

Course Syllabus: AEB 2014 (Summer A 2018)
Economic Issues, Food, and You

Summer A 2018
Monday through Friday (M, T, W, R, F)
Period 2: 9:30-10:45 am.
Classroom: Rinker Hall 0215

Course Information:

Instructor: Skyler Simnitt

Office: G-125 McCarty Hall B

Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 2:00 – 4:00 pm and by appointment

Email: skysimnitt@ufl.edu

Phone: 571-645-1765

Course Description:

AEB 2014 is an introductory course to economics for non-economics majors. The majority of course content focuses on microeconomic theory, however, students will also be introduced to key macro-economic concepts during the last third of the semester. During the microeconomic portion we will focus on decision making of individuals and firms, the function of markets, taxes, and public goods. The macroeconomic portion will focus on economic indicators at the country-level. The main objectives of this course are to help students think critically as consumers and give them the tools necessary to understand and assess the economic issues and policies they encounter.

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.

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

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Course Schedule:

Topic	Date	Assigned Reading
Discussion of syllabus, course overview	5/14/18	
Principles of Economics	5/15/18	Chapter 1
Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	5/16/18	Chapter 3
Demand	5/17/18	Chapter 4
Supply	5/18/18	Chapter 4
Equilibrium	5/21/18	Chapter 4
Elasticity	5/22/18	Chapter 5
Supply, Demand and Government Policies	5/23/18	Chapter 6
HMK #1 Due, Review for Midterm 1	5/24/18	
Midterm 1	5/25/18	
Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets	5/29/18	Chapter 7
Application: The Costs of Taxation	5/30/18	Chapter 8
Externalities	5/31/18	Chapter 10
Public Goods and Common Resources	6/1/18	Chapter 11
The Costs of Production	6/4/18	Chapter 12
Firms in Competitive Markets	6/5/18	Chapter 13
Monopoly	6/6/18	Chapter 14
HMWK #2 Due, Review for Midterm 2	6/7/18	
Midterm 2	6/8/18	
no-class	6/11/18	
no-class	6/12/18	
no-class	6/13/18	
Measuring a Nation's Income	6/14/18	Chapter 15
Measuring the Cost of Living	6/15/18	Chapter 16
Production and Growth	6/18/18	Chapter 17
Economic development	6/19/18	Lecture Notes
Economic development	6/20/18	Lecture Notes
HMK #3 Due, Review for Final	6/21/18	

Exams and exam policy

There will be three exams (two midterms and one final) offered in AEB2014. Each exam will cover different chapters of the book, as described above in the course calendar. All exams are mandatory and will be given during our regular class time.

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Each exam will have the same format: Multiple-choice, True-False, problem-solving and short-answer questions. On exams, calculations will always be simple. The exams are closed book and closed notes. You may use a pen or pencil, a ruler or other straight edge, and a simple (non-graphing) calculator may be used. This list excludes graphing calculators, laptops, cell phones, and tablets. Sharing calculators during an exam is not allowed. I reserve the right to reseat anyone during an exam.

You may take any exam early in my office if you must miss the exam on its scheduled date because of an acceptable absence. I use the University's definition of "acceptable absence," which is the following:

Acceptable absences include: Illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, and professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate, and court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena). You must provide some sort of documentation in support of an acceptable absence.

You must contact me by email one week in advance of the original exam date to schedule an early exam; exceptions will be made for emergencies that arise unexpectedly.

Exam day policy

Students are not allowed to leave and re-enter the classroom during exams. During exam days, once I say that time is up, you must stop working or risk being penalized. I reserve the right to assign seating to any or all students during exams.

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

Assignments

There will three assignments posted on E-Learning Canvas during the semester; usually one week ahead of the due date. Assignments are due on the day before the exams, late assignments will not be accepted. The assignments will be worth a combined total of 75 points towards your final grade.

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

Homework assignments are due before the start of lecture on the due date. Assignments may be turned in through Canvas, in class before the start of lecture, during office hours, or through email. Assignments may be done by hand or typed; however, if an assignment is done by hand, I reserve the right to subtract points for illegibility.

IMPORTANT: After any grade is posted, should you believe that your exam/assignment is incorrectly graded or that your grade was posted incorrectly, please contact me as soon as possible. After three days have passed, your posted grade will be assumed to be correct and accurate.

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Attendance

Attendance is mandatory and the instructor needs to be notified of absences. A student will lose 10 points if s/he misses 3 classes and 15 points if s/he misses 5 or more classes. You are expected to attend class and be prepared by having read the relevant book chapter or lecture notes when you do so.

Grading: Your grade will be based on your performance on three class exams, three homework assignments, attendance and class participation. The total number of points available from each component is as follows:

Assessment type	Date	Points
Midterm I	Friday, May 25, 2018	50
Midterm II	Friday, June 8, 2018	50
Final Exam	Friday, June 22, 2018	50
Assignment I	Thursday, May 24, 2018	25
Assignment II	Thursday, June 7, 2018	25
Assignment II	Thursday, June 21, 2018	25
Attendance and Class Participation	--	15
mid course evaluation	--	10
Maximum total points		250

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

The grading scale is as follows:

Letter Grade	Grade Points	Percent
A	4	100.0% to 94.0%
A -	3.67	< 94.0% to 90.0%
B +	3.33	< 90.0% to 87.0%
B	3	< 87.0% to 84.0%
B -	2.67	< 84.0% to 80.0%
C +	2.33	< 80.0% to 77.0%
C	2	< 77.0% to 74.0%
C -	1.67	< 74.0% to 70.0%
D +	1.33	< 70.0% to 67.0%
D	1	< 67.0% to 64.0%
D -	0.67	< 64.0% to 61.0%
F	0	< 61.0% to 0.0%

Professional Etiquette

- Please do not talk while someone else in class is talking, whether it be me or another student asking a question.

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- Please be on time
- Please silence your phones and other devices
- You may not use laptops, tablets, or phones for anything other than taking notes, working through in class problems, or following the lecture notes during class.
- Do not hesitate to ask questions or come to me for help. I will do my best to respond to emails within 24 hours from when you send them.

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!

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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 (Source: 2010-2011 UF Undergraduate Catalog). 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.