



AGEC 4233 Land and Resource Economics
Spring 2019

Instructor:	Dr. Noel M. Estwick
Section # and CRN:	24393 Section P01
Office Location:	Cooperative Agricultural Research Center (CARC). # 115
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Email Address:	nmestwick@pvamu.edu
Office Hours:	M: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM; W: 11:00 – