

University of Florida
Food and Resource Economics Department
Fall Term 2017

AEB 2014: Economic Issues, Food, and You
Section 17A8

Tuesday 11:45am-1:40pm and Thursday 12:50 – 1:40pm
Classroom: Psychology Building 219

Course Information:

Instructor: Zahra Tayebi

Office: 1094B McCarty Hall B

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday: 2- 3:30 pm, or by appointment

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Course Description: This is an introductory Economics course designed for non-economics major students. This course provides economic knowledge about Macro and Micro economic issues and policies. The focuses are on individuals and firms' decision-making, market structures, and basic macroeconomic indicators and concepts at country-level. The course highlights “the role of agriculture and economics: the how's and why's of their influence on food prices and the world food situation, the environment, natural resources and government policy; and economic issues, including inflation and money.” The main purpose is to help the students to think economically. The course enables students to analyze the choices they face as consumers and understand the current economic issues and policies.

Required Textbook: Essentials of Economics, 8th Edition, N. Gregory Mankiw, Cengage Learning, 2016. ISBN13: 978-1-337-09664-5

E-Learning: There is an E-Learning Canvas web page for this course. You need your Gatorlink username and password to access E-Learning at <http://elearning.ufl.edu>. Please contact UF computing Help Desk at (352) 392-HELP in the case of difficulty in accessing the page.

Course Outline: Here is a short outline of the materials covered in the class. This outline is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Any changes will be communicated in class or via Canvas.

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| I. | Principles of Economics | Reading: Chapter 1 |
| | • Concepts of Scarcity, Efficiency, and Opportunity Cost | |
| II. | The Market Forces of Supply and Demand | Reading: Chapter 4 |
| | • Demand, Supply, and Equilibrium | |
| III. | Elasticity | Reading: Chapter 5 |
| | • Price Elasticity of Demand and Supply and their determinants | |
| | • Income Elasticity of Demand | |
| IV. | Government Policy | Reading: Chapter 6 |
| | • Price Ceiling and Price Floor | |
| V. | Consumer, producer and the efficiency of the market | Reading: Chapter 7 |
| | • Consumer Surplus and Willingness to Pay | |
| | • Producer Surplus and Willingness to Sell | |
| | • Market Efficiency | |

VI.	Externalities	Reading: Chapter 10
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negative and Positive Externalities • Public Policy toward Externality 	
VII.	Cost and Production	Reading: Chapter 12
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Revenue, Total Cost, Profit and Production Function 	
VIII.	Markets	Reading: Chapter 13-14
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitive Market, Monopoly 	
IX.	Measuring a Nations' Income	Reading: Chapter 15
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Measurement of GDP and its component 	
X.	Production and Growth	Reading: Chapter 17
XI.	Important Topics in Macroeconomics	Reading: Chapter 20-24
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployment • Inflation and related topics • Economics Fluctuation • Money Market and relates topics 	

Attendance: Attending classes and being on-time are required for all students. Please notify the instructor of absences before the class. Leaving class very early or arriving too late consider as unprofessional behavior.

Exams: There will be three in-class exams including, two Midterms and a Final. The exams are combinations of multiple choice, true/false and short answers and problem-solving questions. The exams are closed book and closed notes. You may use a simple (non-graphing) calculator, a ruler or other straight edge and a pen or pencil.

Quizzes: There will be two in-class online quizzes posted on E-Learning Canvas. Presence in the class is required to take the quiz. The quizzes consist of multiple choice and true/false questions.

Assignments: The students need to complete three assignments during the semester. Assignments will be posted on Canvas one week ahead of due date.

Exam policy: It is expected that students be on time to exams. The students are not allowed to leave and re-enter the classroom during the exam. This policy also applies to the final and midterm exams and quizzes. Please pay close attention to deadlines. Late assignments, make up exam and quiz will not be accepted without a serious and compelling reason.

Exam and Quiz Dates:

Midterm 1: Thursday, September 21

Midterm 2: Thursday, October 19

Final: Tuesday, December 4

Quiz 1: Thursday, October 12

Quiz 2: Thursday, November 9

Assignment 1: Tuesday, September 12 (Due date)

Assignment 2: Tuesday, October 10 (Due date)

Assignment 3: Tuesday, November 21 (Due date)

I reserve the right to change the dates as appropriate. Any changes will be communicated via Canvas.

