**Course Title**

**Department of**  |  **College of**  |  **Agriculture & Human Sciences**

**Instructor Name:**  |  Dr. Freddie L. Richards Sr.  
**Office Location:**  |  Room 110, Carden-Waller Building  
**Office Phone:**  |  936-281-5133  
**Fax:**  |  
**Email Address:**  |  flrichards@pvamu.edu  
**Snail Mail (U.S. Postal Service) Address:**  |  Prairie View A&M University  
|  P.O. Box  
|  Mail Stop  |  2002  
|  Prairie View, TX 77446  

**Office Hours:**  |  MWF 8:00AM-9:00AM  
**Virtual Office Hours:**  |  
**Course Location:**  |  May Building, Home Economics Room 127  
**Class Meeting Days & Times:**  |  MWF 10:00AM-10:50AM  
**Course Abbreviation and Number:**  |  AGEC 1233  

**Catalog Description:**  |  Fundamentals of Agricultural Economics. Credit 3 semester hours. Survey of the nature, organization, and operation of the agricultural industry: application of economic principles to production and to the marketing of farm-ranch food and fiber products: and investigation of institutions and government as they affect agriculture.  

**Prerequisites:**  |  
**Co-requisites:**  |  
**Recommended Text:**  |  

**Access to Learning Resources:**  |  PVAMU Library:  
|  phone: (936) 281-1500;  
|  web: [http://www.tamu.edu/pvamu/library/](http://www.tamu.edu/pvamu/library/)  
|  University Bookstore:  
|  phone: (936) 261-1990;  
|  web: [https://www.bookstr.com/Home/10001-10734-1?demoKey=d](https://www.bookstr.com/Home/10001-10734-1?demoKey=d)  

**Course Goals or Overview:**  |  The goal of this course is to establish a foundation knowledge for advanced agricultural economics and agribusiness techniques  

**Course Objectives/Accrediting Body**  |  Introduce students to the fundamentals of agricultural economics and agribusiness 2. Expose students to the impacts events such as food shortages, surpluses, tariffs and import quotas have on human beings both nationally and globally. **Standards Met:** (standards will depend on the course)  
**At the end of this course, the student will**  |  
1 |  Derive an understanding of the basic micro and macro-economic principles as they apply to agriculture |  

**Alignment with Academic Program**  |  
**Alignment with Core Curriculum**  |  
2. Understand the structure and organization of the agricultural industry

3. Establish a foundation knowledge for advance agricultural economics and agribusiness techniques

4. Be able to provide an overview of careers and positions in selected areas of Agricultural and Food Sciences as they relate to food distribution

5. Be able to explain the role of agriculture in the U.S. economy

**Course Evaluation Methods**

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

- **Exams** – written tests designed to measure knowledge of presented course material
- **Exercises/Homework** – written assignments designed to supplement and reinforce course material
- **Projects** – Internet assignments designed to measure ability to apply presented course material
- **Class Participation** – daily attendance and participation in class discussions

**Grading Matrix**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Value (points or percentages)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation, attendance and homework</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three tests and assignments</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grade Determination:**
- A = 90% – 100%
- B = 80% – 89%
- C = 70% – 79%
- D = 60% – 69%
- F = 60% or below

**Course Procedures**

**Submission of Assignments:**

Students enrolled in the course are expected to be punctual and participate in class discussions. Failure to attend classes regularly may result in reduction in grade for the course (see attached University attendance policy).

If a student should miss a lecture, assignment, or notes, he/she should obtain the information from someone in the class or visit with the instructor for guidance. **The student remains responsible for submitting a response to assignments by the due date**

Students must demonstrate a satisfactory level of performance, which will be measured through
the normal grading procedure

Homework and assignments will be due during class time on the specified date. Late homework and assignments will only be accepted under “special” circumstances as determined by the Instructor.

All homework and other assignments completed outside the regular class time must be typed.

Homework and assignments will be accepted via email on or before the class period they are due.

Students making requests via email will only receive a response at a PVAMU issued email address.

The use of cellular phones and similar devices during class is strictly prohibited. Please turn off these devices before class starts.

The use of a calculator may be necessary at some stage of the class.

This syllabus is subject to change by the Instructor.

Formatting Documents: Microsoft Word is the standard word processing tool used at PVAMU. If you’re using other word processors, be sure to use the “save as” tool and save the document in either the Microsoft Word, Rich-Text, or plain text format.

Exam Policy
Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except under documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).

