



**Graduate Student Handbook**  
**Food and Resource Economics Department**  
**2011-2012**

**Welcome!**

Graduate School is one of the most exciting experiences of your life. The friendships you build during your stay here 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.

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!

Questions about information in this handbook should be directed to Jessica Herman, Program Assistant and Coordinator of Graduate Student Services at [jherman@ufl.edu](mailto:jherman@ufl.edu)

*Revised 08/18/2011*

## About the Department

The Food and Resource Economics Department is a part of the College of Agricultural and 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. FRED programs reflect the diversity of Florida's agriculture which has more than 50 major commodities. Faculty and graduate students are involved in a full range of research, extension, and teaching programs in a wide variety of areas.

## Admission

Consideration for admission to requires a minimum 3.0 grade point average in their prior degree in addition to 1000 on the GRE, 550 on the TOEFL for international students as well as a minimum grade of "B" in the appropriate prerequisites for that program. Students must apply online and provide transcripts, letters of recommendation, statement of purpose and other necessary documents in order to be reviewed. Applications for the MS thesis and PhD are February 1<sup>st</sup> while applications for the MAB and MSAB are due May 1<sup>st</sup>.

## The Graduate Degree Programs

The [Master of Science with Concentration in Agribusiness \(MSAB\)](#) is a **non-thesis** degree designed for students with a background in economics. The curriculum includes microeconomic theory, econometrics, strategic agribusiness management, finance, policy, and organizational behavior. This program begins in fall (August) and ends the following fall (December). Skills learned in the graduate agribusiness curriculums provide students with a strong competitive advantage when entering the agribusiness industry. It is a non-thesis degree for students seeking careers with organizations that operate in the food industry and agribusiness sector.

The [Master of Agribusiness \(MAB\)](#) is a **non-thesis** degree designed for students with no background in economics. The curriculum includes courses in management, finance, and marketing and perfectly complements the student's undergraduate non-business background. The program begins in Summer B (July) and ends the following Summer A (June). The MAB is not recommended for students interested in the PhD or in careers in research or university teaching.

The [Master of Science \(thesis\)](#) prepares graduates for employment as an economic analyst in many and varied settings. Students receive broad training in applied economics as it relates to food production, marketing and trade, regional economics, and natural resource issues and 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.

[Doctoral studies](#) in the Department 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.

### **Combined Degree Program (4+1)**

The Combined Degree (CD) 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 (12 hours max) 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. Students in the program pay graduate tuition/fees for the graduate level courses. 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. The process is as follows:**

- 1) Contact the undergraduate coordinator of your program to determine eligibility.
- 2) Seek advisement from the FRED graduate program office.
- 3) Submit the approval form with all required signatures to the Graduate Program Office.
- 4) Take the GRE no later than the beginning of their senior year.
- 5) Apply to Graduate School online and include transcripts, test scores and other materials.
- 6) If admitted, 12 hours of graduate coursework up will be transferred into graduate degree.

## I. FRED Degree Program Requirements

### Master of Science with Concentration in Agribusiness

**Course Prerequisites:** Minimum “B” in Finance, Financial Accounting, Intermediate Micro or Price Analysis Marketing, Management, Statistics, Calculus, and Econometrics. A grade of “B” or better in *Math in FRE* will substitute for Stats/Calc if a grade of less than B.

#### Curriculum (30 hours)

##### Fall 1

3-AEB 6106 Microeconomic Principles and Analysis

3-AEB 6145 Agricultural Finance

3-AEB 6225 Public Policy and the Agribusiness Firm

##### Spring

3-AEB 6183 Agribusiness Risk Management

3-AEB 6553 Elements of Econometrics

3-AEB 6817 Survey Research Methods for Agribusiness

##### Summer C

3-AEB 6942 Advanced Applications in Agribusiness Experience

##### Fall 2

3-AEB 6385 Management Strategies for Agribusiness Firms

6-Electives

#### Minor

Students may choose a minor (6 hours) and include on their committee a faculty member from the minor department. Minimum 3.0 GPA required for the minor.

#### Supervisory Committee

Students choose a supervisory committee by the end of the first semester. The MSAB requires one individual from FRED who also serves as Chair. Any change must be completed prior to the final examination and before the midpoint deadline of the term.

#### Final Term Registration

Students must be registered for a minimum of 3 hours of coursework in fall/spring or 2 in summer during their final semester.

#### Non-thesis Final Exam

The final examination consists of a paper written based on the internship and presentation to the Agribusiness students/faculty. The pass/fail for the final examination is based on the presentation while the letter grade in the AEB 6942 course is based on the quality of the paper.

## **The Master of Agribusiness**

**Course Prerequisites:** B or better grades in Financial Accounting or AEB 3122 Financial Planning, Management, Statistics, and Principles of Microeconomics or AEB 2014 Economic Issues, Food, and You.

