

A A E 215 section 001 Syllabus



Introduction to Agricultural and Applied Economics

COURSE INFORMATION

Introduction to Agricultural and Applied Economics

A A E 215 001 (4 Credits)

2020 Fall (1212) [1212]

Description

Introduction to economic ways of thinking about a wide range of problems and issues. Topics include consumption, production, prices, markets, finance, trade, pollution, growth, farms, taxes, and development. Enroll Info: None

Prerequisite(s)

Satisfied Quantitative Reasoning (QR) A requirement

Breadths

S - Social Science

Instruction Mode

Classroom Instruction

Section Level Com B

False

Department: Agricultural and Applied Econ

College: Agricultural and Life Sciences

Canvas Course URL

<https://canvas.wisc.edu/>



2020 Fall (1212) [1212]

Term Start Date: Wednesday, 2-Sep-2020 **Term End Date:** Monday, 1-Feb-2021

Location and Schedule: DISCOVERY WID FORUM TR 11:00 AM-12:15 PM

CRN: 108000329

How the Credit Hours are Met

This class meets for two 75-minute class periods plus one discussion session each week over the semester and carries the expectation that students will work on course learning activities (reading, writing, problem sets, studying, etc) for about 3 hours out of the classroom for every class period.

Attending lectures really will help you learn the material and exam material will be largely drawn from lectures. I suggest you read the topical chapters before coming to class. All topics covered on the exams will at least be highlighted in lecture or your problem sets; note that there will be considerably more material in the text than is presented in class. The course schedule indicates what material will be covered and the relevant reading but may be adjusted to better suit the students.

INSTRUCTORS AND TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Instructor



Fengxia Dong

✉ FENGXIA.DONG@WISC.EDU

Instructor Availability

Office Hours: Tues 1:30-3:30 pm virtually on BBCollaborate Ultra and by appointment.

TA Office Hours

Itzel De Haro
221 Taylor Hall

M: 1:00 pm-2:00 pm

W: 1:00 pm-2:00 pm

GRADING AND COURSE MATERIALS

 Develop analytical tools necessary critically analyze applied economic topics including agricultural economics.

C1-2

 Demonstrate competency in fundamental economic concepts.

C1-1

 Become familiar with a wide variety of economic issues and relevant policies, such as the challenges facing agriculture and related government interventions.

C1-3





Apply concepts to real life examples.

C1-4



1. Demonstrate competency in fundamental economic concepts.

S10410



2. Develop analytical tools necessary to critically analyze applied economic topics including agricultural economics (aligning with the QR-B learning outcomes).

S10411



3. Become familiar with a wide variety of economic issues and relevant policies, such as the challenges facing agriculture and related government interventions.

S10412



4. Apply concepts to real life examples.

S10413

Grading

Grade Weights

Exam #1	25%
Exam #2	25%
Final	25%
In-Class Assignments and Problem Sets	25%

Final grades will be based on the weighted average of the normalized scores and placed on the following scale:

A	90 and above
AB	85-89
B	80-84
BC	75-79
C	68 -74
D	55-67
F	below 55



Discussion Sessions

Discussion Sessions

This class will meet one time per week in smaller classes for Discussion Sessions with the teaching assistant. Discussion is a great opportunity to ask questions, participate in discussion, and engage the material. The goals of the breakout sessions are: a) to let students ask questions, b) review, augment, and apply the material taught in the previous two lectures and c) to present new material. In addition to the material covered, there will be a number of in-class assignments completed and graded for credit during Section. You will need to be in attendance to earn credit for such assignments. The material presented in recitation will contribute to your success in the class and you are expected to attend.

R: 3:30-4:20 pm ENGR Hall 3032
R: 4:35-5:25 pm ENGR Hall 2239
F: 11:00-11:50 am STERLING 1333
F: 1:20-2:10 pm BIOCHEM 1116

Required Textbook, Software, & Other Course Materials

Textbook and Readings

The required text for the course is *Introduction to Agricultural Economics* 7th ed. by Penson, Capps, Rosson, and Woodward. An older version will likely suit the needs of the course.

In addition to the textbook, the course will incorporate a number of articles and podcasts from new outlets and economics blogs such as *The Economist*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, NPR, and FiveThirtyEight.

EXAMS, QUIZZES, PAPERS & OTHER MAJOR GRADED WORK

Homework & Other Assignments

In-Class Assignments and Problem Sets

There will be a number of in-class assignments including some completed during class and Section that will be graded for credit. There will also be longer problem sets. Specific details on each problem set will be given in class and posted on the course site when they come up in the semester.

