

Graduate Student Handbook
of the
Food and Resource Economics
Department

2009-2010



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AEB 6933: Applied Economic Welfare/Public Policy (3)
 Develops the foundation of welfare economics and applies this framework to topics in international economics. These topics include: (1) optimal welfare and Byrd tariffs; (2) U.S. agricultural policy in a trading environment; and (3) The economics of bio-fuels.

AEB 6933: PhD Econometrics Seminar (3)
 Exposes students to a number of different econometric modeling techniques and to provide guidance on the econometric part of the research projects for students in their dissertation-writing stage.

AEB 6942: Advanced Applications in Agribusiness Experience (3)
 Master of Agribusiness students participate in an internship and present a published paper detailing the experience.

AEB 6934: Microeconomic Theory Workshop II (1)
 Developing and understanding how to apply food and resource economic concepts to agricultural and resource related problems.

AEB 6971: Masters Research (variable credits)
 Research hours for Masters degree students writing thesis.

AEB 7979: Advanced Research (variable credits)
 Research hours for PhD students with a classification of 8AG but who are not admitted to candidacy.

AEB 7980: Doctoral Research (variable credits)
 Research hours for PhD students with a classification of 9AG (admitted to candidacy)

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Welcome!

Graduate School is one of the most exciting experiences of your life. The friendships you build will be with you forever and we are happy that we can be an active part of it.

The staff and faculty in the Food and Resource Economics Department (FRED) take great pride in their commitment to education and our students are our priority. Even though FRED is a large department it manages to successfully maintain a warm, welcoming atmosphere where students, staff and faculty feel as if they are part of a large family. We are a diverse group but we share many commonalities.

We want your graduate experience in FRED to be a memorable one. The adjustment to Graduate School and the coursework can be very difficult at times, but there are many resources both in the Department and throughout the University to help you through it. Our students are among the best you will find anywhere. They are kind and considerate and helpful to one another. Not only do they study together but they play together as well. Extracurricular activities among the students are encouraged as a means of bonding and easing tension during difficult times.

In the Graduate Program, our door is always open to our students. Please feel free to come by and see us with questions, problems, or just to let us know how you're doing in your program. We wish you the best of luck as you embark on this new adventure!

AEB 6645: Economic Development and Agriculture (3)

Prereq: ECO3101 or AEB 3103.

Relation of human, capital, and natural resources, technology, and institutions to income growth and distribution. Development strategies in low-income countries.

AEB 6674: International Agricultural Policy and Trade

(3) Prereq: AEB 6106.

Trade theory applied to international policies, agreements, and programs.

AEB 6675: International Agribusiness Marketing (3)

Prereq: AEB 5188.

Principles, issues, barriers, policies, strategies, and decisions involved in global marketing and trade of perishable and storable agricultural commodities and food products.

AEB 6815: Science and Research Methodology (3)

Role of science, philosophy, and scientific methods in food and resource economics research.

AEB 6817: Survey Research Methods for Economists (3)

Process of creating, validating, implementing, coding, and interpreting results from economic surveys.

AEB 6905: Problems in Food and Resource Economics,

Prereq: consent of instructor.

AEB 6921: Microeconomic Theory Workshop I (1)

Prereq: AEB 6533.

Empirical applications of concepts developed in the microeconomic core.

AEB 6933: MAB Final Project Seminar (3)

MAB students participate in a presentation incorporating strategies from their agribusiness core curriculum.

AEB 6483: Seminar in Natural Resource and Environmental Economics (3) Prereq: AEB 6453

Application of economic methods to problems of environmental and regional development; input-output models, cost-benefit analysis, economic valuation, and development planning.

AEB 6533: Static and Dynamic Optimization Models in Agriculture (3) Prereq: ESI 4567

Classical optimization models with emphasis on mathematical programming and applications. Introduction to dynamic optimization models.

AEB 6553: Elements of Econometrics (3)

Prereq: Statistics

Econometric problem solving and determining quantitative relationships among economic variables in agriculture and related industries.

AEB 6571: Econometric Methods I (3)

Linear and nonlinear econometric models, serial correlation, heteroscedasticity, errors in variables, qualitative variables, specification errors, and simultaneous equation models.

AEB 6572: Econometric Methods II (3)

Prereq: AEB 6571

Topics in econometrics including single equation and multiple equation linear and nonlinear models.

AEB 6592: Mathematical Programming for Economic Analysis (3)

Simplex method and primal-dual relationships in linear programming. Application of modeling techniques, such as separable, multi-objective, quadratic, and integer programming, to economic problems.

About the Department

The Food and Resource Economics Department is a part of the College of Agricultural & Life Sciences and one of 20 departments and 16 Research and Education Centers in the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) located at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. Departmental programs reflect the diversity of Florida's agriculture which has more than 50 major commodities. Our faculty and graduate students are involved in a full range of research, extension, and teaching programs including Agricultural Marketing and Policy, Production/Farm Management, International Trade and Development, Marine Economics, Natural Resources, Community/Regional Development, and Labor Economics. The undergraduate program offers the Bachelor of Science degree and the graduate program offers the Master of Agribusiness (non-thesis), Master of Science with Concentration in Agribusiness (non-thesis), Master of Science (thesis) and the Ph.D.

The graduate handbook serves to inform the students and faculty as to the many policies that govern the student's graduate program. It does not replace the Graduate School Catalog that contains the official information concerning rules, regulations, course descriptions, degree requirements, etc. Students are governed by the catalog issued in the year of their first enrollment. Faculty and staff will assist the student in meeting all academic requirements that apply to his/her program, but the student is ultimately responsible.

Should you have any questions about information contained in this handbook please contact the Graduate Program Office.

Responsibilities of the Graduate Student

Each Food and Resource Economics graduate student is responsible for their entire program, including becoming familiar with all graduate requirements set forth by the University, Graduate School, College, and Department. These requirements constitute a contractual agreement between each student and the University. Compliance with published deadlines is also the responsibility of each student. Graduate students are responsible for registering and paying fees on time, choosing their supervisory committee chair and plan of study form within the required time. Graduate students on assistantship are responsible for successful completion of assigned duties and will be evaluated by their faculty committee chair every semester. Graduate study is a full-time experience and in order to succeed, students must be committed to participation in classes, research, and seminars.