Grading: The grading scales are as follow:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Point</u>
Midterm 1 Exam	30
Midterm 2 Exam	35
Final Exam	35
Quiz 1	20
Quiz 2	20
Assignment 1	25
Assignment 2	25
Assignment 3	25
Class attendance	15
Midterm Evaluation	10
Total Maximum Point	240

Letter Grade	Percent	Letter Grade	Percent
A	100 % to 94.0%	C	< 77.0 % to 74.0%
A-	<94.0 % to 90.0%	C-	< 74.0 % to 70.0%
B+	<90.0 % to 87.0%	D+	< 70.0 % to 67.0%
B	<87.0 % to 84.0%	D	< 67.0 % to 64.0%
B-	<84.0 % to 80.0%	D-	< 64.0 % to 61.0%
C+	< 80.0 % to 77.0%	F	< 61.0 % to 0.0%

I reserve the right to revise the grading scales as necessary; grading scale revisions will never negatively affect your grade.

Professional Etiquette: The following guidelines are expected:

- Please avoid talking amongst each other during the class.
- Cellphones and any other devices need to be silent in the class.
- You are expected to be on-time for class.
- Laptop, tablet or phone are not permitted to use except for taking notes or following lecture notes during the class.

I reserve the right to penalize any student continuously violating these rules by deducting points from your final course grade at my discretion.

Other Important Information

Students are responsible for all deadlines/critical dates and policies set forth by the University of Florida. Deadlines/critical dates are published on the University of Florida Office of the University Registrar's website, <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/>. Current academic policies are presented in the University of Florida Undergraduate Catalog, <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/Pages/home.aspx>.

Students Requesting Classroom Accommodation: The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Please contact this office at 0020 Reid Hall, (352) 392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/. Any student requesting accommodation will have to provide documentation from the Disability Resource Center.

UF Counseling Services: The life of a college student can sometimes be overwhelming. Resources are available on-campus to help students manage personal issues or gain insight into career and academic goals. Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's various counseling resources. The following resources are available for all UF students:

- For general student affairs, Dean of Students Office, 392-1261 (after hours, call 392-1111)
- For mental health consultations, Counseling & Wellness Center, 392-1575 (24/7 phone access)
- For physical health consultations, Student Health Care Center, 392-1161
- For victims of sexual assault, Office of Victim Services, 392-5648 (after hours, call 392-1111)
- For career guidance, Career Resource Center, 392-1602, www.crc.ufl.edu

Software Use: All faculty, staff, and students of the University of Florida are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

**By enrolling in this course, you are agreeing to the terms outlined in this syllabus.
Good luck!**

Statement Regarding Academic Honesty

Academic Honesty: In 1995, the UF student body enacted an honor code and voluntarily committed itself to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. When students enroll at the university, they commit themselves to the standard drafted and enacted by students. In their words, **the Honor Code Preamble:** In adopting this honor code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the university community. Students who enroll at the university commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the honor code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the honor code is bound by honor to take corrective action. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon community acceptance and enforcement of the honor code.

The Honor Pledge: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the university, the following pledge is either required or implied: **"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."** The university requires all members of its community to be honest in all endeavors. A fundamental principle is that the whole process of learning and pursuit of knowledge is diminished by cheating, plagiarism and other acts of academic dishonesty. In addition, every dishonest act in the academic environment affects other students adversely, from the skewing of the grading curve to giving unfair advantage for honors or for professional or graduate school admission. Therefore, the university will take severe action against dishonest students. Similarly, measures will be taken against faculty, staff and administrators who practice dishonest or demeaning behavior.

Student Responsibility: Students should report any condition that facilitates dishonesty to the instructor, department chair, college dean or Student Honor Court.

Faculty Responsibility: Faculty members have a duty to promote honest behavior and to avoid practices and environments that foster cheating in their classes. Teachers should encourage students to bring negative conditions or incidents of dishonesty to their attention. In their own work, teachers should practice the same high standards they expect from their students.

Administration Responsibility: As highly visible members of our academic community, administrators should be ever vigilant to promote academic honesty and conduct their lives in an ethically exemplary manner. This policy will be vigorously upheld at all times in this course.

This policy will be vigorously upheld at all times in this course. Any instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to Student Judicial Affairs.