conflict between Ag & Non-Ag Interests		Prof. McFadden
17-Nov	Case 4: What is the Value of the Everglades and Other National Parks?		Prof. Farnsworth
24-Nov	NO CLASS – Thanksgiving		
1-Dec	Case 5: Should Surfers be Fed?		Prof. Stefanou
8-Dec	Wrap Up		All

*Please note that all scheduling is tentative.*