Student Honor Code

Students are expected to exhibit high standards of behavior and concern for others. The University strives to protect and guide the educational community by establishing a Student Code of Conduct and judicial system, which promotes individual and social responsibility. Choosing to join the University of Florida community obligates each member to a code of civilized behavior. Individuals and student organizations are expected to observe the policies, rules, and regulations of the University of Florida and the State of Florida. University policies have been designed to protect individuals and the campus community and create an environment conducive to achieving the academic mission of the institution. The complete Standards of Ethical Conduct can be found at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php>

AEB 6184: Economics of Agricultural Production (3)

Prereq: AEB 6182

Producer decisions including theoretical and empirical problems of multi-factor, multi-product, and poly-period cases. Input demand and product supply functions at the commodity and industry levels.

AEB 6301: Food Wholesale and Retail Marketing (3)

Wholesale and retail issues that exist both in U.S. and world markets, such as brand management, supermarket management, and market research.

AEB 6363: Agricultural Marketing (3)

Prereq: ECO 3101

Economic theory of markets and its use. Development of time, form, space, and vertical dimensions of market price and factors that facilitate market operation.

AEB 6385: Management Strategies for Agribusiness

Firms (3) Prereq: ECO 3101

Planning, organizing, implementing, and evaluating the agribusiness management functions of strategic planning, finance, marketing, and personnel.

AEB 6413: Ecological Economics: Theory and Applications (3)

Introduction to integration of economics and ecology with practical problem identification and analysis. Emphasis on student participation and projects.

AEB 6453: Natural Resource/Environmental Economics (3) Prereq: ECO 3101, instructor consent

Resource use, management, development, and conservation. Institutional and market performance in providing socially desired outcomes.

AEB 6108: Microeconomic Theory II (3)

Prereq: ECO 7115

Continuation of Microeconomic Theory I. Theory of the firm, market theory, market failure (externalities, market power, and asymmetric information). Game theory and applications. General equilibrium theory, welfare trade theory and agricultural trade policy.

AEB 6139: Strategic Agribusiness Management (3)

Capstone course integrating concepts in the agribusiness curriculum. Develops higher-level thinking skills in core concepts of strategic decision-making and understanding how strategy influences economic and financial value of food and agribusiness firms.

AEB 6145: Agricultural Finance (3)

Prereq: AEB 3144 or FIN 3403

Principles of firm financial management, financial markets, financial institutions, capital markets, firm growth/analysis. Emphasis on markets and application of financial principles.

AEB 6174: Economic Coordination and Organizational Behavior (3)

New institutional economic analysis of the organization of economic activities across firms and markets, internal governance structures, the separation of ownership and control.

AEB 6182: Agricultural Risk Analysis and Decision Making (3)

Prereq: AEB 6106. Review of conceptual framework and research methods for analysis of decision making by agricultural producers. Expected utility theory, risk programming, stochastic dominance, and dynamic decision models.

AEB 6183: Agribusiness Risk Management (3)

Review the conceptual framework of decision analysis. Examine and develop applied risk analysis skills useful for risk management decision-making by agricultural producers, agribusinesses, and researchers.

I. Degree Programs

Agribusiness Degrees (non-thesis)

The **Master of Agribusiness (MAB)** is designed for students with no background in economics. The curriculum includes courses in management, finance, and marketing and perfectly complement the student's undergraduate non-business background. The program begins in August and ends the following August.

The **Master of Science with Concentration in Agribusiness (MSAB)** is designed for students with a strong background in economics/agricultural economics. The curriculum includes microeconomic theory, econometrics, strategic agribusiness management, finance, policy, and organizational behavior. This program begins in August and ends the following December.

The skills learned in the graduate agribusiness curriculums provide students with a strong competitive advantage when entering the agribusiness industry. After completion of the program, students can look forward to careers as food marketers, commodity merchandisers, and agribusiness managers. It is a non-thesis degree for students seeking careers with organizations that operate in the food industry and agribusiness sector.

Admission to the program requires submission of application, letters of recommendation, statement of purpose, bachelor's degree, minimum 3.0 GPA in upper division coursework, 1000 on the GRE, and grades of B or better in the prerequisite courses. International students must submit TOEFL score of at least 550.

Master of Agribusiness Curriculum (30 hours)

Prerequisites: Financial Accounting, Management, Statistics, and Principles of Food and Resource Economics or Principles of Microeconomics

Core Courses

Fall

AEB 5188 Economics of Agribusiness Decisions
AEB 5326 Agricultural Financial Management
AEB 6225 Public Policy and the Agribusiness Firm
AEB 6183 Agricultural Risk Management

Spring

AEB 5516 Quantitative Methods in Agribusiness
AEB 5757 Strategic Agribusiness Human Resource Management
AEB 6675 International Agribusiness Marketing

Summer

AEB 6139 Strategic Agribusiness Management
AEB 6933 Final Project Seminar

Graduate courses offered 2009-2010

AEB 5167: Economic Analysis in Small Farm Livelihood Systems (3) General analysis techniques used to enhance economic analysis of small-scale, limited-resource family farm livelihood systems to evaluate impact of proposed technology, infrastructure, and policy changes on family welfare. Linear programming and regression. Emphasis on tropical agriculture.

AEB 5188: Economics of Agribusiness Decisions (3)
Prereq: AEB 3103 or ECO 2023. Comprehensive treatment of microeconomic theory and its use in managerial decision making.

AEB 5326: Agribusiness Financial Management (3)
Prereq: ACG 2021C. Integration of finance and management decision-making tools to solve advanced financial and other management problems faced by agricultural firms and agribusinesses.

AEB 5516: Quantitative Methods in Agribusiness Decisions (3) **Prereq: STA 2023.** Introduction to variety of quantitative methods with application to business decision-making contexts.

AEB 5757: Strategic Agribusiness Human Resource Management (3) Issues involved in strategic and effective leadership and management in agribusiness sector of economy. Emphasis on human resource ideas and techniques that managers utilize to improve organizational teamwork, productivity, and performance.