Exams, Quizzes, Papers & Other Major Graded Work

Exam Make-Ups

Due to the large number of students in the class, exams can only be given at the scheduled time. If you miss a midterm due to an illness or personal emergency, the weight of the midterm will go onto the final.



Example: Assume you score an average of 82% on homework, 90% on the first midterm, miss the second midterm, and finish with 70% on the Final. You will receive a 70% for the second midterm (since that was your score on the Final). Thus, your final percentage score will be

*.25*First midterm score*

*+.25*Final exam score instead of missed second exam score*

*+.25*Final exam score*

*+ .25*Homework scores*

or

$$(.25*.9)+(.25*.7)+(.25*.7)+(.25*.82)=.78$$

Please come see me if you have any particular needs or to address any concerns regarding the course and/or exams.

Honorlock

[Honorlock](#) is the campus-supported proctoring tool. For [FAQ's](#) about Honorlock

Additional resources about Honorlock include:

- See suggested [syllabus language for use of Honorlock](#)
- For **Instructors:** [Honorlock Quick Guide](#) and UW-Madison's Knowledge Base [documentation](#)
- For **Students:** [Getting Started for Students](#)

Privacy of Student Information and Digital Proctoring Statement

The privacy and security of faculty, staff and students' personal information is a top priority for UW-Madison. The university carefully reviews and vets all campus-supported teaching and learning tools, including proctoring tools and takes necessary steps to ensure that tool providers prioritize proper handling of sensitive data in alignment with FERPA, industry standards and best practices.

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA – which protects the privacy of student education records), student consent is not required for the university to share with Honorlock those student education records necessary for carrying out the proctoring service. 34 CFR 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B). FERPA specifically allows universities to treat vendors as school officials and to share student education records with them where they perform services for the university and are subject to FERPA requirements governing the use and redisclosure of personally identifiable information from education records. Honorlock is FERPA compliant and is bound by the terms of its agreement with the university to comply with FERPA's restrictions on the use of student education records.

Privacy of Student Records and the Usage of Audio Recorded Lectures

See information about [privacy of student records and the usage of audio-recorded lectures](#).

Usage of Audio Recorded Lectures Statement

Lecture materials and recordings are protected intellectual property at UW- Madison. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring



accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or have lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor's express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct

OTHER COURSE INFORMATION

Other Course Information

Course Feedback

You will have opportunities to evaluate me as well. Although these surveys are not required, I would greatly appreciate your honest (and anonymous) thoughts and suggestions on the course.

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION AND ACADEMIC POLICIES



OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Practice physical distancing (staying at least six feet apart from others), in both indoor and outdoor spaces, including when entering and exiting building and instructional spaces.

- Monitor symptoms using the [COVID-19 Symptom Tracker](#) daily and, if symptoms exist, stay home and immediately get tested. Free testing is available to the entire campus community including students. Find more [information on testing](#) including on-campus testing locations, getting test results and what to do if you test positive for COVID-19.
- Follow specific guidance on classroom seating and furniture use. "Sit Here Signs" will be placed in classrooms to indicate where students should sit, as well as floor decals to indicate where furniture should be placed and remain.
- Limit the sharing of materials (papers, books, writing utensils, calculators, etc.) with others in class. Any materials brought to class must be taken with you when leaving the classroom.
- Food and beverages are not allowed in instructional spaces. For students who may need access to food or beverages during class (e.g., medical condition, other accommodation or circumstance) may do so while wearing face coverings. If this will be a reoccurring situation, students should discuss their on-going need with their instructor.
- Carefully observe and follow health and safety signs posted inside and outside the classroom.
- Course start and stop times are not staggered. At their discretion, instructors may start or end class a few minutes off schedule to avoid congestion in the halls.

Additionally, students should:

- Clean desks and seats before and after class with the provided classroom supplies and wipe off hands with disinfectant wipes. The provided cleaning supplies will be safe for skin contact; gloves are not needed. See [guidance for cleaning classrooms](#).
- Exit the classroom as quickly as possible to allow the next section to transition in safely
- Be aware of and sensitive to others around you, particularly those who may be struggling or having difficulties.





HOW TO SUCCEED IN THIS COURSE

Resource links to other campus services:

- [University Health Services](#)
- [Undergraduate Academic Advising and Career Services](#)
- [Office of the Registrar](#)
- [Office of Student Financial Aid](#)
- [Dean of Students Office](#)



STUDENTS' RULES, RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

During the global COVID-10 pandemic, we must prioritize our collective health and safety to keep ourselves, our campus, and our community safe. As a university community, we must work together to prevent the spread of the virus and to promote the collective health and welfare of our campus and surrounding community. [Rights & Responsibilities](#)



UW-MADISON BADGER PLEDGE

[Badger Pledge](#)



UW-MADISON FACE COVERING GUIDELINES

UW-Madison [face covering guidelines](#). While on campus all employees and students are required to [wear appropriate and properly fitting](#) face coverings while present in any campus building unless working alone in a laboratory or office space.

Face Coverings During In-person Instruction Statement (COVID-19)

Individuals are expected to wear a face covering while inside any university building. Face coverings must be [worn correctly](#) (i.e., covering both your mouth and nose) in the building if you are attending class in person. If any student is unable to wear a face-covering, an accommodation may be provided due to disability, medical condition, or other legitimate reason.

Students with disabilities or medical conditions who are unable to wear a face covering should contact the [McBurney Disability Resource Center](#) or their Access Consultant if they are already affiliated. Students requesting an accommodation unrelated to disability or medical condition, should contact the Dean of Students Office.

Students who choose not to wear a face covering may not attend in-person classes, unless they are approved for an accommodation or exemption. All other students not wearing a face covering will be asked to put one on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear face coverings appropriately or adhere to other stated requirements will be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards](#) and will not be allowed to return to the classroom until they agree to comply with the face covering policy. An instructor may cancel or suspend a course in-person meeting if a person is in the classroom without an approved face covering in position over their nose and mouth and refuses to immediately comply.





QUARANTINE OR ISOLATION DUE TO COVID-19

Students should continually monitor themselves for COVID-19 [symptoms](#) and get [tested](#) for the virus if they have symptoms or have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19. Students should reach out to instructors as soon as possible if they become ill or need to isolate or quarantine, in order to make alternate plans for how to proceed with the course. Students are strongly encouraged to communicate with their instructor concerning their illness and the anticipated extent of their absence from the course (either in-person or remote). The instructor will work with the student to provide alternative ways to complete the course work.



COURSE EVALUATIONS

Students will be provided with an opportunity to evaluate this course and your learning experience. Student participation is an integral component of this course, and your feedback is important to me. I strongly encourage you to participate in the course evaluation.

Digital Course Evaluation (AEFIS)

UW-Madison uses an online course evaluation survey tool, AEFIS. In most instances, you will receive an official email two weeks prior to the end of the semester when your course evaluation is available. You will receive a link to log into the course evaluation with your NetID where you can complete the evaluation and submit it, anonymously. Your participation is an integral component of this course, and your feedback is important to me. I strongly encourage you to participate in the course evaluation.



ACADEMIC CALENDAR & RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

• See: <https://secfac.wisc.edu/academic-calendar/#religious-observances>



ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT

By virtue of enrollment, each student agrees to uphold the high academic standards of the University of Wisconsin-Madison; academic misconduct is behavior that negatively impacts the integrity of the institution. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, and helping others commit these previously listed acts are examples of misconduct which may result in disciplinary action. Examples of disciplinary action include, but is not limited to, failure on the assignment/course, written reprimand, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion.





ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The University of Wisconsin-Madison supports the right of all enrolled students to a full and equal educational opportunity. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Wisconsin State Statute (36.12), and UW-Madison policy (Faculty Document 1071) require that students with disabilities be reasonably accommodated in instruction and campus life. Reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities is a shared faculty and student responsibility. Students are expected to inform faculty [me] of their need for instructional accommodations by the end of the third week of the semester, or as soon as possible after a disability has been incurred or recognized. Faculty [I], will work either directly with the student [you] or in coordination with the McBurney Center to identify and provide reasonable instructional accommodations. Disability information, including instructional accommodations as part of a student's educational record, is confidential and protected under FERPA. (See: [McBurney Disability Resource Center](#))



DIVERSITY & INCLUSION STATEMENT

Diversity is a source of strength, creativity, and innovation for UW-Madison. We value the contributions of each person and respect the profound ways their identity, culture, background, experience, status, abilities, and opinion enrich the university community. We commit ourselves to the pursuit of excellence in teaching, research, outreach, and diversity as inextricably linked goals.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison fulfills its public mission by creating a welcoming and inclusive community for people from every background – people who as students, faculty, and staff serve Wisconsin and the world.

