

# Economics & Agriculture (ECON 4640), Spring 2009

## Course Outline

\* The professor may alter the outline if necessary, although the exam dates will not be changed.

### Topic/Reading Assignments

Week 1	2/17	Introduction, Review Syllabus and Course Outline. Penson, et al. Ch. 1 What is Agricultural Economics? Drummond & Goodwin Ch. 1 The Food Industry
Week 2	2/24	Browne, et al. Ch. 2 Never Assume that Agrarian Values are Simple Browne, et al. Ch. 3 Never Confuse Farming with Rural America Browne, et al. Ch. 4 Never Base Decisions on the Average Family Farm Overview of Agriculture in California and the San Joaquin Valley Video: Valley at the Crossroads.
Week 3	3/3	McConnell & Brue. Ch. 3 Individual Markets: Demand and Supply
Week 4	3/10	Knutson, et al. Ch. 1 Forces of Policy Change (What is policy and why does it change) Knutson, et al. Ch. 2 Rationale for Govt. Involvement in Ag and Food Knutson, et al. Ch. 3 U.S. Policy Decision Process
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>3/17</b>	<b>*** Exam #1***</b> Use the time after the exam to get started on your papers
Week 6	3/24	Video: Inelastic Demand and Supply Causes Price Instability Knutson, et al. Ch. 7 U.S. Farm Policies
	<b>3/31</b>	<b>Cesar Chavez Day (No Class)</b>
Week 7	4/7	Knutson, et al. Ch. 7 U.S. Farm Policies (Continued)
	<b>4/14</b>	<b>Spring Break (No Class)</b>
Week 8	4/21	Video: "How To Get Fat Without Really Trying" ABC News Special Browne, et al. Ch. 5 Never Confuse Production with Productivity Browne, et al. Ch. 6 Never Confuse Farm Prices with Farmers' Income Overview of the 2007 Farm Bill (Highlights, Factsheets, and Video)
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>4/28</b>	<b>*** Exam #2***</b> Use the time after the exam to get started on your papers
Week 10	5/5	Knutson, et al. Ch. 8 Living with Limited Resources (Land, Water, Biological Diversity) Knutson, et al. Ch. 9 Environmental Policy Browne, et al. Ch. 8 Never Equate Good Farming with a Healthy Environment Knutson, et al. Ch. 10 Food Safety and Security Policy
Week 11	5/12	McConnell & Brue. Ch. 37 International Trade Knutson, et al. Ch. 4 Geopolitical Centers of Influence Knutson, et al. Ch. 5 World Trade Organization Knutson, et al. Ch. 6 U.S. Trade and Development Policy Browne, et al. Ch. 7 Never Forget That U.S. Ag Depends on the World Economy
Week 12	5/19	<b>Final Papers are Due.</b> Knutson, et al. Ch. 11 Food Assistance and Nutrition Policy Browne, et al. Ch. 9 Never Assume Farm Programs are Food Programs Browne, et al. Ch. 10 Never Assume That a Government Program Will do what it Says
Week 13	5/26	<b>Student Presentations</b> Knutson, et al. Ch. 12 Future of Agriculture and Food Policy