

ABIZ.3510, Economics of Food Policy
Department of Agribusiness & Agricultural Economics
University of Manitoba
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:15am, via Webex
Winter 2022

Professor: Ryan Cardwell
Office: meetings via Webex
Telephone: 204-474-9609

Teaching Assistant: Shania Miralda

Email: all email communication is to be conducted through the UM Learn course Email tool. Messages will be answered within two business days. Email messages sent to the Professor's U of Manitoba email address **will not** receive responses.

All course-related email correspondence will be sent to the address on file with UM Learn.

Course-related materials will be posted to the course webpage (**not on UM Learn**) at <https://ryancardwell.wordpress.com/teaching/abiz-3510-economics-of-food-policy/>. I do not post lecture notes. You are responsible for getting missed notes from a classmate.

Office Hours: All meetings will be conducted electronically via Webex. Please contact me via UM Learn to set an appointment.

Course Objectives:

The objective of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the motivations for food and agricultural policies, the policy tools that governments use to pursue policy goals, and the economic effects of these policy tools. The material will be taught at a level suited for policy analysis in the employ of government and business. All students are expected to have solid backgrounds in microeconomic theory (at the level of ECON.2010).

The first part of the course introduces motivations for food and agricultural policies and presents the policy tools that can be used to meet policy goals. We will also spend time reviewing the economic theory, and introducing some new tools, required to analyse the effects of policy interventions. The second part of the course provides details on specific policies, with emphasis on Canadian food and agricultural policies, and on international trade agreements and regulations.

Specific programmes such as AgriInvest and AgriStability are discussed, however the primary goal of this course is **not** to memorise the details of specific government policies. Government policies invariably change every few years, so knowledge of a specific programme is useful only for limited period of time. This course is intended to **provide students with the economic tools to understand and analyse current and future food and agricultural policies**. This is an applied economics course - there will be a heavy emphasis on the use of economic theory.

Evaluation:

Midterm Examination #1	10%
Midterm Examination #2	15%
Assignments	2 × 5% = 10%
Group project	25%
Final Examination	40%

Reading Material:

There are two suggested textbooks, and several supplemental materials which will be used throughout the term. Students can purchase suggested textbooks from the University bookstore, and there will be at least one copy of each on reserve in the William R. Newman (Agriculture) Library. Other materials will be available online.

The suggested texts are:

Schmitz, A., C. Moss, T.G. Schmitz, H. Furtan and H.C. Schmitz, 2010, *Agricultural Policy, Agribusiness and Rent-Seeking Behaviour, Second Edition*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

* this text is referred to as **Schmitz *et al.*** throughout the rest of the syllabus.

van Kooten, G. C. (2021). *Applied Welfare Economics, Trade, and Agricultural Policy Analysis*. University of Toronto Press.

* this text is referred to as **van Kooten** throughout the rest of the syllabus.

Other materials include:

An Overview of the Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food System, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, November 2017.

Cardwell, R. C. Lawley and D. Xiang. 2015. "Milked and Feathered: The Regressive Welfare Effects of Canada's Supply Management Regime." *Canadian Public Policy*. 41(1): 1-14.

Carter, C. A., & Mérel, P. (2016). Hidden costs of supply management in a small market. *Canadian Journal of Economics*, 49(2), 555-588.

Naylor, J., Deaton, B. J., & Ker, A. (2020). Assessing the effect of food retail subsidies on the price of food in remote Indigenous communities in Canada. *Food Policy*, 93, 101889.

Reed, M.R. 2016. *International Trade in Agricultural Products*.

Schmitz, A. 2008. "Canadian Agricultural Programs and Policies in Transition", *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics* Volume 56, p. 371-391.

Schmitz, A. and T. Schmitz. 2010. "Benefit-Cost Analysis - Distributional Considerations Under Producer Quota Buyouts." *Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis* 1(1).

Outline of Topics:

1. Agriculture and Agribusiness in Canada

Readings:

An Overview of the Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food System 2017, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

2. What is policy analysis?

Readings:

Schmitz *et al.*, chapters 1 and 2.

Worthwhile Canadian Initiative blog entry January 31, 2011. Available online at

http://worthwhile.typepad.com/worthwhile_canadian_initi/2011/01/evaluation-1.html.

3. Economic Tools for Policy Analysis

Readings:

Schmitz *et al.*, Chapter 3.

