

AEDE 711:  
Production and Consumption in Agricultural, Environmental, and Development  
Economics  
Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics  
Ohio State University  
Fall 2009

**Instructor**

Brent Sohngen  
322 Agr. Admin. Bldg.  
Phone: 688-4640  
Email: [Sohngen.1@osu.edu](mailto:Sohngen.1@osu.edu)  
*Office Hours:* Monday 1 – 3pm, or by appointment.

**Teaching Assistant**

Nichole Yen  
[yen.51@osu.edu](mailto:yen.51@osu.edu)  
*Office Hours:* To Be Announced.

**Time/Location:** Monday, Wednesday, 10:00a – 11:48a. Room 246, Agri. Admin. Bldg.

**Prerequisite:** Economics 501 or equivalent. Students should be proficient in differential calculus, at least up to the level of Math 132. If you would like to review basic mathematical concepts used in the course, please contact the teaching assistant. There will be a mathematical review scheduled for the first half of the course, and carried out by the teaching assistant.

**Description:** This is a four credit hour course that focuses on how markets coordinate individual decisions made by consumers and producers of agricultural, environmental, and development-related goods and services.

**Objectives:**

1. To understand the language and logic of modern microeconomic theory
2. To apply microeconomic theory to agricultural, environmental, and development issues.

**Textbook:** Microeconomic Theory: Concepts and Connections” by Michael E. Wetzstein. Publisher: Thomson South-Western. ISBN: 0-324-22471-0

Also, you should consider purchasing a copy of “Introduction to Mathematical Economics, Third Edition” by Edward T. Dowling (Schaum’s Outlines). Copies of this book can be ordered through Amazon or Barnes and Noble. This could be a useful reference for your entire M.S. program.

**Exams:** There will be two midterm exams: October 19 and November 16 in class. The final exam will be announced during class.

**Homework:** There will be six homework assignments. They are each worth 5%. Homework assignments are due at 5p on the due date. Late assignments will be deducted 10% per day they are late. Homework submitted after the homework has been returned to students or the answers have been posted to the website will get no credit.

Homework is perhaps the most critical component of this course. Students are encouraged to work in teams on the homework. However, all work submitted should be your own.

**Grading Summary:**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Percent of Grade</b>
Homework	30%
Midterm I	20%
Midterm II	20%
Final	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Grading Scale (out of 100%)**

>92%	A	78-80%	C+
90-92%	A-	72-78%	C
88-90%	B+	70-72%	C-
82-88%	B	68-70%	D+
80-82%	B-	60-68%	D
<60%	E		

**Academic Misconduct:** Each student is responsible for his/her own work on exams and exercises. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating will not be tolerated. University rules provide severe penalties for academic misconduct, ranging from course failure to dismissal from the University. University rules are found in the handbook used in all survey courses: "University Survey - A Guidebook and Readings for New Students."

As noted in the homework section above, students can work in groups on their homework assignments. Be sure to acknowledge that you have worked with others when you submit your homework. This is not plagiarism.

**Disability Services:** Any student who feels he/she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the professor privately to discuss to discuss his/her needs. Based on this discussion, the professor will then contact the Office for Disability Services, at 292-3307 (Room 150, Pomerene Hall), to coordinate a reasonable accommodation of the student's documented disabilities.

## Course Outline

Date & Topics	Reading	Homework	Exams
Sept. 23, 28: Introduction & Consumer Preferences	W: 1, 2		
Sept. 30: Utility Maximization	W: 3	HW 1 due: Oct. 2	
Oct. 5,7: Income and Substitution Effects	W: 4	HW 2 due: Oct. 9	
Oct. 12: Market demand & Elasticity	W: 5	HW 3 due: Oct. 14	
Oct. 14, 21: Gains from Trade & Efficiency	W: 6		Oct. 19
Oct. 26, 28: Production Theory	W: 7	HW 4 due: Oct. 30	
Nov. 2, 4: Cost Functions	W: 8		
Nov. 9: Supply Curves	W: 9	HW 5 due: Nov 12	Nov. 16
Nov. 18, 23: Economic Efficiency	W: 10		
Nov. 25, 30: General Equilibrium	W: 11	HW 6 due: Dec 2	