AEB 6106: Microeconomic Principles and Analysis (3)
Prereq: ECO 3101 and Calculus. Economics as a behavioral science describing actions of consumers and producers interacting in the market process; welfare economics; property rights; competition, equilibrium. Institutional backdrop for market process, problem solving using econ. principles.

Andy Schmitz aschmitz@ufl.edu
International Trade, Industrial
Organization, Marketing, Policy

Jim Seale jseale@ufl.edu
Econometrics

Tom Spreen thspreen@ufl.edu
Marketing and trade of horticultural products

James Sterns jasterns@ufl.edu
Product Differentiation in Ag and Food Products, Strategic
Management, Structure/Performance of Ag. Markets,
Institutional Economics, entrepreneurship and development

Pilar Useche useche@ufl.edu
Development Economics

John Vansickle sickle@ufl.edu
Marketing, International Trade, Policy Analysis,
Horticulture/Vegetable/Citrus Marketing

Rick Weldon rweldon@ufl.edu
Agribusiness Finance and Risk Management

Al Wysocki Wysocki@ufl.edu
Sales, Marketing, Human Resource Management, Food
Distribution and Retailing, Strategic Planning,
Community Development

Master of Science with Concentration in Agribusiness Curriculum (MSAB) (30 hours)

Prerequisites: Calculus, Finance, Financial Accounting,
Statistics, Intermediate Microeconomics, Marketing,
Management

Core Courses

Fall

AEB 6106 Microeconomic Principles and Analysis
AEB 6225 Policy and the Agribusiness Firm

Spring

AEB 5757 Strategic Agribusiness Human
Resource Management
AEB 6145 Agricultural Finance
AEB 6553 Econometrics
AEB 6817 Survey Research Methods

Summer

AEB 6942 Advanced Applications in Agribusiness
Experience (internship)

Fall

AEB 6182 Agribusiness Risk Management
AEB 6385 Management Strategies for Agribusiness
Firms
AEB 6174 Economic Coordination and Organizational
Behavior

The Master of Science

Graduates of the M.S. program in Food and Resource Economics are prepared for employment as an economic analyst in many and varied settings. The program is designed to provide broad training in applied economics as it relates to food production, marketing and trade, regional economics, and natural resource issues. Students are taught how to use basic economic principles and quantitative data to address common production, marketing, trade, allocation, and resource policy problems. Students learn to conduct quantitative economic analysis, which includes the use of statistics, econometrics, programming models, and survey design and implementation.

Consideration for admission to the M.S. program requires a bachelor's degree with a minimum 3.0 GPA in junior/senior year coursework, 1000 on the GRE (with at least 500 on the quantitative), and grades of B or better in the prerequisite courses: *statistics, calculus I, intermediate micro and macroeconomics*. Applicants should have a strong understanding of the application of differential calculus and matrix algebra in economic analysis. International students must have a minimum 550 TOEFL score. Admission to the MS program is competitive therefore it is highly recommended that applicants far exceed the minimum requirements in order to be competitive for the limited number of graduate research assistantships.

The MS program is a two-year thesis program which admits fall term only. Applications are due by February 1st each year.

Alfonso Flores-Lagunes alfonsofl@ufl.edu
Econometrics/Applied Econometrics,
Labor Economics, Monetary Economics.

Zhifeng Gao zfgao@ufl.edu
Market Research, Applied
Econometrics and Quantitative Methods

Mike Gunderson mag79@ufl.edu
Agribusiness and Finance

Lisa House lahouse@ufl.edu
Agribusiness Marketing and
Management, Consumer Tastes and Preferences

Ray Huffaker rhuffaker@ufl.edu
Resource Economics, Biomathematical
Modeling, Economic Dynamics, Natural Resource Law

Richard Kilmer kilmer@ufl.edu
Agricultural Marketing of Dairy
Products, Citrus and Vegetables

Sherry Larkin slarkin@ufl.edu
Marine Resource Economics;
Fisheries Management; Seafood Marketing; Bioeconomic
Modeling; Survey Research

Chuck Moss cbmoss@ufl.edu
Finance, Production Economics, Policy, New Institutional
Economics Optimization, Econometric Methods

Mike Olexa olexa@ufl.edu
Agricultural and Natural Resource Law

Laila Racevskis racevskis@ufl.edu
Nonmarket valuation of ecosystem services, land use
Economics/policy, of natural resource management

Faculty Directory

- Chuck Adams** cmadams@ufl.edu
Marine Economics
- Tatiana Borisova** tborisova@ufl.edu
Water Economics, Policy
- Jeff Burkhardt** burk@ufl.edu
Ethics and Policy
- Carmen Carrion-Flores** carmencf@ufl.edu
Environmental Economics,
Regional and Urban Economics, Labor Economics, Land
Use Modeling, and Spatial Econometrics.
- Rod Clouser** rclouser@ufl.edu
Public Policy -- Local
Government Issues, Public Finance, Land Use, Growth
Management, Community/Rural Economic Development
- Carmen Diana Deere** deere@ufl.edu
Latin American Agricultural Development; Land Policy;
Gender and Development; Distribution of Wealth
- Evan Drummond** evd@ufl.edu
Teaching, public policy, international trade and development
- Ramon Espinel** espinel@ufl.edu
Development Economics, Institutional Economics, Biodiver-
sity and Agricultural Systems, Rural Finance
- Edward “Gilly” Evans** eaevans@ufl.edu
International Trade and Development,
Policy Analysis, Commodity Research, Sanitary and
Phytosanitary Issues, Pest Risk Analysis

The M.S. core curriculum consists of graduate-level courses in microeconomics, macroeconomics, econometrics, and research methodology. Candidates for the M.S. degree must demonstrate an acceptable level of understanding of microeconomic and macroeconomic theory and must also understand the role and application of statistics and other quantitative methods in economic analysis and research. Students may choose a thesis or non-thesis option. Both the thesis and non-thesis option require 30 hours of regular course work and thesis research combined. Non-thesis students must complete a special project and/or pass a written comprehensive examination. All work counted towards a Master's degree must be completed during the seven years immediately preceding the date on which the degree is to be awarded. Graduate students are generally expected to complete requirements and receive these respective degrees in considerably shorter periods of time than suggested in these limitations.