### **Curriculum (30 hours)**

#### **Summer B**

3-AEB 5188 Economics of Agribusiness Decisions

3-AEB 5516 Quantitative Methods in Agribusiness

#### **Fall**

3-AEB 5326 Agricultural Financial Management

3-AEB 6225 Public Policy and the Agribusiness Firm

3-AEB 6385 Mgmt Strategies for Agribusiness Firms

#### **Spring**

3-AEB 5757 Strategic Agribusiness HR Management

3-AEB 6183 Agribusiness Risk Management

3-AEB 6675 International Agribusiness Marketing

#### **Summer C**

3-AEB 6942 Advanced Applications in Agribusiness Experience

Additional elective course may be taken any semester.

#### **Minor**

Students may choose a minor (6 hours) and include on their committee a faculty member from the minor department. Minimum 3.0 GPA required for the minor.

#### **Supervisory Committee**

Students choose a supervisory committee by the end of the first semester. The MAB requires one individual from FRED who also serves as Chair. Any change must be completed prior to the final examination and before the midpoint deadline of the term.

#### **Final Term Registration**

Students must be registered for a minimum of 3 hours of coursework in fall/spring or 2 in summer during their final semester.

#### **Non-thesis Final Exam**

The final examination consists of a paper written based on the internship and presentation to the Agribusiness students/faculty. The pass/fail for the final examination is based on the presentation while the letter grade in the AEB 6942 course is based on the quality of the paper.

## **The Master of Science with Thesis**

**Course Prerequisites:** B or better grades in Calculus I, Statistics, Intermediate Microeconomics or Price Analysis

### **Curriculum (30 hours)**

#### **Year 1-Fall**

3-AEB 6106 Microeconomic Principles and Analysis  
 3-AEB 6225 Public Policy and the Agribusiness Firm  
 3-STA 6126 Statistics for Social Science  
 3-Elective

#### **Spring**

3-AEB 6553 Elements of Econometrics  
 3-AEB 6817 Survey Research Methods  
 6-Elective

#### **Summer**

Thesis Proposal Seminar

#### **Year 2**

6-AEB 6971 Masters Research (Research/Writing/Defense)

### **Switching to Non-Thesis**

As a general rule, students in the MS thesis program may not switch to the MS non-thesis program.

### **Minor**

Students may choose a minor (6 hours) and include on their committee a faculty member from the minor department. Minimum 3.0 GPA required for the minor.

### **Supervisory Committee**

Students choose a supervisory committee by the end of the first semester. The MS-t requires two individuals, one of whom is chair and is a member of the FRED Graduate Faculty. No changes may be made during the final term. Any change must be completed prior to the final examination and before the midpoint deadline of the term.

### **Program of Study**

After the Supervisory Committee is appointed, the student must complete a Program of Study. This is a plan of courses and research hours the student plans to complete.

### **Final Term Registration**

Students must be registered for a minimum of 3 hours AEB 6971 in fall/spring and 2 in summer.

### **Defense and Submission of Electronic Thesis**

When the thesis is in final form, the supervisory committee must examine the student orally or in writing on (1) the thesis, (2) the major subjects, (3) the minor or minors, and (4) matters of a general nature pertaining to the field of study. The candidate and the supervisory committee chair must be present at the same location. All other committee members may attend the defense remotely. All forms should be signed at the defense: the candidate and the supervisory committee chair sign the ETD Publishing Agreement form; and the entire supervisory committee should sign the ETD Signature Page and the Final Examination Report. If thesis changes are requested, the supervisory committee chair may hold the ETD Signature Page until satisfied with the thesis. The presentation should take no more than the first 30 minutes (20 minute presentation and 10 minutes for discussion) of the scheduled time, after which the defense typically continues with only the student and his/her supervisory committee. Information on format may be obtained from the web at: <http://gradschool.rgp.ufl.edu/editorial/introduction.html>.

### **Clearing prior**

Clearing prior is a possibility only for Thesis and Dissertation students who have met all published deadlines for the current term except Final Clearance from the Graduate Editorial Office. No other students are eligible. Clear Prior permits students to be exempt from registration for the term in which the degree will be awarded. A student requesting to clear prior must meet ALL of the following criteria:

1. Student submits a degree application for the current term within the published deadlines
2. Student has appropriately satisfied the current term registration.
3. Student meets the current term first submission deadlines for the thesis or dissertation, as confirmed by the Editorial Office via a confirmation e-mail to the student and committee chair.
4. Student meets all other degree and administrative requirements within the published deadlines for the current term.
5. Student is in the process of finalizing the thesis or dissertation with the Graduate School Editorial Office. .
6. Student files Graduation Date Change Form at the Registrar's Office by the last day of classes of the current term.

## The PhD Program

**Course Prerequisites:** B or better grade in Calculus, Statistics, Graduate level econometrics and microeconomics. Macroeconomics is recommended but not required.

