



## 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 )

2019-2020 Fall [1202]

#### **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:** Agriculture and Life Sciences

#### Canvas Course URL

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



2019-2020 Fall [1202]

**Term Start Date:** Wednesday, 4-Sep-2019 **Term End Date:** Friday, 10-Jan-2020

**Location and Schedule:** Russell Laboratories 184 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**



Tessa CONROY

✉ [TESSA.CONROY@WISC.EDU](mailto:TESSA.CONROY@WISC.EDU)

## Instructor Availability

Office Hours: Tues 12:30-3:30 pm and by appointment.

## TA Office Hours

Itzel De Haro  
221 Taylor Hall

M: 1:30-3 pm

W: 1-2:30 pm

## GRADING AND COURSE MATERIALS

### Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

1. Demonstrate competency in fundamental economic concepts.  
[S10410]

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2. Develop analytical tools necessary to critically analyze applied economic topics including agricultural economics (aligning with the QR-B learning outcomes).  
[S10411]

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3. Become familiar with a wide variety of economic issues and relevant policies, such as the challenges facing agriculture and related government interventions.  
[S10412]

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4. Apply concepts to real life examples.  
[S10413]

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## 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	94 and above
AB	88-94
B	80-87
BC	75-79
C	65 -74
D	50-64
F	below 50

## 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: 3:30-4:30 pm	351 Moore Hall-Agronomy
F: 9:55-10:45 am	10 Agricultural Hall
F: 11:00-11:50 am	4325 Nancy Nicholas Hall
F: 1:20-2:10 pm.	38 Agricultural Hall

## Required Textbook, Software, & Other Course Materials

### Textbook and Readings

The required text for the course is *Microeconomics: Principles, Policies and Problems* 21st ed. by McConnell, Brue, and Flynn. An older version will likely suit the needs of the course, but cannot be guaranteed. A soft cover and loose leaf are available depending on your preference. I also place a copy in Steenbock Library for 2 hour reservations.

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.

### Top Hat

We will be using the Top Hat ([www.tophat.com](http://www.tophat.com)) classroom response system in class to submit some in-class assignments. You will be able to submit answers to in-class questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message.

You can visit the Top Hat Overview (<https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide>) within the Top Hat Success Center which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the system.

An email invitation will be sent to you by email, but if don't receive this email, you can register by simply visiting our course website: <https://app.tophat.com/e/227328> Note: our Course Join Code is 227328.

Top Hat will require a paid subscription, and a full breakdown of all subscription options available can be found here: [www.tophat.com/pricing](http://www.tophat.com/pricing).

Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time, due to the fact that they require specific user information to troubleshoot these issues, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email ([support@tophat.com](mailto:support@tophat.com)), the in app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491.

**Support** Should you require further assistance with Top Hat, our Support Team is here to help! You can contact us directly by way of email ([support@tophat.com](mailto:support@tophat.com)), the in app support button, the *Contact Support* button on this page, or calling us at 1-888-663-5491.

## EXAMS, QUIZZES, PAPERS & OTHER MAJOR GRADED WORK

### 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.

## 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, one or two before each exam. Specific details on each problem set will be given in class and posted on the course site when they come up in the semester.

## 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.

## ACADEMIC POLICIES



### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UW-Madison's community of scholars in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest academic integrity standards. Academic misconduct compromises the integrity of the university. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, and helping others commit these acts are examples of academic misconduct, which can result in disciplinary action. This includes but is not limited to failure on the assignment/course, disciplinary probation, or suspension. Substantial or repeated cases of misconduct will be forwarded to the Office of Student Conduct & Community Standards for additional review. For more information, refer to <https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/academic-integrity/>



### **ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

**McBurney Disability Resource Center syllabus 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." <http://mcburney.wisc.edu/facstaffother/faculty/syllabus.php>



### **DIVERSITY & INCLUSION**

**Institutional statement on diversity:** "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." <https://diversity.wisc.edu/>

