

**AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS 204**

Introduction to Resource Economics and Environmental Policy

Class Meeting: TTH 9:00-10:15

**Instructor:** John G. Lee, Krannert 605, Phone: 49-43285**Office Hours:** TTH 11:00AM - 1:00 p.m.

E-Mail: jLee1@purdue.edu

**Text:** Natural Resource Economics: An Introduction, by Barry C. Fields, Second Edition Waveland Press Inc.

**Supplements:** Readings distributed during class.

**Class Meetings:** This is a combination lecture-discussion course. Ask questions at any time and expect to be called upon at any time. Lectures and written assignments follow reading assignments. You are expected to do the assigned readings prior to class. It will prove helpful for you to organize all handouts, assignments, quizzes, exams, etc. in an Ag Econ 204 notebook.

**Attendance:** Attendance and punctuality are important. Bonus points will be added to your overall score for these attributes. **A valid excuse** will give you the privilege of make-up work, but even **excused** absences cannot count as attendance. It is your responsibility to keep your instructor informed, to get assignments, and to turn them in on time.

**Written Assignments:** There will be about one a written assignment each week. These assignments contain much of the material upon which the hour exams and quizzes are based. In total, the written assignments make up 25 percent of your grade. Assignment due dates will be announced in class, and late assignments will be downgraded. Late assignments will not be accepted after 5 p.m. two class days following the due date (unless special arrangements are made).

**Quizzes:** Up to eight announced and unannounced quizzes will be given over material in the reading assignments and lectures. About 20 percent of your grade will be based on quiz scores. Make-ups are absolutely not permitted on quizzes, but to compensate, the lowest quiz scores will be dropped. Certain conflict situations may provide **valid reason** to be excused from a quiz. When possible, advanced arrangements should be made. Over-sleeping is not a satisfactory reason to be excused from a quiz.

**Hour Exams:** There will be two one-hour exams, each counting about 11 percent of your grade, and a final, counting about 28 percent. The exams will be a combination of essay, graphs, and short answer questions. Exams will be given on the dates scheduled. (See next page.)

**Integrity:** You are expected to do your own work on quizzes and exams. Evidence of deception will jeopardize your grade and your status at Purdue.

**Grades:** Several times during the semester you will receive a report of your grades. You should report grade discrepancies by bringing your overall grade and the assignment/quiz/test in question to me. You will have one week from the time a paper is returned to you to ask for a re-evaluation.

Your course grade is dependent upon exams, quizzes, and written assignments as well as class attendance. A weighted score of 90 or above will excuse you from the final. The following grade classifications normally prevail: **90-100 = A; 80-89.9 = B; 70-79.9 = C; 60-69.9 = D.** **No one need fail.**

**AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS 204      Spring, 2018**  
**Tentative Class Schedule**

*Readings to be completed  
prior to the lecture date.*

**Date**

|      |       |   |                  |
|------|-------|---|------------------|
| Jan. | 14    | Introduction to Natural Resource Economics.....         | Supp. #2         |
|      | 16    | Natural Resources and the Economy.....                  | Ch. 2, 25-38     |
|      | 21    | Utility, Marginal Utility, Indifference Analysis.....   | Ch. 3, 41-46     |
|      | 23    | Aggregate Demand (Private and Public Goods).....        | 46-51, Supp. #4  |
|      | 28    | Elasticities of Demand... ..                            | Supp. #4         |
|      | 30    | Willingness to Pay Overtime.....                        | 51-55            |
| Feb. | 4     | Production and Cost. ....                               | 57-65, Supp. #7  |
|      | 6     | Supply and Supply Elasticity.....                       | 65-69, Supp. #7  |
|      | 11    | Price Determination, Market Efficiency and Policy ..... | 87-90, Supp. #7a |
|      | 13    | <b>Exam #1 (Thursday)</b> .....                         |                  |
|      | 18    | Efficiency and Sustainability.....                      | 69-82            |
|      | 20    | External Cost.....                                      | 90-100           |
|      | 25    | The Origin of Supply - Production.....                  | Supp. #7         |
|      | 27    | Production Responses ... ..                             | and Supp. #7     |
| Mar. | 4     | Government-Sponsored Incentive Policies.....            | 114-122          |
|      | 6     | Principles of Analysis.....                             | 127-138          |
|      | 11    | Discounting .....                                       | 138-145          |
|      | 13    | Valuation of Natural Resources.....                     | 147-151          |
|      | 17-22 | ****spring break****                                    |                  |
|      | 25    | Hedonic Price and Travel Cost.....                      | 152-154          |
|      | 27    | Contingent Valuation Techniques .....                   | 154-158          |
| Apr  | 1     | Measuring Costs.....                                    | 158-163          |
| .    | 3     | <b>Exam #2 (Thursday)</b> .....                         |                  |
|      | 8     | Forest Economics .....                                  | 219-235          |
|      | 10    | Marine Resources.....                                   | 239-248          |
|      | 15    | Marine Resources - Open Access.....                     | 248-258          |
|      | 17    | Land Economics.....                                     | 261-284          |
|      | 22    | Water Resources.....                                    | 287-292          |
|      | 24    | Water Resources.....                                    | 292-308          |
|      | 29    | Economics of Wildlife Management.....                   | 355-373          |
| May  | 1     | ..... Wildlife Policy.....                              | 373-376          |

**May 5 - May 10..... FINAL EXAMS WEEK**