

## **AEDECON 8800: Seminar in AED Economics**

**Spring 2024**

### **Course Information**

Meeting Dates and Location: varies, dependent on seminars chosen to attend.

Credit hours: 1

### **Instructor**

Name: Abdoul Sam

Email: sam.7@osu.edu

Phone Number: 614 247 8647

Office location: AA 338

Preferred means of communication:

My preferred method of communication for questions is email. Class-wide communications will be sent through the Announcements tool in Carmen Canvas. Please check your notification preferences ([go.osu.edu/canvas-notifications](http://go.osu.edu/canvas-notifications)) to be sure you receive these messages.

### **Course Prerequisites**

Graduate standing in AED Economics. Repeatable to a maximum of 10 credit hours. This course is a seminar attendance course for AEDE PhD students in their second year and above.

### **Course Description**

Critical discussion of current academic research in agricultural, environmental, and development economics. The purpose of this course is to expose doctoral students in current research in agricultural, environmental, and development economics through seminar-based interaction with established scholars. This course requires engagement in in-person or synchronous seminar sessions and all course requirements must be completed during the semester of offering. Topics are not published ahead of time, as this course is largely influenced by the specific topics of guest presenters from the fields of Agricultural, Environmental, Development, and Regional Economics or related disciplines.

### **Course Learning Goals and Outcomes**

As a result of taking this class, successful students will:

1. Be exposed to current research in agricultural, environmental, and development economics or related fields through seminar-based interaction with established scholars.
2. Observe seminar presentation best practices from established experts in their fields.
3. Develop critical analysis skills when evaluating seminar quality and contributions.

Students meet the learning outcomes by attending (in-person or synchronous) research seminars, actively engaging with guest presenter's presentations of their research, providing feedback to presenters, and writing summaries about the presentations they have attended.

### **Credit hours and work expectations**

This is a 1 credit-hour course. According to Ohio State bylaws on instruction ([go.osu.edu/credithours](http://go.osu.edu/credithours)), students should expect around 1 hour per week of time spent on direct instruction (instructor content and



Carmen activities) in addition to 2 hours of homework (reading and assignment preparation, for example) to receive a grade of B average.

### **Attendance and participation requirements:**

Students are required to attend any 8 seminars (in AED economics or closely related field) of their choosing. Following each seminar, you are expected to write a brief reflection summarizing the seminar and highlighting the key contribution and insights you gained from the seminar presentation. These reflections should be approximately 1 page in length and must be uploaded to Carmen after each seminar attended and no later than the last day of scheduled classes.

Students who are unable to attend seminars synchronously must find a virtual conference-style presentation of a scholar in the field of applied economics who has received their PhD. The student must complete a reflection paper, following the guidelines below, about the presentation they attended. Failure to do this will result in a loss of 12.5 points per presentation for which feedback is not submitted, except in the case of documented emergency or illness.

### **Description of Evaluation Activities:**

Students are required to complete a reflection paper for each of the 8 require seminars they have attended throughout the semester. This paper should include a general overview of the presentation, points of interest, points of contention with the presenter's research methods and general thoughts of how this research is relevant to their own future research agenda and dissertation. Students will submit these papers through Carmen no later than the last day of classes of the semester. **These must be completed independently and Carmen tools for detecting plagiarism will be used.**

### **How Your Grade is Calculated**

Assignment category	Points
Reflection paper (8 @ 12.5 points each)	100

### **Reusing past work:**

In general, you are prohibited in university courses from turning in work from a past class to your current class, even if you modify it. If you want to ensure you are following our guidelines for this, please discuss this with me or email [equity@osu.edu](mailto:equity@osu.edu).

**Academic Integrity and Collaboration:** For your written assignments, including discussion posts, must be your own original work. In formal assignments, you should follow MLA/APA/Chicago etc. style to cite the ideas and words of your research sources. You are encouraged to ask a trusted person to proofread your assignments before you turn them in but no one else should revise or rewrite your work.

**Instructor Feedback and Response Time:** I am providing the following list to give you an idea of my intended availability throughout the course. Remember that you can call [614-688-4357 \(HELP\)](tel:614-688-4357) at any time if you have a technical problem.

- Preferred contact method: If you have a question, please contact me first through my Ohio State email address. I will reply to emails within *48 hours on days when class is in session at the university*.
- Class announcements: I will send all important class-wide messages through the Announcements tool in CarmenCanvas. Please check [your notification preferences](https://go.osu.edu/canvas-notifications) (go.osu.edu/canvas-notifications) to ensure you receive these messages.