### Year 1

#### Fall

3-AEB 7571 Econometric Methods I (Math Stats)  
 3-ECO 7115 Microeconomic Theory I  
 2-ECO 7408 Math Methods of Applied Economics  
 1-ECO 7404 Game Theory for Economists

#### Spring

3-AEB 7108 Microeconomic Theory II  
 3-AEB 7240 Macroeconomic Theory II  
 3-AEB 7572 Econometric Methods II

#### Summer

3-AEB 6933 Advanced Econometrics  
 1-AEB 6921 PhD Workshop (Intro to Research Topics)

### Year 2

#### Fall

3-Dynamic Economics or Computational Economics  
 6-Field Courses

#### Spring

3-Welfare Economics  
 6-Field Courses

#### Summer

1-AEB 6934 PhD Workshop (job paper)  
 Submission of job paper

**Year 3**            Finish Field Courses and preparation for Admission to Candidacy

**Year 4**            Student should be admitted to candidacy by fall term of year 4 and prepared to defend by final summer semester

### Transfer of Credit from Masters to PhD

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.

### **Minor**

Students may choose a minor (12 hours) and include on their committee a faculty member from the minor department. Minimum 3.0 GPA required for the minor.

### **Supervisory Committee**

The general duties of all supervisory committees include informing the student of all regulations governing the degree sought, checking the qualifications of the student, and planning and approving a program of study. Students choose a supervisory committee by the end of the term in which they earn 12 hours. The PhD committee requires a minimum four members, one who serves as chair, two others from the FRED faculty, and an external who is graduate faculty at UF. Changes to the committee must be approved by all members of the committee.

No changes in a supervisory committee may be made during a student's graduating term without a letter from the committee chair to the Graduate Student Records Office, justifying the change. Any change must be completed prior to the final examination and before the midpoint deadline of the term. Open and frequent communication between the student and the chair of the supervisory committee is a very important part of the graduate experience. Although it is the duty of the supervisory committee to inform the student of all regulations governing the degree sought, this does not absolve the student from the responsibility of being informed concerning these regulations.

### **Core qualifying examination**

Upon completion of the first year students will take the qualifying exam which is prepared, administered and evaluated by core instructors. The exam takes place in June during the week between Summer A&B terms. Should the student fail this exam, a second will be administered the first week in August. Should the student fail the second exam they will be terminated from the program with no option of receiving a non-thesis MS degree.

### **PhD Fields Requirement**

Students will have knowledge of at least three of the four fields. Prior to admission to candidacy will be evaluated in their fields by a written exam administered by the supervisory committee. The structure of the field exam is determined by the student's committee.

- 1) **Agribusiness:** Agribusiness Theory, One course from Management, Marketing or Finance in The Warrington College of Business
- 2) **Agricultural Economics:** Applied Consumption, Production
- 3) **Development:** Economic Development, Labor Economics
- 4) **Natural Resource/Environmental Economics:** Environmental Economics, Natural Resource Economics

## Layout of PhD Field Courses & PhD Core Year 2

Fall 2011 to summer 2015

Term	Agbus	Ag Econ	Dev	NR/EE	Core Yr 2
Fall '11		Production	Labor Econ	Nat Res Econ	Dynamic Econ
Spring '12		Consumption			Welfare Econ
Sum '12					Adv Econometrics & PhD Workshop
Fall '12	Agribusiness Theory		Economic Development		Computational Economics
Spring '13	Mgmt/Mkt/Finance in Coll of Business			Environmental Economics	Welfare Econ
Sum '13					Adv Econometrics & PhD Workshop
Fall '13		Production		Nat Res Econ	Dynamic Econ
Spring '14		Applied Consumption		Environmental Economics	Welfare Econ
Sum '14					Econometrics Seminar
Fall '14	Agribusiness Theory		Economic Development		Computational Economics
Spring '15	Mgmt/Mkt/Finance in Coll of Business		Labor Econ		Welfare Econ
Sum '15					Econometrics Seminar

### **Dissertation Proposal Seminar (also known as Admission to Candidacy)**

Admission to Candidacy refers to the stage of the degree when all courses are complete and the student is ready to commence research. A student is not a candidate for the PhD degree until granted Admission to Candidacy which requires approval from the Supervisory Committee, College Dean and Dean of the Graduate School. Approval is based on the student's academic record, overall fitness for candidacy and approval of topic as judged by the committee during the student's dissertation proposal seminar. Doctoral students are required to present their dissertation proposal seminar no later than the end of their third year in the program. This proposal seminar must be announced at least w week in advance by sending an email with the pertinent information (abstract, time/date/location) to the Graduate Program Office. Students should contact Ed Howard at 392-1826 ext. 318 a week in advance of the seminar, to request his assistance in setting up the electronic equipment in the conference room. Students may reserve the 1151 conference room through the business office in 1170 McCarty Hall. Students must be registered for AEB 7979 during the semester in which they are admitted to candidacy.

### **Final Examination/Dissertation Defense**

After submitting the dissertation and completing all other work prescribed for the degree (but no earlier than the term before the degree is awarded) the candidate is given a final examination by the supervisory committee. The format of this exam may be oral, written, or both and is determined by the committee. The candidate and the supervisory committee chair or co-chair must be present together at the same location. All other supervisory committee members may attend the defense remotely. All forms should be signed at the defense: the candidate and the supervisory committee chair sign the ETD Publishing Agreement form; and the entire supervisory committee should sign the ETD Signature Page and the Final Examination Report. If changes are requested, the supervisory committee chair may hold the ETD Signature Page until satisfied with the dissertation. The presentation should take no more than the first 30 minutes (20 minute presentation and 10 minutes for discussion) of the scheduled time, after which the defense typically continues with only the student and his/her supervisory committee. Information on format may be obtained from the web at: <http://gradschool.rgp.ufl.edu/editorial/introduction.html>.