Students who plan to continue their graduate studies beyond the M.S. degree should take mathematics through the concepts of integral calculus, infinite series, partial differentiation, and mathematical statistics. Also, an additional matrix algebra course is highly recommended. The student may wish to meet this need during the M.S. program by completing a course such as ESI 4567 or MAS 3113.

The Master of Science (thesis) Curriculum

First Year

Fall

3-AEB 6106 Microeconomic Principles and Analysis
3-STA 6126 Statistics for Social Science Research
3-ECO 7206 Macroeconomic Theory*

Spring

3-AEB 6553 Elements of Econometrics
3-Elective
3-Elective

Summer

3-AEB 6815 Science and Research Methodology

**in the student's first fall semester of an odd year of admission, macroeconomic theory is taken in the Economics Department as ECO 7206. In the first fall semester of even year admission, it is taken in the spring in Food and Resource Economics as AEB 6933.*

Second Year

Research and additional electives if desired.

The graduation requirements for the MS degree includes a minimum 30 credit hours, however students on graduate assistantships will generally have more due to minimum registration requirements.

Useful links for students

Food and Resource Economics Department

<http://www.fred.ifas.ufl.edu>

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

<http://www.cals.ufl.edu>

UF Graduate School

<http://gradschool.ufl.edu/>

Graduate Catalog

<http://gradschool.ufl.edu/students/catalog.html>

Registrar Course Schedules & University Deadlines

<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/soc/>

Your student record

<http://www.isis.ufl.edu/>

UF Financial Affairs (financial aid)

<http://www.sfa.ufl.edu/>

UF Editorial site for thesis/dissertation submission

<http://gradschool.ufl.edu/editorial/introduction.html>

UF International Center

<http://www.ufic.ufl.edu>

UF Business Services (parking, UD card, bookstore)

<http://www.bsd.ufl.edu>

GatorGradCare health insurance

<http://www.hr.ufl.edu/benefits/gatorgradcare/>

UF Commencement Information/Schedule

<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/commencement/>

Administrative Offices in FRED

Department Address

Fedex/UPS/DHL: 1170 McCarty Hall
Gainesville, FL 32611

Campus mail: Box 110240

Phone: 352-392-1826

Fax: 352-846-0988

Department Chair's Office—1167 McCarty A

Ray Huffaker, Chair
rhuffaker@ufl.edu Ext. 204

Jo Ann Davis, Administrative Coordinator
jodavis@ufl.edu Ext. 401

Graduate Program Office—1157 McCarty A

Jeff Burkhardt, Graduate Coordinator
burk@ufl.edu Ext. 314

Al Wysocki, Agribusiness Graduate Programs Crd.
wysocki@ufl.edu Ext. 403

Jessica Herman, Graduate Student Services
jherman@ufl.edu Ext. 200

Business Office—1170 McCarty A

Tina Craig, Accountant
tcraig@ufl.edu Ext. 201

Melanie Carter, Office Assistant
melaniecarter@ufl.edu Ext. 422

The PhD

Doctoral studies in FRED are designed to provide the student with rigorous training in economics, statistics, and applied quantitative techniques. Students are exposed to core theory and quantitative methods as well as to fields of specialization. Experience is gained in through research and teaching assignments, in dissertation research and publication. The purpose is to prepare the candidate for professional teaching and research careers in education, government and private business.

The core provides fundamentals in economic theory, statistics and quantitative methods, which provide a solid background for applied research in the following fields: Natural Resource and Environmental Economics; Economic Development; Marketing; Trade and competition; Firm theory and Management. At least one field is required of each student. The design of the student's course program and research experience engages the student and his/her supervisory committee in establishing and achieving learning goals for the student, which is of mutual benefit to the student and department.

Consideration for admission to the program requires a bachelors and master's degree, minimum 3.0 GPA in both, 1000 on the GRE, and grades of B or better in the prerequisite courses: calculus, statistics, and graduate level economics and micro and macroeconomics, . International students must have a minimum 550 TOEFL score. Admission to the program is competitive therefore it is highly recommended that applicants far exceed the minimum requirements in order to be competitive for graduate research assistantships.

A minimum of 90 credit hours of courses and research beyond the bachelor's degree must be completed. Usually for those students entering with an appropriate M.S. from another institution, 30 credit hours are granted. The average duration of the Ph.D. program from start of the core is three years. Students on research assistantships will be funded for a period of three years and may be granted an extension at the discretion of their committee chair and the graduate coordinator. The Ph.D. curriculum consists of core courses, field courses and approved electives. Before admission to candidacy, each student must demonstrate a mastery of the Ph.D. core with an understanding of economic theory and quantitative methods founded in mathematics and statistics. In addition, advanced competence must be developed in at least one field of specialization. Finally, each student must complete an independent research program leading to the dissertation thereby demonstrating an ability to conceptualize and analyze problems in agricultural and resource economics by applying appropriate theory and methods.

All work for the Doctorate's degree must be completed within five calendar years after the qualifying examination. Graduate students are generally expected to complete requirements and receive these respective degrees in considerably shorter periods of time than suggested in these limitations.

Conflict of interest

It is always better to prevent a conflict of interest than to redress a violation. As noted above, a student's advisor must acknowledge their use of a student's work with the deference they would show to any other professional colleague.

With growing partnerships between UF and private enterprise, advisors should beware of situations that result in their students working directly for them. Any situation where your student's grade might be perceived to be based on criteria other than academic performance should be avoided. Use care in interaction with students in consulting work you may undertake.

One reason to avoid a conflict of interest is that it may obscure issues that would be much clearer in an untrained situation. Do not react defensively to suggestions that you may be involved in a conflict of interest; other forces may be blinding you to issues that are obvious from the outside. Try to evaluate your situation as someone looking in from outside. If you determine that the conflict of interest is in appearance only, fix that appearance! Set up procedures to prevent the possible conflicts from becoming real.

