

AG-32- Agriculture Economics

Course Information

Semester & Year: Spring 2026

Course ID & Section #: AG-32-E9872

Instructor's name: Alissa Sarvinski

Course units: 3

Instructor Contact Information

Office Location: HU-Rm 123

Office Hours are MW 12pm-1:30pm

Phone Number: NA

Email Address: Alissa-sarvinski@redwoods.edu

Course Meets- Monday-Wednesday 10:05am-11:30am

Required Materials

1. Writing Utensil
2. Binder or folder to collect lab materials and handouts
3. No textbook is required for this course

Catalog Description

Presents introductory concepts pertaining to agriculture and farming in the economic system. Topics include basic economic concepts, problems of agriculture; pricing and marketing problems, factors of production; and state and federal farm programs affecting the farmer's economic position.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Compare and contrast the role of agriculture in the economic structure of the state, country and world.
- Analyze current events related to agriculture economics and how they impact consumer choice, supply, demand and production functions.
- Construct and analyze microeconomic models to illustrate how prices and output are determined in the market structures of perfect competition, monopoly and imperfect competition and explain the impact of US anti-trust laws and agricultural bargaining on these market structures.

Prerequisites/co-requisites/ recommended preparation

Because this course carries with it CSU equivalent transfer units, students must be able to meet college-level reading and writing standards to complete this course. Successful completion of English 1A means that students have attained college-level reading and writing skills. Moreover, the course requires essay exams, papers, and readings that students lacking those skills will most likely be unable to complete. Lastly, program review data indicate that students who have not met the recommendation have less than a 55% chance to earn a "C" or better in the course.

Course delivery: This course is delivered in person and all assignments and activities will be posted on Canvas.

Student Commitment: As a three unit course, students should expect to spend roughly nine hours per week on the course. This time will consist of course content in person, readings, presentations, writing assignments and quizzes.

Late Assignments

Late assignments will not be accepted unless you reach out to me with an understandable reason as to why you cannot turn in an assignment on time.

Course Schedule

Lectures	Week	Topics	Assignments
Lectures 1 and 2	1/20-1/23	Syllabus Review, Fundamentals of Economic Thinking	In class participation, readings
Lectures 3 and 4	1/26-1/30	Macroeconomics vs. Microeconomics	In class participation, readings
Lectures 5 and 6	2/2-2/6	Market Systems and Operations	In class participation, readings
Lectures 7 and 8	2/9-2/13	Supply and Demand	In class participation, readings, quiz
Lectures 9 and 10	2/16-2/20	Production Factors Current Event Presentations	In class participation, readings, current event due
Lectures 11 and 12	2/23-2/27	Price Mechanisms/Price Determination	In class participation, readings
Lectures 13 and 14	3/2-3/6	Elasticity	In class participation, readings, quiz
Lectures 15 and 16	3/9-3/13	Consumer Behavior Country Presentations	In class participation, readings, country presentation due, quiz
	3/16-3/20	Spring Break-no class	
Lectures 17 and 18	3/23-3/27	Short-run and long-run economic decisions	In class participation, readings
Lectures 19 and 20	3/30-4/3	Production Costs	In class participation, readings
Lectures 21 and 22	4/6-4/10	Market Structures	In class participation, readings
Lectures 23 and 24	4/13-4/17	Antitrust Laws and Agricultural bargaining	In class participation, readings, Quiz
Lectures 25 and 26	4/20-4/24	Introduction to Market Factors	In class participation, readings
Lectures 27 and 28	4/27-5/1	Government Policy	In class participation, readings
Lectures 29 and 30	5/4-5/8	Agricultural Trade Commodity Presentations	In class participation, readings
	5/11-5/15	Finals Week	Comprehensive Final

**note this is a tentative schedule and it is subject to change

Agriculture Commodity Presentation

During the semester we will begin to work on an individual presentation on an agriculture commodity. More information will be made available on Canvas and in person. You will present at the end of the semester.

Country Presentation

During the semester we will begin to work on an individual presentation on a country, besides the United States, and report to the class on their agriculture imports and exports. More information will be made available on Canvas and in person. You will present in the middle of the semester.

Current Event in Agriculture Economics

This assignment is a profile of a current event surrounding Ag Economics. Information will be made available on Canvas and in person for this assignment.

Weekly Reading and discussions

Each week you will be asked to read an article ahead of time that will be posted on canvas. Class discussion will follow the reading. Participate in the discussion and reflect after the discussion for full points.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

Final Grade Calculations

Grade Breakdown:	Points	Percentage of Grade
In class discussion and participation – 15 weeks @ 10 Points Each Week	150	20%
Quizzes - 3 @ 40 Points Each	120	16%
Agriculture Commodity Presentation	140	18%
Current Event in Agriculture Economics	50	7%
Country Presentation	150	20%
Final Exam	150	20%
Total Points Possible	760	

Final

The final for the course will be administered during finals week. The final will be comprehensive and accounts for 20% of your grade. One attempt is allowed for the final.

Academic Integrity

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic integrity, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated a lack of academic integrity, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [2025-2026 College Catalog](#) and [CR Board and Administrative Policies](#).

AI Policy

Recent advancements in generative artificial intelligence (AI) have made large language models such as ChatGPT and Google's Bard widely available. Sometimes, using these tools appropriately can help us overcome barriers and allow us to focus on deeper learning. However, overuse of these tools can undermine the development of our critical and creative thinking skills. In addition, AI outputs are often unreliable and frequently subject to bias. For these reasons, it is sometimes appropriate and sometimes inappropriate to use generative AI in the completion of assignments or in discussion posts. For this class, please see the specific assignment instructions for guidance on how and when generative AI tools may be used appropriately as we're working on and learning from a particular assignment. Also, please keep in mind that you are responsible for anything you submit; please carefully review all AI-generated outputs, screening them for accuracy, bias, appropriateness, and fidelity to your perspective.

Disruptive Behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [2025-2026 College Catalog](#) and [CR Board and Administrative Policies](#).

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

Educational Accessibility and Support

College of the Redwoods is committed to providing reasonable accommodation for qualified students who could benefit from additional educational support and services. You may qualify if you have a physical, mental, sensory, or intellectual condition which causes you to struggle academically, including but not limited to:

- Mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, or bipolar disorder
- Common ailments such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, and diseases
- Temporary impairments such as a broken bone, recovery from significant surgery, or a pregnancy-related disability
- Neurodevelopmental disorders such as a learning disability, intellectual disability, autism, acquired brain injury, or ADHD
- Vision, hearing, or mobility conditions

Available services include extended test time, quiet testing environments, academic assistance and tutoring through the [LIGHT Center](#), counseling and advising, alternate formats of course materials (e.g., audio books, braille, E-texts), assistive technology, learning disability assessments, approval for personal attendants, interpreters, priority registration, on-campus transportation, adaptive physical education and living skills courses, and more. If you believe you might benefit from disability- or health-related services and accommodations, please contact [Student Accessibility Support Services \(SASS\)](#). If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact Student Accessibility Support Services (SASS) for a consultation: sass@redwoods.edu.

SASS office locations and phone numbers

Eureka campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280
- Location: Learning Resource Center (Library)

Del Norte campus

- Phone: 707-465-2353
- Location: main building, near the Library

Klamath-Trinity campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280