### **Clearing prior**

Clearing prior is a possibility only for Dissertation students who have met all published deadlines for the current term except Final Clearance from the Graduate Editorial Office. No other students are eligible. Clear Prior permits students to be exempt from registration for the term in which the degree will be awarded. A student requesting to clear prior must meet ALL of the following criteria:

1. Student submits a degree application for the current term within the published deadlines
2. Student has appropriately satisfied the current term registration.
3. Student meets the current term first submission deadlines for the thesis or dissertation, as Confirmed by the Editorial Office via a confirmation e-mail to the student and committee chair.
4. Student meets all other degree and administrative requirements within the published deadlines for the current term.
5. Student is in the process of finalizing the thesis or dissertation with the Graduate School Editorial Office. .
6. Student files Graduation Date Change Form at the Registrar's Office by the last day of classes of the current term.

## Registration

Students enrolled at the University of Florida may pre-register for the next semester, register during the regular registration period, or register late during the drop/add period. To avoid late charges, register and pay fees on time. There is a \$100 charge each for late registration and late payment of fees. Students register and pay fees through ISIS (Integrated Student Information System) at [www.isis.ufl.edu](http://www.isis.ufl.edu). A Gatorlink username is required to use the ISIS system.

## Schedule Adjustment (drop/add)

Drop/Add is done online through ISIS during the first five days of class in fall/spring and the first 3 days of class in summer. 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 any time in the semester. Students become financially liable for course(s) dropped after the ISIS deadline.

Once the ISIS drop/add period is over, students must complete a drop/add petition available in the FRED graduate office. Dropped courses by petition result in a “W” on the transcript. The process to drop via petition is:

- 1) Visit the Graduate Program Office for the necessary form
- 2) Take the form to the CALS Dean’s office in 2002 McCarty Hall (international students must have approval from UFIC first)

## Electives

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 undergraduate coursework (3000/4000 level only) towards the degree requirement but may not take the courses within the department.

## Hold

Holds are placed on student’s records for any outstanding tuition/fees/fines owed to any department at UF. Outstanding balances 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

A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required within the major to graduate. The only passing grades for graduate students are A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C and S. C+ and C grades count toward a graduate degree if an equal number of credits in courses numbered 5000 or higher have been earned with grades of B+ and A, respectively. Grades of I (incomplete) received during the preceding term should be removed as soon as possible. Grades of I carry no quality points and become punitive after one term. All incomplete grades must be removed before a graduate degree can be awarded. Current term grades are normally due by noon on the Monday after Commencement. Students can view their grades on ISIS after noon on the following day. Before a student will be certified to graduate, all incomplete grades must be cleared by the Monday prior to commencement.

**S/U Option**

Courses (except Research) which are to be applied to the degree may not be taken as S/U.

**Tuition/Fees**

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. The latest tuition/fee schedule can be found at this link: <http://fa.ufl.edu/ufs/cashiers/feecalc.asp>. Graduate Assistants see the section on Graduate Assistantships for tuition/fee calculation.

**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.

## **Graduate Assistants**

As a graduate assistant you have the opportunity to be actively involved in the research process under the supervision of a professor in an area that is of interest to you. This experience will give you the opportunity to develop essential skills for the types of research-related activities you are likely to engage in as a professional once employed. It is, therefore, an excellent hands-on learning opportunity and an important part of your professional development. As a graduate assistant, you could also provide essential teaching support in undergraduate courses offered through the department and/or College of Agricultural & Life Sciences. In addition to research and teaching assistance, students also have the opportunity to work with professional development in extension education.

Due to budget constraints, state-funded graduate assistantships are generally limited to PhD students. Students who are seeking funding are encouraged to talk to FRED faculty members about current projects and the possibility of writing grant proposals to fund an assistantship.

The graduate assistantship includes an annual stipend, tuition waiver, and health insurance. A number of the assistantships appointed in FRED are partially funded by funds from the CALS Dean's office. The College requires that students on this funding be required to serve as teaching assistants during the course of their program. Generally when assigning graduate assistants to teaching, the Graduate program takes into consideration what year the student is in and their workload.

PhD students admitted fall 2010 and later are required to be admitted to candidacy by the end of the summer of their third year in the program. Failure to do this will result in one semester of probation (the student will remain on funding) during which time the student must be admitted to candidacy. If this does not happen, the assistantship will be terminated at the end of the probation term.

## **Registration requirements**

Students on fellowship must be registered for 9 hours in fall/spring and 6 hours in summer.

## **Lecturing responsibilities**

Students on research assistantships making satisfactory progress on their research are expected to be funded for a period of four years (if funds are available). They are expected to lecture one undergraduate course in the department at least one semester during their program. Generally this will take place in the third or fourth year.

