Agricultural Economics 105
Introduction to Agricultural Economics
SUMMER II, 2009

Instructor:
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Textbook:
Title: Introduction to Agricultural Economics (Fourth edition)
Authors: Penson, Capps, Rosson and Woodward
Publisher: Pearson (Prentice Hall, Inc.)

Course Objectives:
The overall objective of this course is to introduce you to the field of economics and its application in our nation’s food and fiber industry. This includes gaining an understanding of: (1) microeconomic issues pertaining to consumer demand and producer supply, (2) the role of government in this industry, (3) the macroeconomics of agriculture, and (4) the economics of trade and international finance in today’s global economy.

Understanding the contents of this course is essential for majors in Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics in our department as well as those non-majors who are required to take another course in our department. For others, this may be your only course in applied economics at TAMU. I will do my best to demonstrate the relevance of topics to everyday decisions made in our economy by consumers, producers, and policymakers.

Website for Course Information:
AGEC 105 course information can be found over the course of the semester by clicking on the following URL:
http://agecon2.tamu.edu/people/faculty/boadu-fred/105/agec105.htm
Class Meetings:
MTWTF 12:00 – 1:35pm, CHEN 106

Examinations:
Five hour exams (100 points each)  500
Optional final exam during finals week  100
Quizzes (10 points each)  100
Total points  700

Quizzes: There will be no makeup for these quizzes unless you provide satisfactory notice and written documentation of an excuse. This is strictly enforced in fairness to your colleagues.

All hour exams will be announced one week in advance. Old exams will be made available on the website so that you can become familiar with their structure.

Your final letter grade in this course is determined as follows:

A  90 – 100 percent
B  80 – 89 percent
C  70 – 79 percent
D  60 – 69 percent
F  Below 60 percent

There is no curve in this course. This means you can determine your grade to date in this class at any time by dividing the total points you have achieved to date by the total points possible at that time, and then seeing which range you fall in.

Student Needs:
All students who have the need for adjustments to enable their learning will be accommodated. 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 believe you have a disability requiring accommodation, please contact the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities in Cain Hall so your professor can best accommodate your needs. The phone number is 845-1637.
Attendance:
You must also provide satisfactory notice and written documentation of an excuse in order to retake a missed hour exam. I will follow the Texas A&M University Student Rules in considering excuses for absences in all cases.

The use of programmable calculators on quizzes and examinations is NOT authorized. According to departmental policy, use of a programmable calculator during quizzes and exams is considered a form of cheating and will result in a grade of zero on the quiz or exam, a grade of “F” in the course, and your name reported to the Aggie Honor System Office.

Course Outline:
It is my intention to follow the outline of the text assigned in this course. This implies the following general outline:
- Overview of food and fiber industry (Chapters 1 and 2)
- Microeconomics topics (Chapter 3 through Chapter 11)
- Macroeconomic topics (Chapter 12 through Chapter 15)
- International trade topics (Chapter 16 through Chapter 19)