### Course Schedule

This course does not have a formal meeting schedule. You are expected to identify and attend 8 professional seminar presentations at Ohio State University in applied economics or closely related field. To the extent possible, you are highly encouraged to prioritize departmental seminars in AEDE.

### Grading Scale

93–100: A  
 90–92.9: A-  
 87–89.9: B+  
 83–86.9: B  
 80–82.9: B-  
 77–79.9: C+  
 73–76.9: C  
 70–72.9: C-  
 67–69.9: D+  
 60–66.9: D  
 Below 60: E

### Other Course Policies

**Discussion and Communication Guidelines.** The following are my expectations for how we should communicate as a class. Above all, please remember to be respectful and thoughtful.

**Writing style:** While there is no need to participate in class discussions as if you were writing a research paper, you should remember to write using good grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

**Tone and civility:** Let's maintain a supportive learning community where everyone feels safe and where people can disagree amicably. I will provide specific guidance for discussions on controversial or personal topics.

**Citing your sources:** When we have academic discussions, please cite your sources to back up what you say. For the textbook or other course materials, list at least the title and page numbers. For online sources, include a link.

**Backing up your work:** Consider composing your academic posts in a word processor, where you can save your work, and then copying into the Carmen discussion.

## CarmenCanvas Access

You will need to use [BuckeyePass](http://buckeyepass.osu.edu) (buckeyepass.osu.edu) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in Carmen. To ensure that you are able to connect to Carmen at all times, it is recommended that you do each of the following:

- Register multiple devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the [BuckeyePass - Adding a Device](http://go.osu.edu/add-device) (go.osu.edu/add-device) help article for step-by-step instructions.
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click **Enter a Passcode** and then click the **Text me new codes** button that appears. This will text you ten passcodes, good for 365 days, that can each be used once.
- [Install the Duo Mobile application](http://go.osu.edu/install-duo) (go.osu.edu/install-duo) on all of your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data, or Wi-Fi service.

If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at [614-688-4357 \(HELP\)](tel:614-688-4357) and IT support staff will work out a solution with you.

### Technology Skills Needed for This Course

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- [Navigating CarmenCanvas](http://go.osu.edu/canvasstudent) (go.osu.edu/canvasstudent)
- [CarmenZoom virtual meetings](http://go.osu.edu/zoom-meetings) (go.osu.edu/zoom-meetings)

### Technology Support

For help with your password, university email, CarmenCanvas, or any other technology issues, questions or requests, contact the IT Service Desk, which offers 24-hour support, seven days a week.

- **Self Service and Chat:** [go.osu.edu/it](http://go.osu.edu/it)
- **Phone:** [614-688-4357 \(HELP\)](tel:614-688-4357)
- Email: [servicedesk@osu.edu](mailto:servicedesk@osu.edu)

## Ohio State's Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University's Code of Student Conduct, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University's Code of Student Conduct and this syllabus may constitute Academic Misconduct.

The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process. Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's Code of Student Conduct is never considered an excuse for academic misconduct, so I recommend that you review the Code of Student Conduct and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by University Rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that you have violated the University's Code of Student Conduct (i.e., committed academic



misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include:

- [Committee on Academic Misconduct](http://go.osu.edu/coam) (go.osu.edu/coam)
- [Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity](http://go.osu.edu/ten-suggestions) (go.osu.edu/ten-suggestions)
- [Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity](http://go.osu.edu/cardinal-rules) (go.osu.edu/cardinal-rules)

### Copyright for Instructional Materials

The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course.

#### Creating an Environment Free from Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Misconduct

The Ohio State University is committed to building and maintaining a community to reflect diversity and to improve opportunities for all. All Buckeyes have the right to be free from harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct. Ohio State does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy (childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom), race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, academic programs, admission, and employment. Members of the university community also have the right to be free from all forms of sexual misconduct: sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, and sexual exploitation.