## **Assistantship tuition waivers**

Graduate Assistants receive tuition waivers meaning only the portion on the fee calculation site marked as "tuition". Graduate Assistants are responsible for paying the "fees" portion only. Tuition waivers generally process the second week of the semester. Graduate assistant fee payments are deferred until mid-semester. Students who do not pay their fees by the deferral date will be assessed a \$100 late payment fee. US residents receiving federal financial aid in the form of student loans should take note that effective August 2011 the University Financial Aid office will be deducting the tuition waiver cost from the student's loan in the first week of the semester. Once fee waivers run in week #2, the student will receive the money which was taken out of their loan. The fee calculation site is at <http://www.fa.ufl.edu/ufs/cashiers/feecalc.asp>.

### **Graduate Assistant Leaves of Absence**

A graduate assistant is entitled to a leave of absence under the following circumstances:

- He or she is disabled or otherwise unable to perform assigned duties because of injury, illness, jury duty, or required U.S. military service, or when his or her presence is required elsewhere because of injury, illness, or death in the immediate family.
- The university is closed for a state holiday or declared emergency, unless the conditions of the appointment require the employee to perform duties at these times.
- He or she is taking examinations for professional licensing related to the degree, or qualifying examinations are required by the university.
- He or she is traveling to conferences or other special events for professional development.

Personal time is paid up to five days per semester appointment, which is credited at the beginning of each semester. This leave may not be used in less than one-day increments, and leave is not cumulative from semester to semester. For more information, please refer to Article 10 of the [GAU contract](#). Requests for leaves of absence should be made in writing (email) to the student's committee chair or the Graduate Coordinator if no committee chair is appointed.

### **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 modest support from the Legislature in the form of tuition waiver.

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>

### **GatorGradCare Health Insurance**

GatorGradCare is an injury and sickness insurance plan underwritten by the BlueCross BlueShield of Florida and created specifically for students on appointment as Graduate Assistants and Pre-Doctoral Fellows. Students can find all the necessary information at <http://www.hr.ufl.edu/benefits/gatorgradcare/bcbs.asp>

### [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.

### [UF Counseling and Wellness 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.

### [Career Resource Center](#)

The Career Resource Center (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.

### **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.

### [Transportation and Parking](#)

RTS provides free bus service to students/spouses. 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 an 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 University Bookstore on the south side of the Reitz Union (facing Museum Road).

### **Email and Gatorlink username**

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

### **Photocopies & Printing**

Copy services are available at the [Reitz Union](#) for UF students. Teaching Assistants copying materials for the course instructor may use the FRED copier and their faculty supervisor's UFID (with permission). For a small fee of \$15 per semester, graduate students have unlimited access to printing in the Prochaska & Byrne rooms and individual student offices. Fees are due in the first few weeks of each semester. Checks/money orders should be made payable to *FRE Graduate Student Organization*. GSO's treasurer deposits the funds into the GSO bank account. Graduate Students benefit directly from these fees as they fund travel grants and social events hosted by GSO.

**Useful links for students**

**[Food and Resource Economics Department](#)**

**[College of Agricultural and Life Sciences](#)**

**[UF Graduate School](#)**

**[Graduate Catalog](#)**

**[Graduate School Deadlines](#)**

**[Registrar Course Schedules & University Deadlines](#)**

**[UF Commencement Information/Schedule](#)**

**[Your student record](#)**

**[UF Financial Affairs](#)**

**[UF Editorial site for thesis/dissertation submission](#)**

**[UF International Center](#)**

**[GatorGradCare health insurance](#)**

### **Departmental Directory**

Phone: 352-392-1826

Fax: 352-846-0988

Postal address: Your Name & Dept Name, Box 110240, Gainesville, FL 32611-0240

UPS/Fedex Address: Your name & Dept Name, 1170 McCarty Hall, Gainesville, FL 32611

### **Office of the Chair**

[Jo Ann Davis](#), Administrative Coordinator, 1163 McCarty Hall, ext. 401

*Right hand to the chair, manages the fiscal, IT and business operations of the department*

[Ray Huffaker](#), Department Chair, 1167 McCarty Hall, ext. 204

[Rod Clouser](#), Assistant Chair, 1091 McCarty Hall, ext. 303

### **Business Office**

[Tina Craig](#), Accountant, 1170 McCarty Hall, ext 201

*Manages departmental accounts, payroll, grants, etc*

[Melanie Carter](#), 1170 McCarty Hall, ext. 203

*OPS Hires, Manages Keys, Asset Management/Inventory, Travel, PCard*

### **Graduate Program**

[Jessica Herman](#), Program Assistant/Coordinator of Student Services, 1157 McCarty Hall, ext. 200

*Manages the functions and logistics of the graduate program student services.*

[Mike Gunderson](#), Coordinator, Agribusiness Graduate Program, 1161 McCarty Hall, ext. 301

### **Undergraduate Program**

[Rick Weldon](#), Undergraduate Coordinator, 1189 McCarty Hall, ext 216

[Kathy Green](#), Program Assistant/Coordinator of Student Services, 1197 McCarty Hall, ext 210

