

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Revised 9/15

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

COURSE PREFIX: AGR COURSE NUMBER: 130 CREDIT HOURS: 3

I. TITLE:

Agriculture Economics

II. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

A study of fundamental principles of economics as applied to agriculture. Attention is given to resource use, economic growth, production fundamentals, economic institutions, and agriculture in relation to the national and world economic problems. (Fall and Spring)

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

To develop understanding of the more useful principles and analysis tools applicable to the economics of agriculture and to assist students more effectively in dealing with economic problems.

IV. CONTENT OUTLINE:

- A. Definitions and general setting for agricultural economics.
- B. Survey of selected institutions in agriculture.
- C. Concept of demand and marginal analysis.
- D. Elasticity.
- E. Supply functions.
- F. Equilibrium positions.
- G. Domestic agricultural programs.
- H. Production principles.
- I. Cost concepts.
- J. Examination of selected economic problems and policy related to U.S. agriculture and international trade.

V. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Three lectures per week, with 12 unannounced quizzes, 3 major exams, and a final exam. Practical applications of economic principles to agriculture will be stressed.

- A. Assignments – oral and extemporaneous.
- B. Classroom activity – lecture, discussion, and participatory projects.
- C. Other information

1. Obtaining assignments and the pursuant work is the responsibility of the individual student.
2. Conditions of this syllabus may be changed and announced at any class meeting.
3. Every effort will be made to inform the student of course expectations. Trickery and subterfuge will be avoided. Students are encouraged to consult with the teacher on academic progress or any other matter affecting class performance. Extra group or individual study periods will be scheduled if requested by the student(s).
4. Final exams as scheduled in class schedule bulletin.

VI. FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:

None

VII. RESOURCES:

A. Hand held/pocket calculator

VIII. GRADING PROCEDURES:

Tests and Scoring:

Announced exams (3)	75%
Final exam (comprehensive)	25%
Total	100%

Letter grades are derived from the weighted average of the points as explained above.

90 – 100	=	A
80 – 89	=	B
70 – 79	=	C
60 – 69	=	D
Below 60	=	E

Extra work to raise your grade at the end of the semester is not allowed. Students are advised to keep up as class progresses. All make-up exams must be taken during the last regularly scheduled class period. There is no make-up for the final.

No make-up of quizzes and in class laboratory assignments is permitted! Quizzes and laboratory assignments not completed will receive a grade of zero (0)!

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are expected to adhere to the MSU Attendance Policy outlined in the current *MSU Bulletin*.

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

Murray State University takes seriously its moral and educational obligation to maintain high standards of academic honesty and ethical behavior. Instructors are expected to evaluate students' academic achievements accurately, as well as ascertain that work submitted by students is authentic and the result of their own efforts, and consistent with established academic standards. Students are obligated to respect and abide by the basic standards of personal and professional integrity.

Violations of Academic Honesty include:

Cheating - Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information such as books, notes, study aids, or other electronic, online, or digital devices in any academic exercise; as well as unauthorized communication of information by any means to or from others during any academic exercise.

Fabrication and Falsification - Intentional alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves changing information whereas fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information.

Multiple Submission - The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work, including oral reports, for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor.

Plagiarism - Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, creative work, or data of someone else as one's own in any academic exercise, without due and proper acknowledgement.

Instructors should outline their expectations that may go beyond the scope of this policy at the beginning of each course and identify such expectations and restrictions in the course syllabus. When an instructor receives evidence, either directly or indirectly, of academic dishonesty, he or she should investigate the instance. The faculty member should then take appropriate disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to the following:

- 1) Requiring the student(s) to repeat the exercise or do additional related exercise(s).
- 2) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) on the particular exercise(s) involved.
- 3) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) in the course.

If the disciplinary action results in the awarding of a grade of E in the course, the student(s) may not drop the course.

Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any exercise or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the exercise has been compromised. Faculty also reserve the right to document in the course syllabi further academic honesty policy elements related to the individual disciplines.

A student may appeal the decision of the faculty member with the department chair in writing within five working days. Note: If, at any point in this process, the student alleges that actions have taken place that may be in violation of the Murray State University Non-Discrimination Statement, this process must be suspended and the matter be directed to the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access. Any appeal will be forwarded to the appropriate university committee as determined by the Provost.

NOTE: The School of Agriculture Faculty have adopted and implemented an Academic Honesty Policy in addition to the University Honesty Policy, which can be found in the current *Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin*. The policy sets guidelines regarding acts of dishonesty and the procedure to follow should an event occur. It is each Agriculture student's responsibility to obtain and read a copy of this document. The School's Academic Honesty Policy can be obtained by asking for a copy from any Agriculture Faculty member or the Secretary.

XI. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Policy Statement

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact the Executive Director of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access, 103 Wells Hall, (270) 809-3155 (voice), (270) 809-3361 (TDD).

Students with Disabilities

Students requiring special assistance due to a disability should visit the Office of Student Disability Services immediately for assistance with accommodations. For more information, students should contact the Office of Student Disability Services, 423 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071. 270-809-2018 (voice) 270-809-5889(TDD).

XII. MSU SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE CELL PHONE POLICY

The School of Agriculture recognizes that in today's world cell phones are a familiar and often necessary form of communication for students.

It shall be the policy of the School that no cell phone usage shall be allowed in class and/or labs without the prior consent of the course instructor. This shall include verbal calling, incoming calls, email, text messaging, and use of cell phone calculators on tests and quizzes.

Cell phones must be kept off and out of sight (i.e. secured to a person's belt or kept in a bag or purse away from desks and lab counters).

Should a student's cell phone be visible, ring, or other form of unauthorized usage that is interruptive to the class or lab, the student may be asked to leave class and not return for that class/lab period.

Upon prior consent of the instructor, a student may obtain permission to have their phone on in case of an emergency or in critical family situations.

This policy also includes pagers and other electronic equipment such as blackberries and/or computers/laptops.