

# Agri 2317: Introduction to Agricultural Economics

Clarendon College  
Division of Science and Health  
Course Syllabus  
Fall 2009

Lecture: Tuesday & Thursday 11:00-12:20p.m.

3 Semester Credit Hours

Instructor: Curtis Schaefer

Mailing Address: Clarendon College, P.O. Box 968, Clarendon, TX 79226

Office Hours: If you need to talk to me, arrange for a meeting before or after class.

Course Description: Analysis of fundamental economic principles and their application to farm and ranch problems. Basic economic laws.

Required Text: Introduction to Agricultural Economics 4<sup>th</sup> Edition by John B. Penson, Jr., Oral Capps, Jr., C Parr Rossen III, and Richard T. Woodward.

Class lectures will be from the text and other reference materials, but not all of the material in the text will be covered in class. You are, nevertheless, responsible for reading the Text. Further, supplemental material may be presented that is not in the book, and thus it is essential that you attend the class regularly.

Grading: You will receive one letter grade for this course. Grades will be based on a point system as follows:

- 3 Hour exams @ 125 each (I will drop your lowest grade)- 250 points
  - Homework/paper- 80 points
  - Final- 170 points
- 500 points

There will be no make up for hour exams. If you miss an hour exam, the final will be adjusted to the value of the exam and used in place of it. Final exams will be comprehensive.

Grades will be as follows:

- 450-500 points= A
- 400-449 points= B
- 350-399 points= C
- 300-349 points= D
- Below 300 = F

Academic Integrity: An Excerpt from Clarendon College's Student Handbook

Failure to comply with lawful direction of a classroom instructor is a disruption for all students enrolled in the class. Cheating violations include, but are not limited to: (1) obtaining an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise by stealing or collusion; (2) discovering the content of an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment before it is given; (3) using an unauthorized source of information during an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment; (4) entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage; (5) taking an examination for another person; (6) completing a classroom activity, laboratory exercise, homework assignment, or research paper for another person; (7) altering grade records; (8) using any unauthorized form of electronic communication device during an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise; (9) Plagiarism. Plagiarism is the using, stating, offering, or reporting as one's own, an idea, expression, or production of another person without proper credit.

Disciplinary actions for cheating in a course are at the discretion of the individual instructor. The instructor of that course will file a report with the Dean of Instruction when a student is caught cheating in the course, whether it be a workforce or academic course. The report shall include the course, instructor, student's name, and the type of cheating involved.

Students who are reported as cheating to the Dean of Instruction more than once shall be disciplined by the Dean.

#### Classroom Conduct

The following are disruptive to class and will not be tolerated.

- Leaving the room during class time. Plan restroom visits before or after class-not during class. If special needs exit, please make prior arrangements.
- Using electronic communication devices. This includes cell phones, pagers, iPods, etc. These are not allowed during class time. If special needs exist, please make prior arrangements.
- Talking in class. Class time is not the time to visit with your fellow classmates.
- Using headphones.
- Use of profane or inappropriate gestures and/or language.

#### Class Policies:

1. Absences: Please take class attendance seriously. You are here to learn, to build a body of knowledge to help you in your career and/or to give you satisfaction in the future. Students who are motivated come to class. You are responsible for the material covered in class (lecture or lab) even if you have an excused absence.
2. Final Exams: Students must take a final for each of their academic courses. The schedule of final exam time is published at the beginning of the semester. Do not make plans to leave school before you scheduled final exam. I will not give any early finals except in extreme emergencies after students have provided documentation of said emergency.
3. Scholastic Honesty: I adhere to a strict policy regarding academic honesty. Anyone who is dishonest in any way will receive a zero on that

assignment or exam with no opportunity to make up the zero and may be dropped from the course with a grade of F. Note that dishonest behavior includes both the act of copying someone else's work as well as allowing someone to copy your work. Both students are equally guilty and will be equally punished.

4. Electronic Communication/Entertainment Devices: Below is an excerpt from Clarendon College Policy 1541.
  - ...Cell phones, pagers, and other personal electronic devices must be off and out of sight in classrooms, laboratories, the library, study spaces, and other academic settings and during such events as plays, concerts, lectures, and College ceremonies... These electronics devices may be turned on and set on silent mode only with the expressed consent of the instructor..faculty members may have individual policies related to cell phones, pagers, and other personal electronic devices outlined in their syllabi...(that) may include penalties for violation...
5. Accommodations: Clarendon College provides reasonable accommodations for persons with temporary or permanent disabilities. Should you require special accommodations, it is your responsibility to Notify the Office of Student Services (806-874-3571 or 800-687-9737). We will then work with you to make whatever accommodation we need to make.
6. Withdrawal: If you decide that you are unable to complete this course or that it will be impossible to complete the course with a passing grade, you may drop the course and receive a "W" on your transcript. Withdrawal from a course is a formal procedure that you must initiate. If you do not go through the formal withdrawal procedure, you will receive a grade of "F" on your transcript. A student is permitted to drop a course if he/she obtains an official drop slip from the office and has the instructor sign the slip before the 12<sup>th</sup> class week. Remember, a student is only allowed to drop the same class twice before he/she will be charged up to triple the tuition amount for taking the class a third time or more. Furthermore, beginning with the Fall 2007 semester, students in Texas may only drop a total of 6 courses throughout their entire undergraduate career. After the 6, he/she will no longer be able to withdraw from any classes. If you think you need to drop this course, please talk with me about it first. It is possible that there is something you can do to still pass the course. Don't hurt your chances for a passing grade in the course by not attending labs or taking exams before we have discussed your situation.

## Course Outline:

Introduction

Demand

Production & resource use

Supply

Price discovery under pure competition models

Imperfect competition market

Macroeconomics