A member of the graduate faculty may not date any student enrolled in coursework they are teaching. A graduate faculty member may not serve on the committee of any student with whom they have or have had an intimate personal, family or business relationship. If any personal relationship between a graduate faculty member and a student should develop subsequent to the establishment of a professional, educational relationship, the graduate faculty member will terminate the educational relationship.

Cheating

While cheating in the classroom is covered by regulations emanating from other parts of the University, cheating on qualifying or preliminary examinations is not. Such dishonesty, once proven, will at the very least result in failure of the examination and may mean termination of the student's enrollment. It may be difficult for a new graduate student to relate their previous black-and-white understanding of cheating to the collegial interaction of Graduate School. Be clear about which tasks may be completed interactively and when the student is expected to work on their own.

Abuses of Confidentiality

Confidentiality involves both explicit rules of ethics and the subjective mores of professional conduct. If a student uses the unpublished data, Thesis, grant proposal, or paper of a colleague without permission of that author, they are committing an abuse of confidentiality even though it had been documented with the most meticulously attribution. A more subtle abuse of confidentiality would be the appropriation of an insight gained from collegial interaction, without the consultation and approval of the idea's originator. Another area where permission is as important as attribution lies in the use of archival material concerning a living or recently deceased individual. Of course, any research with human subjects has strict rules on confidentiality and ethics; any questions should be directed to the Institutional Review Boards (IRB) whose website is: <http://irb.ufl.edu>. Confidentiality is easy to abuse and the abuse is difficult to detect. The example set by you and your faculty colleagues will influence a graduate student's respect for confidentiality far more than any quantity of rules, handbooks, or guidelines.

The PhD Curriculum**First Year****Fall**

3-AEB 6571 Econometric Methods I
3-AEB 6533 Static/Dynamic Optimization Models
3-ECO 7115 Microeconomic Theory I

Spring

3-AEB 6108 Microeconomic Theory II
3-AEB 6240 Macroeconomic Theory in Open Economies II
3-AEB 6572 Econometric Methods II

Summer A

3-AEB 6933 PhD Econometrics Seminar

Qualifying Examination

Upon completion of the core, students who have attained a GPA of 3.5 or greater in the core courses are exempted from the qualifying examination. Students not meeting the GPA requirement will take the exam the third week in June directly after completing their second semester in the core. Should the student fail this exam, a second exam will be taken the first week in August. Should the student fail the second exam they will be terminated from the PhD program. The exam is prepared, administered and evaluated by core course instructors.

Field Requirement

PhD students must have knowledge of at least three of the five fields and choose at least one as a specialization;

- 1) **Natural Resource & Environmental Economics**
(Prime course: AEB 6453 Natural Resource and Environmental Economics)
- 2) **Economic Development**
(Prime course: AEB 6645 Economic Development)
- 3) **Marketing**
(Prime course: AEB 6363 Agricultural Marketing)
- 4) **Trade and Competition**
(Prime course: ECO 7706 Theory of International Trade)
- 5) **Firm Theory and Management**
(Prime course: AEB 6184 Economics of Agricultural Production)

Once the student chooses one of the above specializations, s/he will complete the *prime course in that field plus 9 hours of coursework related to that field* for a total of 12 hours in their field. In addition to those 12 hours, students will take an additional two prime courses listed above. Students are evaluated in their field by a written examination prepared by the student's supervisory committee.

Less overt cases of plagiarism may be either intentional or unintentional (carelessness/ignorance of professional protocols) but may have severe repercussions as carelessness verges toward malpractice. Information sources must be correctly cited for the forum in which they are presented. Paraphrased material should be attributed to the original author of the research or theory.

Disciplinary knowledge is the product of innumerable contributors. There is a core of knowledge in any discipline that must be assumed common knowledge of practice, or else we would be footnoting every sentence written. It is however simple enough for the student to explicitly state that the assertions they are drawing from are based upon common knowledge. A literature review is an even more robust method for proving that the ideas employed are part of mainstream knowledge.

In the course of advising, graduate faculty should determine that their students understand plagiarism in its overt form as well as the errors that can constitute plagiarism: *Misrepresenting an authors original intent; Over-dependence on a source to the extent that the students work does not represent an original contribution to the literature; Self-plagiarizing by submitting substantially the same paper, review, or presentation in more than one forum.*

Plagiarism is a two-way street. It is equally a violation of University of Florida rules against plagiarism for a student advisor to use the work or findings of a graduate student without attribution commensurate with their contribution. University of Florida faculty should handle any suspicion of plagiarism with due regard to the student's rights, and any detection of plagiarism should be adjudicated in accordance University procedures.

As an intentional act, the fabrication of data will generally be a straightforward judgment call and rare among graduate students. Sins of omission are the more likely transgressions that lead to ethical conflicts. Advisors must be sure their students understand they are no longer producing research for the classroom and professor but for independent peer review. Conflicting data are not irrelevant data, rather the challenges that a successful hypothesis must confidently answer.

Graduate faculty may guard against fraud through diligence in assessing their students' professional practices. Assess each student's understanding of scholarly rigor through either formal or informal methods. If a student seems fuzzy on certain requirements, ask explicit questions to determine methodological weakness. Above all, averting fraud and these other ethical dilemmas depends upon open, regular and frequent communication with the graduate students under your supervision. Regular conferences, progress reports, and scheduled reviews of notebooks or journals are among the tools available to discover methodological problems before they arise. Finally, remember that your students will ultimately model their professional conduct on the example set by you and your fellow researchers.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the use of another's words, ideas, research or creative productions without proper attribution. Flagrant cases of plagiarism involve extensive use of unattributed material from articles, books, or creative productions with little or no modification. In such cases, penalties are usually severe and would likely result in expulsion from Graduate School, or if a degree has already been earned, in rescinding of that degree.

II. Academics

Registration

Establish a Gatorlink account at www.gatorlink.ufl.edu, then go to www.isis.ufl.edu to register. A schedule of courses is available on the UF web site. Any student not registered for at least one course prior to the first day of class is subject to a \$100 late registration fee.