University Rules and Procedures

Disability statement (See Student Handbook): Students with disabilities, including learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in class should register with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal laws, a student requesting special accommodations must provide documentation of their disability to the SSD coordinator.

Academic misconduct (See Student Handbook): You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with your Student Handbook, especially the section on academic misconduct. Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures.

Forms of academic dishonesty:
1. Cheating: deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not mastered; giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations.

2. Academic misconduct: tampering with grades or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of a scheduled test.

3. Fabrication: use of invented information or falsified research.

4. Plagiarism: unacknowledged quotation and/or paraphrase of someone else’s words, ideas, or data as one’s own in work submitted for credit. Failure to identify information or essays from the Internet and submitting them as one’s own work also constitutes plagiarism.

Nonacademic misconduct (See Student Handbook)
The university respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either (1) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class, (2) the inability of other students to profit from the instructional program, or (3) campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Such incidents will be adjudicated by the Dean of Students under nonacademic procedures.

**Sexual misconduct (See Student Handbook):**
Sexual harassment of students and employers at Prairie View A&M University is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the university community violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

**Attendance Policy:**
Prairie View A&M University requires regular class attendance. Excessive absences will result in lowered grades. Excessive absenteeism, whether excused or unexcused, may result in a student’s course grade being reduced or in assignment of a grade of “F”. Absences are accumulated beginning with the first day of class.

**Student Academic Appeals Process**
Authority and responsibility for assigning grades to students rests with the faculty. However, in those instances where students believe that miscommunication, errors, or unfairness of any kind may have adversely affected the instructor's assessment of their academic performance, the student has a right to appeal by the procedure listed in the Undergraduate Catalog and by doing so within thirty days of receiving the grade or experiencing any other problematic academic event that prompted the complaint.

**Technical Considerations for Online and Web-Assist Courses**

**Minimum Hardware and Software Requirements:**
- Pentium with Windows XP or PowerMac with OS 9
- 56K modem or network access
- Internet provider with SLIP or PPP
- 8X or greater CD-ROM
- 64MB RAM
- Hard drive with 40MB available space
- 15” monitor, 800x600, color or 16 bit
- Sound card w/speakers
- Microphone and recording software
- Keyboard & mouse
- Netscape Communicator ver. 4.61 or Microsoft Internet Explorer ver. 5.0 /plug-ins
- Participants should have a basic proficiency of the following computer skills:
  - Sending and receiving email
  - A working knowledge of the Internet
  - Proficiency in Microsoft Word
  - Proficiency in the Acrobat PDF Reader
  - Basic knowledge of Windows or Mac O.S.

**Netiquette (online etiquette):** students are expected to participate in all discussions and virtual classroom chats when directed to do so. Students are to be respectful and courteous to others in the discussions. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated. When referring to information from books, websites or articles, please use APA standards to reference sources.

**Technical Support:** Students should call the Prairie View A&M University Helpdesk at 936-261-2525 for technical issues with accessing your online course. The helpdesk is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week. For other technical questions regarding your online course, call the Office of Distance Learning at 936-261-3290 or 936-261-3282

**Communication Expectations and Standards:**
All emails or discussion postings will receive a response from the instructor within 48 hours.
You can send email anytime that is convenient to you, but I check my email messages continuously during the day throughout the work-week (Monday through Friday). I will respond to email messages during the work-week by the close of business (5:00 pm) on the day following my receipt of them. Emails that I receive on Friday will be responded to by the close of business on the following Monday.

Submission of Assignments:
Assignments, Papers, Exercises, and Projects will distributed and submitted through your online course. Directions for accessing your online course will be provided. Additional assistance can be obtained from the Office of Distance Learning.

Discussion Requirement:
Because this is an online course, there will be no required face to face meetings on campus. However, we will participate in conversations about the readings, lectures, materials, and other aspects of the course in a true seminar fashion. We will accomplish this by use of the discussion board.

Students are required to log-on to the course website often to participate in discussion. It is strongly advised that you check the discussion area daily to keep abreast of discussions. When a topic is posted, everyone is required to participate. The exact use of discussion will be determined by the instructor.

It is strongly suggested that students type their discussion postings in a word processing application and save it to their PC or a removable drive before posting to the discussion board. This is important for two reasons: 1) If for some reason your discussion responses are lost in your online course, you will have another copy; 2) Grammatical errors can be greatly minimized by the use of the spell-and-grammar check functions in word processing applications. Once the post(s) have been typed and corrected in the word processing application, it should be copied and pasted to the discussion board.