### **IT/Computer Support**

[Ed Howard](#), IT Specialist G112 McCarty Hall, ext. 319

[Matt Nash](#), IT Specialist, G112 McCarty Hall, ext. 318

## **Faculty**

### **Chuck Adams**

Marine Economics

### **Tatiana Borisova**

Water Economics, Policy

### **Jane Bachelor**

Lecturer, Undergrad courses in Sales, Marketing, Human Resources, Entrepreneurship, and Computer Skills

### **Jeff Burkhardt**

Ethics and Policy

### **Jennifer Clark**

Lecturer, Undergraduate Courses in Quantitative Methods, Human Resource Management, Computer Applications, Data Analysis

### **Rod Clouser**

Public Policy -- Local Government Issues, Public Finance, Land Use, Growth Management, Community & Rural Economic Development

### **Carmen Diana Deere**

Latin American Agricultural Development; Land Policy; Gender and Development; Distribution of Wealth

### **Edward "Gilly" Evans**

International Trade and Development, Policy Analysis, Commodity Research, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Issues, Pest Risk Analysis

### **Zhifeng Gao**

Market Research, Applied Econometrics, Quantitative Methods

### **Kelly Grogan**

Environmental/Resource Economics, Development Economics, Economics of Sustainable Agriculture

### **Michael Gunderson**

Agribusiness, Finance

### **Sonam Gupta**

Environmental and Labor Economics, Applied Econometrics, Economic History, Agribusiness

**Alan Hodges**

Regional economic impact analysis, market survey research, environmental horticulture, bioenergy, agricultural statistics

**Lisa House**

Agribusiness marketing and management, Consumer tastes and preferences

**Ray Huffaker**

Natural resource economics, Bioeconomic modeling, economic dynamics, natural resource law

**Hayk Khackatryan**

Horticultural Economics, Transport Economics, Applied Spatial Economics, GIS Applications in Consumer Economics and Marketing

**Sherry Larkin**

Marine resource economics, fisheries management, seafood marketing, Bioeconomic modeling, survey research

**Robert Allen Morris**

Economic Analysis of Citrus Greening, Canker and other external factors affecting Florida's citrus industry

**Chuck Moss**

Agricultural finance, production economics, agricultural policy, new institutional economics, optimization, econometric methods

**Mike Olexa**

Agricultural and Natural Resource Law

**Laila Racevskis**

Nonmarket valuation of ecosystem services, land use economics and policy, human dimensions of natural resource management

**Fritz Roka**

Citrus Mechanical Harvesting, Citrus Production

**Mike Sandberg**

Lecturer, Undergraduate Courses: Principles of Food and Resource Economics, Macroeconomics, Price Analysis,

**Andy Schmitz**

International Trade, Industrial Organization, Marketing, Policy

**Jim Seale**

Econometrics

**Tom Spreen**

Marketing and trade of horticultural products

**James Sterns**

Product Differentiation in Ag and Food Products, Strategic Management, Structure/Performance of Agricultural Markets, Institutional Economics, Entrepreneurship and development.

**Pilar Useche**

Development Economics

**Diego Valderrama**

Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, Economic Analysis of Coastal Resource Issues

**John Vansickle**

Marketing, International Trade, Policy Analysis, Horticulture/Vegetable/Citrus Marketing

**Rick Weldon**

Agribusiness Finance and Risk Management

**Al Wysocki**

Sales, Marketing, Human Resource Management, Food Distribution and Retailing, Strategic Planning, Community Development

**GSO Officers 2011-2012**

*President:* Serhat Asci, [sasci@ufl.edu](mailto:sasci@ufl.edu)

*Vice President of Academic Affairs:* Jing Xie, [jxie@ufl.edu](mailto:jxie@ufl.edu)

*Vice President of Social Affairs:* Trent Blare, [tblare@ufl.edu](mailto:tblare@ufl.edu)

*Vice President of Communications:* Prithviraj Lakkakula, [plakkaku@ufl.edu](mailto:plakkaku@ufl.edu)

*Treasurer:* Mohamed Traboulsi, [Traboulsi@ufl.edu](mailto:Traboulsi@ufl.edu)

**VII. Course Listings 2011-2012 (these course descriptions are more detailed than what is listed in the catalog.)**

**[AEB 5167 Econ 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.

**[AEB 5188 Economics of Agribusiness Decisions \(3\)](#)**

Comprehensive treatment of microeconomic theory and its use in managerial decision making. Fundamental economic concepts of the business firm and its strategic and operating decisions are developed. Students learn to develop strategic skills and vision in analyzing and understanding the process of entrepreneurship and value creation. Emphasis placed on economic principles underlying the identification of market opportunities, creation of appropriate organizational structures and competitive dynamics of markets.

**[AEB 5326 Agribusiness Financial Management \(3\)](#)**

Integration of finance and management decision-making tools to solve advanced financial and other management problems faced by agricultural firms and agribusinesses.