Schedule Adjustment (drop/add)

Drop/Add is done through ISIS during the week of class. So long as a student is registered for at least one course before regular registration ends, there is NO late fee to add or drop a course during the initial first week drop/add period online. Once the online drop/add period is over, use the paper form and seek approval of the FRED Graduate Office and Graduate School. Students are liable for fees for courses dropped after the ISIS deadline. A petition to waive fee liability is only done if the drop/add is due to an error on the part of the university. The deadline for schedule adjustment for graduate students is the last day of the semester.

Choosing Electives

Electives should be non-recreational courses approved by their committee chair. Students needing assistance in choosing electives should consult their committee chair or the Graduate Coordinator or Agribusiness Graduate Program Coordinator. Students may take a maximum of 6 hours (3000/4000 level only) towards the degree requirement. These courses may not be taken within the FRE department.

S/U Option

Courses which are to be applied to the degree hours earned may not be taken as S/U.

Minor

Students may choose a minor by designating so on their committee form. Students must have a faculty member from the minor department on their committee. For PhD students, external and minor member may not be the same individual. Agribusiness and MS thesis students are required to enroll in 6 hours in the minor. PhD students have 12 hours and a qualifying exam in the minor.

Supervisory Committee

Students choose a supervisory committee by the end of the term in which they earn 12 hours.. The chair must be a member of FRED. Students may opt for a co-chair from another department. **Non-thesis** programs requires only one committee member who serves as chair. **MS-thesis** requires a minimum of two members. **PhD** requires a minimum four members, two of which are members of the FRED faculty, and one external member.

Transfer of Credit

Agribusiness and MS students *not enrolled* in the combined degree program who took graduate courses as an undergraduate, with at least a B in those courses and did not count those courses in their undergraduate degree, may transfer up to 12 hours to the graduate degree. PhD students generally transfer a block credit of thirty hours from their MS to their PhD program, which counts towards the 90-hour PhD degree requirement. The transfer of credit request should be done in the first semester.

Integrity in Graduate Study: A Graduate School Guide

Adopted by the Graduate Council and Graduate
Departments of the University of Florida

Introduction

The value of advanced research is assessed on scientific collection of data, robust scholarship, and academic integrity. Academic integrity at the University of Florida is founded upon the vigilance of faculty—especially graduate faculty—in identifying and addressing issues of fraud, plagiarism, cheating, confidentiality, and conflicts of interest.

The common-sense ethics students learn in secondary and undergraduate education may not necessarily prepare them for the specific professional etiquette required for advanced research. It is the responsibility of graduate faculty to insure that students under their supervision are made aware of the guidelines for ethics in their discipline. Members of the graduate faculty must also be ready to identify and remediate ethical conflicts when they do arise. The Graduate School has prepared the following guidelines to aid in this responsibility.

Fraud

Fraud involves the intentional and deliberate misuse of data in order to draw conclusions that may not be warranted by the evidence. Falsification of results may take one of two forms:

1. Fabrication of data
2. Omission or concealment of conflicting data.

V. Appendix

UF Policy on Sexual Harassment

UF has a policy to provide an educational and working environment for students, faculty and staff that is free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment. In accordance with federal and state law, UF prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment. Sex discrimination/harassment is not tolerated, and individuals who engage in such conduct are subject to disciplinary action. UF encourages students, faculty, staff and visitors to promptly report sex discrimination and sexual harassment. A person who believes that he or she has been subjected to sex discrimination or sexual harassment should report the incident to any University official, administrator or supervisor. UF Human Resource Services investigates all complaints. Incidents should be reported as soon as possible after the time of their occurrence.

Handling conflicts with instructors

Sometimes conflicts arise between students and their instructors related to coursework. Should this happen, the student is advised to first contact the instructor to attempt to resolve the situation. In most cases, these conflicts are a result of miscommunication and can be easily resolved. However, if the issue remains unresolved to the satisfaction of one or both parties, the graduate coordinator in FRED should be consulted.

Combined Degree Program (4+1)

The Combined Degree is a special program created by the University to provide academically talented students the opportunity to complete a bachelor's and master's degree in a shorter period of time. The program allows the student to 'double-count' graduate courses towards both degrees thus reducing the time it would normally take to graduate by a semester or more. Grades earned in the graduate courses must be at least a "B" or better to transfer to the graduate degree. The combined-degree program reduces the cost of both degrees and enhances the student's marketability for career advancement.

Admission to the Combined Degree program requires a 3.2 upper division GPA and 1100 on the GRE. Students interested in the combined degree program should contact their undergraduate coordinator, submit the appropriate forms and take the GRE no later than the beginning of their senior year (this allows for students to re-take the exam if necessary). The student must also apply to graduate school. Once admitted to graduate school, if the applicant meets the combined degree requirements, graduate courses taken during the undergraduate program will be transferred to the graduate degree program. If the student does not meet the requirements of the combined degree and used the graduate courses to satisfy undergraduate requirements, the courses will not be transferred. This results in the student having to take additional graduate level courses in their graduate program to satisfy the minimum number of hours required for graduation.

Holds

Holds are placed on students records for outstanding tuition payments, library, parking and other fines. These fees/fines must be paid before students can make any changes to their academic record or request a transcript. The University has also implemented a hold for emergency contact information. Once every eight weeks, a hold is placed on every student record which requires students to go into ISIS and update their student contact information. Even if your contact information has not changed you must still go in and click on “submit” to update.

Grades

Current term grades are normally due by noon on the Monday after Commencement. Students should be able to view their grades on ISIS after noon on the following day. “I” grades indicate incomplete progress in a course and if not changed to a letter grade will become punitive and count as a failing grade in the GPA by the end of the second term on the student’s transcript. Before a student will be certified to graduate, all incomplete grades must be cleared by the Monday prior to commencement.

Final Term Registration

All students are required to be registered during their term of graduation. The requirement is three credit hours for fall/spring and two in summer. Non-thesis students must be registered for a course which applies towards their degree while thesis and PhD students must be registered for AEB 6971 Masters Research and AEB 7980 respectively.