To report harassment, discrimination, sexual misconduct, or retaliation and/or seek confidential and non-confidential resources and supportive measures, contact the Office of Institutional Equity:

1. Online reporting form at [equity.osu.edu](http://equity.osu.edu),
2. Call 614-247-5838 or TTY 614-688-8605,
3. Or Email [equity@osu.edu](mailto:equity@osu.edu)

The university is committed to stopping sexual misconduct, preventing its recurrence, eliminating any hostile environment, and remedying its discriminatory effects. All university employees have reporting responsibilities to the Office of Institutional Equity to ensure the university can take appropriate action:

- All university employees, except those exempted by legal privilege of confidentiality or expressly identified as a confidential reporter, have an obligation to report incidents of sexual assault immediately.
- The following employees have an obligation to report all other forms of sexual misconduct as soon as practicable but at most within five workdays of becoming aware of such information: 1. Any human resource professional (HRP); 2. Anyone who supervises faculty, staff, students, or volunteers; 3. Chair/director; and 4. Faculty member.

## Diversity

The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity of people and ideas. We believe in creating equitable research opportunities for all students and to providing programs and curricula that allow our students to understand critical societal challenges from diverse perspectives and aspire to use research to promote sustainable solutions for all. We are committed to maintaining an inclusive community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among all members; and encourages each individual to strive to reach their own potential. The Ohio State University does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, pregnancy, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, academic programs, admission, and employment.

To learn more about diversity, equity, and inclusion and for opportunities to get involved, please visit:

- <https://odi.osu.edu/>
- <https://odi.osu.edu/racial-justice-resources>
- <https://odi.osu.edu/focus-on-racial-justice>
- <https://cbsc.osu.edu/>

In addition, this course adheres to **The Principles of Community** adopted by the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. These principles can be found at <https://cfaesdei.osu.edu/about-us/cfaes-principles-community>. For additional information on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in CFAES, contact the CFAES Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (<https://cfaesdei.osu.edu/>). If you have been a victim of or a witness to harassment or discrimination or a bias incident, you can report it online and anonymously (if you choose) at <https://equity.osu.edu/>.

## Your Mental Health

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing.

If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting [ccs.osu.edu](https://ccs.osu.edu) or calling 614-292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th floor of the Younkun Success Center and 10th floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24 hour emergency help is also available 24/7 **by dialing 988 to reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.**

For students in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, David Wirt, [wirt.9@osu.edu](mailto:wirt.9@osu.edu), is the CFAES embedded mental health counselor on the Columbus campus. To contact David, please call 614-292-5766. Students should mention their affiliation with CFAES if interested in speaking directly with David.

### **Religious Accommodations**

It is Ohio State's policy to reasonably accommodate the sincerely held religious beliefs and practices of all students. The policy permits a student to be absent for up to three days each academic semester for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief.

Students planning to use religious beliefs or practices accommodations for course requirements must inform the instructor in writing no later than 14 days after the course begins. The instructor is then responsible for scheduling an alternative time and date for the course requirement, which may be before or after the original time and date of the course requirement. These alternative accommodations will remain confidential. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all course assignments are completed.

### **Weather or other short-term closing**

Should in-person classes be canceled, I will notify you as to which alternative methods of teaching will be offered to ensure continuity of instruction for this class.

## **ACCESSIBILITY ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

### **Requesting Accommodations**

The university strives to maintain a healthy and accessible environment to support student learning in and out of the classroom. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic, or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. If you are isolating while waiting for a COVID-19 test result, please let me know immediately. Those testing positive for COVID-19 should refer to the Safe and Healthy Buckeyes site for resources. Beyond five days of the required COVID-19 isolation period, I may rely on Student Life Disability Services to establish further reasonable accommodations. You can connect with them at [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu); 614-292-3307; or [slds.osu.edu](http://slds.osu.edu).

### **Disability Services Contact Information**

- Phone: [614-292-3307](tel:614-292-3307)
- Website: [slds.osu.edu](http://slds.osu.edu)
- Email: [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu)
- In person: [Baker Hall 098, 113 W. 12th Avenue](#)

### **Accessibility of Course Technology**

This course requires use of CarmenCanvas (Ohio State's learning management system) and other online communication and multimedia tools. If you need additional services to use these technologies, please request accommodations as early as possible.

- [CarmenCanvas accessibility](http://go.osu.edu/canvas-accessibility) ([go.osu.edu/canvas-accessibility](http://go.osu.edu/canvas-accessibility))
- Streaming audio and video
- [CarmenZoom accessibility](http://go.osu.edu/zoom-accessibility) ([go.osu.edu/zoom-accessibility](http://go.osu.edu/zoom-accessibility))