4. Stabilisation and Insurance

Readings:

Naylor *et al.* (2020)

Schmitz *et al.*, Chapters 3 and 8.

van Kooten, Chapter 9.

5. Supply Management

Readings:

Schmitz and Schmitz (2010).

Cardwell, *et al.* (2015).

Carter and Merel (2016).

6. Environment

Readings:

van Kooten, Chapter 3

Schmitz *et al.*, Chapter 13.

7. International Trade: Theory and Policies

Readings:

Schmitz *et al.*, Chapter 9.

van Kooten, Chapter 4.

Reed, Chapters 2,3,4.

8. International Trade: Institutions and Agreements

Readings:

van Kooten, Chapter 5.

Reed, Chapters 6,7.

9. Canadian Food and Agricultural Policy and Policy History

Readings:

Schmitz *et al.*, Chapter 6.

Schmitz (2008).

van Kooten, Chapter 7.

10. Food and Agricultural Policy in Foreign Countries

Readings:

Schmitz *et al.*, Chapters 5 and 7.

van Kooten, Chapters 7 & 8.

Important Dates (e.g., voluntary withdrawal date)

See the following website for important academic dates:

<http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/deadlines/index.html>.

Students will receive grades on their first midterm exam before the voluntary withdrawal deadline.

Academic Integrity and Other Unpleasantness

Extensions for assignments will not be granted without a medical certificate.

Assignments are subject to a penalty of 20% per day late. Missed examinations will be assigned a grade of 0 without a medical certificate (the certificate must be provided within seven days of the missed exam). In the event that a medical certificate is provided within seven days of the missed exam, the points allocated to that exam will be added to the weight of the final exam.

University policy prohibits plagiarism and cheating. Please consult The University's policies at:

http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/cheating_plagiarism_fraud.html

Lauren's Promise

I will listen and believe you if someone is threatening you.

Lauren McCluskey, a 21-year-old honours student athlete, was murdered on Oct. 22, 2018, on the University of Utah campus by a man she briefly dated. We must all take actions to ensure that this never happens again.

If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

On-Campus and Community Crisis Services

INCIDENT	WEEKDAYS	AFTER HOURS
Death or serious injury	Security Services 555 (from a university phone) or #555 on Rogers or MTS cellular (most efficient means to access Emergency 911 services)	
Suicide- imminent threat or attempt	Security Services 555 (from a university phone) or #555 on Rogers or MTS cellular (most efficient means to access Emergency 911 services)	
Suicide – thoughts or threat	Student Counselling Centre - 204-474-8592 ; University Health Service - 204-474-8411	Mobile Crisis Service – 204-940-1781 Klinik Crisis Line (24hrs) – 204-786-8686
Serious emotional distress	Student Counselling Centre 204-474-8592	Mobile Crisis Service – 204-940-1781 Klinik Crisis Line (24hrs) – 204-786-8686
Trauma debriefing	Student Counselling Centre – 204-474-8592	
Medical emergency	Security Services 555 (from a university phone) or #555 on Rogers or MTS cellular (most efficient means to access Emergency 911 services)	
Illness or injury (non urgent)	University Health Service - 204-474-8411	University Health Service – 204-474- 8411 (for students already receiving care from UHS); Health Links – 204-788-8200
<u>Sexual assault</u> (Contact services only at request of person assaulted)	Student Counselling Centre - 204-474-8592 ; University Health Service – 204-474-8411	Klinik sexual assault crisis line – 204-786-8631
Crime victim	Security Services – 204-474-9312 (duty officer) or 204-789-3330 (Bannatyne)	
Missing student	Security Services – 204-474-9312 (duty officer) or 204-789-3330 (Bannatyne)	
Extremely disruptive or threatening student	Security Services 555 (from a university phone) or #555 on Rogers or MTS cellular, if imminent threat; otherwise 204-474-9312 (Security Services duty officer) to request report to Student Threat Assessment Triage, Intervention, and Support (STATIS) team	
Emergency funding	Financial Aid and Awards – 204-474-9532 ; UMSU - 204-474-8678	

Community Members: individuals not affiliated with the University of Manitoba (e.g., parents) who are concerned about the well-being of a University of Manitoba student are encouraged to contact us via telephone at 204-474-8592. Our staff can provide one-time support, information, and referral information to assist you with your interactions with the student.