

**AEB 4931/08AC: Advanced Agricultural Microeconomics  
Spring 2018**

**Instructor:**

Gülcan Önel  
1117 McCarty Hall B  
Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:30-3:00PM in 1117 MCCB ; otherwise, by appointment.

**Course Logistics:**

Days: Tuesdays 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> periods (8:30-10:25AM), and Thursdays 3<sup>rd</sup> period (9:35-10:25AM),  
Classroom: MCCB (McCarty Hall B), Room: 3124

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to be an upper-level agricultural economics course in microeconomic theory aiming to deepen your knowledge in topics such as consumer and producer theory, game theory, labor and capital markets, externalities, and public goods. The course is more algebra intensive than a typical introductory-level microeconomics course. If you have taken an intermediate-level microeconomics course from another department before, you may not need to take this course; come see if me if this applies to you.

**Prerequisites:**

I will assume you have a working knowledge of the principles of microeconomics. I also expect that you have good algebra skills (i.e. graphing linear equations, taking derivatives etc.) This is not a math course; however, you need to be able to work with such tools in order to be successful in this course.

**Textbooks:**

Required text: Perloff, *Microeconomics*, 8<sup>th</sup> edition with MyEconLab access code, by Pearson Publishing.

(Note that you have options: You may opt for the electronic version of the textbook that comes with the required MyEconlab access code (ISBN13# 9780134524085), or the 'student value edition' – i.e. a spiral-bounded copy of the text & MyEconlab access code (ISBN13# 9780134642352), or the bundle with the fancier hard-cover text (ISBN13# 9780134641799). Or, you can purchase MyEconlab through Pearson.com and use an older print edition/ used text.)

Keep in mind that the textbook is mainly for your reference; my lectures may cover extra material and may not directly follow the textbook.

**UF Grading Policy:**

The University's current grading policy uses the following letter grade to grade points conversion:

A = 4.0, A- = 3.67, B+ = 3.33, B = 3.0, B- = 2.67, C+ = 2.33, C = 2.0, C- = 1.67, D+ = 1.33, D = 1.0, D- = 0.67, E = 0.

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A = 93 and higher	C = 73 – 76
A- = 90 – 92	C- = 70 – 72
B+ = 87 – 89	D+ = 67 – 69
B = 83 – 86	D = 63 – 66
B- = 80 – 82	D- = 60 – 62
C+ = 77 – 79	E = less than 60

**Course Grade and Assignments:**

Your grade will be determined by

- Homework (35% total)
- In class participation (5% total)
- Test 1 (30%) (March 15<sup>th</sup>, through MyEconLab)
- Test 2 (30%) (April 19<sup>th</sup>, through MyEconlab)

**Attendance:**

Classes will be a combination of lectures and discussions. Please, review relevant chapter in the textbook before coming to class. If you miss a lecture, make sure you get the lecture notes from a classmate. Please be punctual. Be prepared to engage, ask questions, and contribute to the discussions in the classroom. 5% of your overall course grade will be based on your engagement (asking questions, answering questions etc).

**Cell Phones/ Tablets / Laptops:** Please refrain from using tablets/phones etc. during lectures.

**MyEconLab Homework Assignments:**

You will use MyEconLab for your homework assignments. You may discuss homework assignments with your classmates; however you are required to complete and submit your own work in MyEconLab before the assigned due date.

You may register for the MyEconLab component of the course right away and continue using it for free during the 14-day trial period. Before this period ends, every student will need to obtain their own MyEconLab access code. The bookstore should have them in stock, or alternatively you can directly purchase/upgrade online. See the attached instructions on how to register for the MyEconLab component of the course.

You have three (3) “attempts” to submit your answer for each question; if you do not find the correct answer, the system will allow you to “try again” by asking either the exact same question or a variation of the same question. Within each attempt, you have 2 “tries”. These multiple attempts are permitted for you to improve your score. You do not need to use all three attempts if you are satisfied with your score for the earlier attempts.

Late assignments will not be accepted by the system, and the due dates will not be extended. Requests for make-up work for missed assignments will not be granted except for extraordinary circumstances that are well-documented and communicated in a timely manner.

**Exams and (No) Make-up Policy:**

Apart from homework assignments, you will take two 50-minute tests through MyEconLab. Unlike homework assignments, tests will be timed. No Make-up exams will be given except for well-documented extraordinary circumstances (court appearance, surgery, etc.) that are communicated to me well BEFORE the exam date. Make-up exam requests will be evaluated on a case by case basis and granted at the discretion of the instructor.

**Tentative Course Outline:**

Chapters 0, 1: Math Review (will not be covered in class, Chapter 0 and Chapter R in MyEconLab Self Study)

Chapter 2: Supply And Demand

Chapter 3: Applying Supply And Demand Models

Chapter 4: Consumer Choice

Chapter 5: Applying Consumer Theory

Chapter 6: Firms and Production

Chapter 7: Costs

Chapter 8: Competitive Firms and Markets

Chapter 9: Applying the Competitive Model

Chapter 11: Monopoly

Chapter 12: Pricing and Advertising

Chapter 13: Oligopoly and Monopolistic Competition

*Additional topics, as time permits:*

Chapter 14: Game Theory

Chapter 17: Uncertainty

Chapter 18: Externalities and Public Goods

**Final Disclaimer:** I, the instructor of this course, hold the right to change any part of this syllabus during the semester, as circumstances warrant.

## **UF Student Policies**

### **Grades and Grade Points**

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

### **Attendance and Make-Up Work**

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

### **Academic Honesty**

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following 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.” You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or automatically implied: *“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”*

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>

### **Software Use:**

All faculty, staff and students of the university 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.

### **Services for Students with Disabilities**

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. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>

### **Campus Helping Resources**

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance. University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>

All University of Florida policies will be upheld at all times.