Transportation & Parking

RTS provides free bus service on campus and in the city for UF students/spouses, staff and faculty. A mini-bus service is provided for the handicapped. The Student Nighttime Auxiliary Patrol (SNAP) offers nightly escorts anywhere on campus, is staffed by students and supervised by the University Police. Persons needing a escort/ride should call 392-SNAP (7627). Those who want to park on campus should purchase a commuter decal from Transportation and Parking.

ID cards

ID cards are obtained in the new University Bookstore located on the south side of the Reitz Union (facing Museum Road). The cost for the ID card is \$15.00.

Email

All official university communications are sent to students at their Gatorlink account. Accounts can be setup at www.gatorlink.ufl.edu. Most online campus services require a Gatorlink username/password.

Software Use

Faculty, staff and students of the University must obey laws and legal agreements governing software. Failure to do so may result in monetary damages and/or criminal penalties.

Photocopies

Due to limited resources within FRED, students do not have access to the departmental copier. Copy services are available at the Reitz Union for UF students. However, students working as TA’s who must copy materials for the course instructor may use the FRED copier and should use that course instructor’s UFID (with their permission) to access the machine.

Graduate Student Office Space

Graduate students have two spacious and secure common areas (Byrne and Prochaska Rooms) complete with computers and printers. Students access these rooms by entering a code given to them upon request. The department pays for toner and paper for the printers in the common areas. Please inform FRED Business Office when supplies run low. Graduate Research Assistants are assigned individual office space in their second year. Most of these offices house two individuals. Students may use their own laptop computer in lieu of the desktop in their office. Keys to these offices should be checked out from Melanie Carter in 1170 MCCA.

Mailboxes

FRED Graduate Students have access to mailboxes in 1086 McCarty Hall B. Please use your local home address to receive personal mail and personal packages and utilize the FRED mailbox only for business/school mail. Mail addressed to you must have your first and last name along with PO Box 110240, Gainesville, FL 32611. Please do not list the Graduate Program Office address or phone number as your personal address and phone. If you are lecturing a course and you order textbooks for the course you may have the textbook sent to the Business Office in McCarty Hall.

Travel Grants

Students presenting papers or posters at conferences may be eligible for travel grants through their committee chair, GSO, the Department, College Dean's office, Student Government or the Graduate School. Students should submit all approved travel expenses to their chairperson's secretary. Contact the Graduate Program for information on how to apply for travel grants.

Degree Application

Degree applicants must submit their intent to graduate via ISIS by the posted deadline during the semester of graduation. There is a late degree application and students must submit the form to the College Dean's office for authorization. Late degree applicants may not appear on the actual list at graduation.

Clearing Prior

This status permits exemption from registration for the term in which the degree will be awarded. Eligible for clear prior are students required to submit a thesis or dissertation. These students must meet published deadlines of the current semester except for final editorial clearance. There must be an extraordinary reason that a student fails to complete final clearance with the Graduate School Editorial Office by the published deadline. Inability of committees to meet, staff error in submitting forms, or the student's wish to avoid registration payment are not extraordinary reasons. Students requesting clear prior must notify the FRED Graduate Program Office and the Graduate School Editorial Office.

Final Examination for non-thesis students

Non-thesis students participate in a final oral examination and/or project in their final semester. MAB students participate in a final project seminar administered by the Agribusiness Graduate Program Coordinator. MSAB students write a paper based on their internship and present that paper to the department, under the supervision of their committee chair. The final examination is not letter graded, it is merely pass/fail.

MS-thesis and PhD proposal seminar & defense

MS-thesis students should present their thesis proposal seminar by the end of the summer semester of their first year.

PhD students are required to present their dissertation proposal seminar (admission to candidacy) which is open to all students, staff and faculty within the department. This seminar should be presented by the end of the student's second year in the PhD program.

Notification of the student's seminar and copy of the abstract must be emailed to the Graduate Office a week prior to allow sufficient time for students, staff and faculty to make plans to attend. Students should contact the Business Office in 1170 to reserve the Conference Room and also the Computer Support Office at 2-1826 ext. 318 for help setting up the computer equipment in the conference room.

Once the student's thesis or dissertation is in final form, the student will participate in the defense, administered by the supervisory committee and covering the major and minor areas of study. (the student may invite individuals to view their defense but the actual committee meeting afterwards is closed to the public).

There are three forms which must be present at the final defense, the Final Examination Form and ETD Signature Page, both of which are signed by the entire committee, and the Publishing Agreement which is completed and signed by the student and committee chair.

The student retains the ETD signature page while submitting the Examination Form and Publishing Agreement to the Graduate Office.

FRED Graduate Student Organizations

The Food and Resource Economics Graduate Student Organization (FRE-GSO) represents all graduate students within the department. GSO helps new students with the transition to graduate school as well as offering travel grants, hosting seminars, the annual spring barbecue, coffee breaks and a host of other activities.

The Master of Agribusiness Student Organization (MABSO) was started by graduate Agribusiness students with the objective to foster professional development of students in the department through interaction with industry professionals as well as activities that aid in career preparation/placement and interaction with fellow students. MABSO conducts philanthropic activities benefiting agricultural/business or humanitarian organization.

Libraries

The nine Libraries of the University of Florida serve all of the university's faculty and students, but each has a special mission to be the primary support of specific colleges and degree programs. Because of the interdisciplinary nature of research, scholars may find collections built in one library to serve a specific discipline or constituency to be of great importance to their own research in another discipline.

Hamilton Reading Room

The FRED Hamilton Reading Room is located in 1086 McCarty B and serves FRED graduate students, staff and faculty as a place to have meetings, discussions, exam reviews and small presentations. The room may be reserved by contacting Rose Herman at 392-1826 ext 450.

IV. Resources and Facilities

Student Health Care Center

Student Health Care Services provides a broad range of medical services in the outpatient clinic, which include primary medical care, health education, sexual assault recovery, health screening and mental health consultation and counseling. The health fee is part of the tuition fee paid by all students. The Center is located in the Infirmary Building, 1 Fletcher Drive, next to the Florida Gym . Their phone number is 392-1161.

