

AREC 202: Agricultural and Resource Economics
Fall 2015
Tuesday/Thursday 9:30am – 10:45am

Instructor: Dr. Rebecca Hill
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Office Hours: 12:15 to 1:45 on Thursdays in B305 Clark Bldg. Or by appointment
Class Website: On Aplia, No Canvas!
Classroom: Agricultural Research Center on Tuesdays and Eng 100 on Thursdays
Teaching Assistant: Matt Flyr mfly@rams.colostate.edu Office Hours: Monday 11am – 1pm

Prerequisites: MATH 117 (can be taken simultaneously)

Required Text:

Microeconomics, 4nd edition, Paul Krugman and Robin Wells, Worth.

You are also required to enroll in the Aplia webpage for this course. Aplia has to be paid by September 11th 2016.

iClicker:

You are required to purchase an iClicker remote for in-class participation (if you do not have one already). iClicker is a response system that allows you to respond to questions I pose during class; you will be graded on your participation in iClicker questions. In order to receive this credit, you will need to register your iClicker remote online before class on Friday August 30th. To do this, go to clicker.colostate.edu/registration.aspx. Login with your eIdentity eName and password. In the iClicker ID field, enter your remote ID and select the "Register" button. The remote ID is the number found on the back of your iClicker remote. iClicker will be used every day in class, and you are responsible for bringing your remote daily.

Course Description (from the Catalog):

Introduction to decision-making by consumers, firms, and government, and resulting allocation of resources through markets.

Note that this course satisfies objectives for area C (Social/Behavioral Sciences) of Academic Core category III (Foundations and Perspectives).

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the semester you should be able to

- understand the core principles of microeconomics and apply them to human behavior in daily situations,
- understand the economic methodology and its limitations,
- comprehend the virtues and limitations of markets and allocations through prices,
- appreciate the role of benefits and costs in decision-making processes of individuals and societies, and

- realize that most decisions in life are not “either-or” decisions.

Grading: Your course grade will be determined as follows:

a) 10 best weekly homework assignments	60 points
b) 2 Quizzes	40 points
c) 10 best focus question sets	50 points
d) iClicker Participation	30 points
e) Writing assignment I	50 points
f) Writing assignment II	50 points
g) Midterm Exam	60 points
h) Final Exam	<u>60 points</u>
Total Amount:	400 points

The midterm exam will have multiple choice, graphing, fill in the blank, and short answer questions.

The final exam is cumulative and contains only multiple-choice questions. The final exam is **Dec 15th at 6:20 – 8:20 PM**

All problem sets on Aplia need to be completed before the weekly deadline (usually Friday, 10:00 p.m.). Once the deadline has passed, Aplia will not let you work on the problem set anymore and automatically assigns you a 0.

The cutoff points for the different grades are:

A	360	(90%)	D	240	(60%)
B	320	(80%)	F	Below 240 points	(<60%)
C	280	(70%)			

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Please contact me within the first two weeks of the semester if you need special accommodations. If you believe that you need special accommodations but you have not talked to anybody from Resources for Disabled Students (RDS), please do so before you meet with me. Their contact information can be found on <http://rds.colostate.edu/>. Their office is in General Services, room 100, phone 491-6385.

Cheating and Academic Dishonesty:

Don't do it!

All students are expected to adhere to the Student's Responsibilities as outlined in the Policies and Guiding Principles section of the CSU General Catalog (<http://www.catalog.colostate.edu/FrontPDF/1.6POLICIES1112f.pdf>).

Cell Phones, Internet and Similar Electronic Devices:

Please turn your cell phones and similar devices off before class! No texting during class! If you use a laptop for taking notes, you need to sit in one of the first two rows.

Focus Questions

There will be focus questions every Tuesday. Focus questions are a few simple and brief questions about an assigned reading for the upcoming week. There will be 13 focus question sets, of which the 10 best count towards your final grade.

Quizzes

There will be 2 quizzes, each worth 20 points.

Aplia Homework

Every week (except for the week of the midterm exam) we will post homework assignments on the Aplia class webpage. There will be a total of 13 graded Aplia HW assignments, of which the 10 best count towards your final grade. Each assignment has to be answered on Aplia and is usually due on Friday nights, 10:00 p.m., except for the HW assignments that are meant to prepare you for the experiments.

Daily iClicker

Every day we will sprinkle several multiple-choice questions into my class presentation, some planned, some spontaneous, to be answered by you with the iClicker system. If you answer 70% of the iClicker questions you will be given the full 30 points.

Writing Assignments

Details about the two writing assignments will be announced as the semester progresses. The total combined length of your two papers will not exceed five pages.

Course Outline:

	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i> <i>Aplia HW sets are due</i> <i>at 10PM on Friday</i>	<i>Textbook Chapters</i> <i>(tentative)</i>
Week 1 (8/22 -8/28)		Friday: Practice Aplia Set	Intro, 1
Week 2 (8/29 - 9/4)	Focus Questions 1 Register iclicker before class	Friday: Aplia Set 1	9, 2
Week 3 (9/5 - 9/11)	Focus Questions 2 Aplia Set 2 Due (Wednesday)	Market Game 1*	2, 3
Week 4 (9/12 - 9/18)	Focus Questions 3	Friday: Aplia Set 3	3, 4
Week 5 (9/19 - 9/25)	Focus Questions 4	Friday: Aplia Set 4 Quiz 1	4
Week 6 (9/26 - 10/2)	Focus Questions 5	Friday: Aplia Set 5	5
Week 7 (10/3 - 10/9)	Focus Questions 6	Friday: Aplia Set 6	6
Week 8 (10/10 - 10/16)	Focus Questions 7	Midterm Exam	7
Week 9 (10/17 - 10/23)	Focus Questions 8	Friday: Aplia Set 7	7
Week 10 (10/24 - 10/30)	Focus Questions 9	Friday: Aplia Set 8	8
Week 11 (10/31 - 11/6)	Focus Questions 10	Friday: Aplia Set 9 Quiz 2	10
Week 12 (11/7 - 11/13)	Focus Questions 11 Aplia Set 10 Due (Wednesday)	Market Game 2*	12
Week 13 (11/14 - 11/20)	Focus Questions 12	Friday: Aplia Set 11	13
Fall Recess	Nov 21 st – Nov 27 th		
Week 14 (11/28 - 12/4)	Focus Questions 13	Friday: Aplia Set 12	14,15
Week 16 (12/5 - 12/11)		Final Exam Review Friday: Aplia Set 13	17,18
Finals Week	Final Exam Dec 15 th 6:20pm – 8:20pm		

*On Market game days class will not take place in the classroom but over the internet: During the regular class time, everybody has to be at a computer with internet connection (at home, in the library, in a computer lab, at Starbucks, at a beach in Mexico with wireless access, wherever). Since several homework assignments and the second writing assignment will refer to the market games we play on that day participation in these games is required!