

**Purdue University
Department of Agricultural Economics**

**AGEC 375
Course Description
Spring 2018**

Instructor: Michael E. Wetzstein

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I. INTENT: To enthuse and to equip you in the art of research. The course focuses on the development of sound research approaches and techniques. It explores and supports the excitement of research in practice. The aim is to develop your sense of enquiry into discovery.

II. TEXT: Deirdre McCloskey, Economic Writing, second edition, Waveland Press, INC, Long Grove, Illinois, 2000.

III. GRADING:

A. Completing activities – 80% of grade

B. Class discussions -- 20% of grade

IV. CLASS ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to attend classes regularly. A student who incurs an excessive number of absences will be withdrawn from the course.

AGEC 375
Tentative Schedule of Lecture
Topics and Activities

WEEK	DATE	LECTURE TOPIC	Activities Due
1	January 12	What is research?	
2	19	Example	1
3	26	Good Research: The essentials	2
4	February 2	Graduate school	3
5	9	Research paradigms, theorizing, and conceptual frameworks	4
6	16	Research methodology and methods	5
7	23	Economical writing 1-8	6
8	March 2	Economical writing 9-16	7
9	9	Economical writing 17-24	8
10	23	Economical writing 25-31	9
11	30	Posters	10
12	April 6	Death by PowerPoint	11
13	13	Managing your time, life, paid work, and research	12
14	20	Putting ethics into practice	13
15	27	Project presentations	14