UF Counseling Center

The UF Counseling Center provides counseling and consultation services to undergraduate and graduate students and spouses/partners. The Center offers brief counseling and therapy to help students confront personal, academic, and career concerns. The primary goal of counseling is to help students develop the personal awareness and skills necessary to overcome problems and to grow and develop in ways that will allow them to take advantage of the educational opportunities at the university. The office is located in Peabody Hall and the phone number is 392-1575.

Career Resource Center

The CRC is located on the first floor of the Reitz Union and offers career planning, internship, and cooperative education guidance as well as employment/school search services for UF students. The CRC also includes career counseling, workshops and skills/aptitude/interest testing. The CRC library offers students the opportunity to research specific companies.

Submission of the Electronic Thesis/Dissertation

Students must follow the published deadlines for submission of their thesis/dissertation. The Graduate School Editorial Office (170 HUB) is always available to help students with questions or problems. Information about submitting the thesis/dissertation is at: <http://gradschool.ufl.edu/editorial/introduction.html>

Students will provide a copy of the final thesis/dissertation to their committee chair, graduate office and any other committee members who want one. The copy given to the graduate office should be on plain Xerox paper and should not be bound.

Degree candidate status verification

Upon request, the Graduate School will provide a verification that the degree will be awarded before it is awarded. Visit <http://gradschool.ufl.edu/pdf-files/degree-status-verification-form.pdf> .

Verification of enrollment/funding for international students

The FRED graduate program office will provide international students with a verification of enrollment and/or funding upon request. Generally this is needed when international students are requesting an extension of the I-20, housing, or OPT (optional practical training after graduation).

Departure

All students will be asked to submit an exit questionnaire before graduation. Prior to graduation, students should clean out office space and turn in keys and any equipment borrowed from the department.

III. Financial Information

Cost of Attendance for 2009-2010 academic year

Tuition fees are assessed based on residency, first enrolled term of the current degree and course level. Graduate courses are designated at 5000 or higher.

Florida Resident Graduate-level

Admitted/enrolled fall 2009	\$
Admitted/enrolled fall 2008	\$341.29
Admitted/enrolled fall 2007	\$311.60

Non-Florida Resident Graduate-level

Admitted/enrolled fall 2009	\$
Admitted/enrolled fall 2008	\$971.48
Admitted/enrolled fall 2007	\$941.79

Students on assistantships calculate their fees differently because their waiver covers *tuition* only and the student is responsible for the remaining fees which must be paid by the deadline or a late fee is assessed. The University has offered a deferment of fees to all students on graduate assistantships. Students are generally notified via email from the UF Financial Services Office.

Students should calculate their fees at this site:

<http://fa.ufl.edu/ufs/cashiers/feecalc.asp>

OPS (Other Personnel Services)

Occasionally, the department may be in need of students to work on special projects. In these cases, funding may be available for positions known as OPS. OPS is temporary with no tuition waiver or benefits, and the student may be paid hourly or in a lump sum depending on the project. A student awarded this funding will need to complete the standard payroll forms including I-9 eligibility for employment, W-4, loyalty oath, direct deposit forms. OPS hires must also provide their drivers license and signed social security card for photocopies as part of the verification process.

Paychecks

Direct deposit is required, however it may take one or two pay periods for the direct deposit to take effect. Until that time, paper checks can be picked up in the FRED Business Office in 1170 McCarty Hall.

International Student Financial Responsibility

International graduate students must provide proof of financial support in the amount of \$37,400 annually. Only students holding an F-1 or J-1 visa may be eligible to receive a graduate assistantship. Students with a J-2 visa may receive an assistantship with employment authorization from Immigration Service. Married applicants who bring their spouse and/or children, must certify funds for a minimum of an additional \$6,000 per academic year for the spouse and \$2,500 for each child.

Health and accident insurance is mandatory for all international students and those fees must be paid prior to registration each term.

Health Insurance

Graduate Students on assistantship are eligible for health insurance through GatorGradCare as part of their benefits package. Students need to complete the application and provide eligibility on time or they may be denied for the semester. More information can be found at: <http://www.hr.ufl.edu/benefits/gatorgradcare/default.asp>

For students not on assistantship, there is a University sponsored health insurance, offered through Aetna Student Health. Visit http://www.aetnastudenthealth.com/stu_conn/student_connection.aspx?groupID=474890

Residency requirements for graduate assistants

The Florida Legislature provides funding to state universities to offset the cost of educating Florida students. Tuition covers a portion of the cost and the remainder comes from the State. Out-of-state residents receive only modest support from the Legislature in the form of tuition waiver authority.

Non-resident U.S. citizens appointed to assistantship are required to apply for Florida resident status upon initial arrival at UF and before the beginning of their first semester of enrollment because it takes one calendar year of proven and documented residency to qualify as a Florida resident.

Students who do not take the prescribed actions face having to pay the difference between the resident and non-resident tuition. The process of applying for residency can be found at <http://www.admissions.ufl.edu/residency/independent.html>.

Graduate Assistantships

Funding permitted, graduate teaching/research assistantships are awarded to the most competitive MS-thesis and PhD applicants. The assistantship includes an annual stipend, tuition waiver, and health insurance. Once appointed, students complete paperwork necessary for Human Resources. It is extremely important that every student supply all of the required documents. Sometimes there are unexpected delays in hiring and students should plan to arrive at UF with enough money to cover expenses until the assistantship payments begin. Funding to cover at least two months expenses should be adequate.

Letter of Appointment and Performance Evaluation

Each semester, Graduate Assistants sign a letter of appointment which is a contract between the University and the student. At the end of the semester, the student is evaluated on their progress. In order to maintain the assistantship, the student must maintain a 3.0 GPA, be registered appropriately, and earn at least a satisfactory performance evaluation. Failure to meet one or more standards will result in suspension of the assistantship.

Assistantship tuition waivers

Sometimes assistantship tuition waivers do not process by the fee deadline. Should this happen, the student will not be penalized so long as they paid their share of fees by the fee deferment deadline. Any late payment fees assessed to the student's account which are the direct result of a University administrative error will be removed. Students whose waivers are processed late but who did not pay their fees on time will be subject to the \$100 late payment fee.