

Syllabus: AGEC 410 – Agricultural Policy

Time: 14:30 – 15:20

Place: Krannert G002

Instructor: Roman Keeney

Office: Kran 576

Office hrs: M & W 12:00 – 13:00

Contact: spring18classes@gmail.com

Clerical Support: Tracy Buck (backup contact only)

Office: Kran 6th floor, main office desk

Contact: tbuck08@purdue.edu

Course Background & Objectives:

This is a course in Agricultural Policy. It is also an economics elective. Thus, our primary focus will be using tools from economics (utility/consumption theory, production/technology theory, markets, social welfare, etc.) to analyze the role of policies in the agricultural economy.

A primary consideration is to understand policy mechanisms directed specifically at agricultural production (farm subsidies, public R&D, consumption assistance for food, etc). There are many other policies that impact the agricultural economy and the households that earn income from agricultural production. We will endeavor to understand those as well.

Coursework and Grading:

Homework and Quizzes:	30% of final grade
In-class midterm exam:	30% of final grade
Class Paper:	30% of final grade
Other (Attend, Participation):	10% of final grade

In-class midterm exam:

We will use a class in the 7th week of the semester for the midterm exam. We will use the class immediately prior as a review session. A study guide will be provided with practice questions to assist students in preparation for the midterm exam.

Class Paper:

The class paper will be a discussion paper using analysis techniques from economics to describe a current policy practice and its impact for agriculture. A key component of this would be to discuss the current (or proposed) policy in relation to alternatives and consequences that exist in the policy space.

Quizzes/HW:

At the instructor's discretion quizzes (in-class problems and submission) may be given. Quizzes may or may not be announced. HW assignments are short problems, reading based questions, or written responses to lab exercises.

Make-up for missed work:

Students may make-up a maximum of 2 HW or Quiz grades during the semester. Students are responsible for submitting a notification of their absence listing the day missed and the reason for absence. This must be submitted by the student, written in their own words and typed. Students may append any supporting documentation to their notification (physician notice, Purdue activities notice, etc.). This notification should be printed and handed to the instructor at the beginning of the 1st class meeting following their absence. Students qualifying for a make-up assignment will receive their make-up assignment(s) the Monday of Dead week. Those make-up assignments are due on Friday at 5:00 PM of Dead week.

Course Grade Scale:

Grades	*Lowest % receiving grade
A+, A, A-	97, 93, 90
B+, B, B-	87, 83, 80
C+, C, C-	77, 73, 70
D+, D, D-	67, 63, 60
F	<60

*Grade thresholds may be adjusted downward at instructor's discretion

Graded work, Blackboard etc.:

Blackboard is a tool for communicating grades to students. The grades as recorded are the grades that I have in my spreadsheet gradebook. You cannot use the average functions in Blackboard to calculate your grade for you. Items have different total weights. If you need help calculating a weighted average of your assignments please ask.

Students are required to maintain a file of all graded work that has been returned to them.

Online Labs:

During certain Fridays in the semester we will replace class time with an online lab. These will be announced one week in advance. These online labs will consist of a video presentation that students follow along with using a spreadsheet to analyze policy data or a policy model. There will be approximately 5 of these online labs replacing Friday class periods. Each online lab will have a required

Additional policies:

All class policies not explicitly stated within this document are referred to appropriate Purdue guidelines and handbooks in their most recent published form. The following policies are taken from the Purdue Ag Econ guidelines distributed to professors as generic guidelines that all departmental classes.

COMMUNICATION

Please note that my primary out-of-class method of communication will be via email to your Purdue email address. I will not generally attempt to contact you at email addresses other than your Purdue email address. It is your responsibility to check for mail on a regular basis. I recommend checking your Purdue email account at least once every 24 hours.

SPECIAL NEEDS

If you have a disability that requires academic adjustments, please make an appointment to meet with me during the first week of classes to discuss your needs. Please note that university policy requires all students with disabilities to be registered with [Adaptive Programs](#) in the [Office of the Dean of Students](#) before classroom accommodations can be provided.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

University policy on academic dishonesty is clear: academic dishonesty in any form is strictly prohibited. Anyone found to be cheating or helping someone else cheat will be referred directly to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. Penalties are severe and may include dismissal from the University. The risks associated with cheating far outweigh the perceived benefits. Academic dishonesty includes citing someone else's work as your own, using "cheat sheets" or sharing your answers with someone else. If you are unsure whether your planned action constitutes academic dishonesty, seek clarification from your instructor. Other information regarding your rights and responsibilities as a student is contained in the Purdue University [Code of Conduct](#). Writing assignments for this course will be checked for originality using the iThenticate software.

CAMPUS EMERGENCIES

In the unusual event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. To get information about changes in this course visit the course home page on Blackboard.

To report an emergency, call 911. To obtain updates regarding an ongoing emergency, sign up for Purdue Alert text messages, view www.purdue.edu/ea. There are nearly 300 Emergency Telephones outdoors across campus and in parking garages that connect directly to the PUPD. If you feel threatened or need help, push the button and you will be connected immediately. If we hear a fire alarm during class we will immediately suspend class, evacuate the building, and proceed outdoors. Do not use the elevator. If we are notified during class of a Shelter in Place requirement for a tornado warning, we will suspend class and shelter in the basement. If we are notified during class of a Shelter in Place requirement for a hazardous materials release, or a civil disturbance, including a shooting or other use of weapons, we will suspend class and shelter in the classroom, shutting the door and turning off the lights. Please review the Emergency Preparedness website for additional information.

http://www.purdue.edu/ehps/emergency_preparedness/index.html