**[AEB 5516 Quant. Methods in Agribusiness Decisions \(3\)](#)**

Introduction to variety of quantitative methods with application to business decision-making contexts. Topics include basic quality control analysis, econometric analysis and business forecasting. Emphasis on correct application of methodologies and the use of Microsoft Excel.

**[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 \(3\)](#)**

To help students further their development and understanding of microeconomic theory. This is accomplished by stressing the mathematical structure of microeconomics and by including intuitive explanations of principle results.

**[AEB 6108 Microeconomic Theory II \(3\)](#)**

Second course in a sequence of graduate microeconomic theory. Focuses on advanced topics in microeconomic theory in the light of contemporary thought. Attention given to general equilibrium theory and applications, welfare economics and economics of choice under uncertainty. Special topics such as models under market power will be introduced. 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 6145 Agricultural Finance \(3\)](#)

Advanced agricultural finance concepts. Of particular concern will be finance theories applied to production agriculture decisions including portfolio analysis, the capital asset pricing model, net present value decisions, and risk analysis.

### [AEB 6182 Ag Risk Analysis/Decision Making \(3\)](#)

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. Objectives are to improve the student's understanding of the methodology of making decisions, improve the student's understanding of risk management and the analysis of risk management tools, locate and use data and information from various sources to use in risk analysis and management, and understand and apply basic computer and mathematical decision-making aids to firm level problems and decisions.

### [AEB 6225 Public Policy and the Agribusiness Firm \(3\)](#)

This course focuses on understanding the policy-development process and analyzing domestic and international policies and their influence on the decisions and success of agribusiness firms. Emphasis will be placed on developing a policy perspective and an understanding of the significance of policy dynamics. Various policy environments, drivers, mechanisms and processes will be analyzed. The economic and political forces underlying policy formation and change will be examined. The impact of current policies and policy issues on agribusiness firms, the relationship between policy signals and firm decisions, and the avenues for influencing the policy process will be explored. Policies considered include those associated with domestic agricultural price and income support, international trade, competition, the environment, food safety, biotechnology, country-of-origin labeling, traceability, economic development, agro-terrorism and globalization. U.S. policies are compared with those which influence agribusinesses in other countries.

### [AEB 6240 Macroeconomic Theory in Open Economies II \(3\)](#)

Essential elements of macroeconomic theory **Error! Bookmark not defined.** and policy in world of interdependent nations. Enables students to read and comprehend current economic literature in the area of open macroeconomics and to give students the necessary foundation to continue self-study and begin research.

### [AEB 6301 Food Wholesale and Retail Marketing \(3\)](#)

Wholesale and retail issues that exist both in U.S. and world markets. Designed to give students the opportunity to participate in open discussion forums led by the instructor and industry leaders. Each class period will pertain to issues varying from brand management, supermarket category management, market research and other issues as presented in food industry literature.

### **AEB 6385 Management Strategies for Agribusiness Firms (3)**

Planning, organizing, implementing, and evaluating the agribusiness management functions of strategic planning, finance, marketing, and personnel. Designed to help students synthesize across their formal and informal learning of the general principles of marketing, finance, accounting and human resource management. Helps the student transition from graduate student to working professional, from a focus on class content to a focus on problem solving in the working world. The successful student will be able to assess situations, analyze problem settings, choose wisely, defend choices, and persuade successfully. Course represents the theory and practical application of strategic management concepts as a template to learn and guide the development of this basic skill set.

### **AEB 6453 Natural Resource Economics (3)**

This course is a graduate level class on economic theory and topics related to the field of Natural Resource and Environmental Economics. The objective of the class is to provide the student with a thorough understanding of the issues and methodological approaches to research in Natural Resource and Environmental Economics. This knowledge will be acquired through lectures discussions and a critical review of the literature. It is hoped that the class will generate dissertation topics or further along development of dissertations already in progress.

### **AEB 6553 Elements of Econometrics (3)**

First year graduate course in designed to help students understand and apply an econometric approach to problem solving. Major emphasis is placed on applications of methods to economic problems in economics and related fields. Econometric problem solving and determining quantitative relationships among economic variables in agriculture and related industries. Students will learn to apply econometric tools to modeling, estimation, inference and forecasting in the context of real world problems, use related econometric software to estimate econometric models, evaluate and interpret the results and conclusion of econometric models and build up their foundation for advanced econometrics courses

### **AEB 6571 Econometric Methods I (3)**

Introduces students to current econometric methods and underlying econometric theory in preparation for empirical research. Least squares procedures are studied, including hypothesis testing, limitations of the standard linear model and alternative estimation approaches. Consideration also given to nonlinear models, maximum likelihood methods, simultaneous equation models and limited dependent variable models.

### **AEB 6572 Econometric Methods II (3)**

Thorough introduction to the basic techniques in modern econometrics. Focuses on both theoretical and empirical applications. Topics in econometrics including single equation and multiple equation linear and nonlinear models.

### **[AEB 6645 Economic Development and Agriculture \(3\)](#)**

Relation of human, capital, and natural resources, technology, and institutions to income growth and distribution. Development strategies in low-income countries. The course begins by looking at issues in the measurement of poverty, inequality, and vulnerability. These concepts are, arguably, the basis of all development economics and so deserve proper attention. Casual observation—as well as some systematic econometric work— suggests that inequality may affect poverty and economic growth. Interestingly, the idea that economic performance might be sensitive to the distribution of endowments goes back to old theory of agrarian economy. The Russian economist A.V. Chayanov argued (early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century) that farm households with distinct endowments of productive resources would use those resources in different proportions, with different factor productivities.

### **[AEB 6675 International Agribusiness Marketing \(3\)](#)**

Principles, trends, issues, barriers, policies, strategies, and decisions involved in international marketing, with emphasis on perishable and storable agricultural commodities and food products. Combines firm-level agribusiness marketing concepts with strategic international agribusiness marketing and export applications. Includes development and presentation of an international agribusiness marketing plan.

### **[AEB 6817 Survey Research Methods for Economists \(3\)](#)**

This course introduces students to the history, theories, and methods of survey research. The course focuses on the design, development, execution, and analysis of surveys and related research methods. In particular, survey sampling, question construction, questionnaire design, interviewing techniques, survey data analysis, and research ethics will be covered. Multiple survey modes – in-person, mail, internet, and telephone – will be included. Additionally, focus groups and sensory evaluation data collection methods will be covered.

### **AEB 6921 PhD Workshop I (1)**

PhD students will be exposed to research topics and faculty research within the department.

### **AEB 6934: PhD Workshop II (1)**

Original Proposition Paper

### **[AEB 6933 MAB Project Seminar](#)**

#### **AEB 6933 Dynamic Economics (2)**

Investigation of the application of nonlinear time series analysis (NLTS) to economic and biophysical data. NLTS aids investigators in detecting and characterizing deterministic structure in observed time series data. This information is useful to construct models whose simulated dynamics match the complexity of real-world data. NLTS includes *phase-space reconstruction* and *surrogate data techniques*.

**AEB 6933 Advanced Econometrics (3)**

Exposes students to a number of different econometric modeling techniques and provides guidance on the econometric part of research projects for graduate students in the reading and writing stages of the dissertation. The goal of the course is to improve the quality of graduate student research and help students make the transition from graduate students to active academic members of the profession. The course will expose 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. For each of the topics to be covered, the instructor will first make presentations on the basic concepts underlying each method. After that, students will present papers related to the methods. Each and every student will be expected to read the assigned papers before class and actively participate in the discussions in class.

**AEB 6933 Computational Economics (3)**

Description not available at this time

**AEB 6933 Labor Economics (3)**

The course covers recent developments in the field of environmental economics, which include microeconomic analysis of several issues such as open access, common pool resources, public goods and externalities. Specifically, in the presence of these issues various market distortions arise. At the same time, there are various practical ways, market instruments and environmental management and policies to correct these market distortions.

**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 6942 Adv App in Agribusiness Experience \(3\)](#)**

MSAB present paper detailing the internship experience.

**AEB 6971 Masters Research (S/U)**

MS thesis research

**AEB 7979 Advanced Research (S/U)**

PhD research for students not yet admitted to candidacy

**AEB 7980 Doctoral Research (S/U)**

PhD research for students admitted to candidacy

**Courses required in the program but taught outside the department:****[ECO 7115 Microeconomic Theory](#)**

This course develops and applies techniques of optimization to economics. Solving non-linear programming problems using Kuhn-Tucker conditions, the envelope theorem, comparative statics analysis for optimization problems, and duality theory are covered. These are applied to modeling optimizing behavior of consumers and producers. In addition to basic optimization, preferences and revealed preference theory, consumer surplus, and aggregation are also studied.

**[ECO 7404 Game Theory for Economists \(1\)](#)**

Introduction to modern game theory as used in economics. The goal is to prepare students to read literature using game theory and to use the techniques in simple applications.

**[ECO 7408 Mathematical Methods and Applications to Economics \(2\)](#)**

This is a half-semester course for students taking first-year Ph.D. courses in the theory and econometrics sequences offered by the Department of Economics. It is expected that students have had calculus through partial derivatives (or the summer math refresher course) prior to taking this course. Most of this course will cover elements of linear algebra needed for constrained optimization in microeconomics and for regression analysis in econometrics. The focus of the rest of the course will be an introduction to differential equations.

**[STA 6126 Statistical Methods in Social Research I \(3\)](#)**

Statistical methods commonly used in the social sciences. There is no prerequisite. The first half of the course introduces descriptive statistics and inferential methods (confidence intervals and significance tests). The second half introduces bivariate methods (e.g., contingency table analysis, regression) and ends with an introduction to multiple regressions.

### **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.

The Graduate Catalog governs your study. Students and departments are bound by the regulations of the Graduate Catalog and information in it supersedes any information found in this handbook. Questions about information in this handbook, the Graduate Catalog of your program of study should be directed to the Graduate Program Office.

### **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>

## **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.

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.

## **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 students' respect for confidentiality far more than any quantity of rules, handbooks, or guidelines.

## **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.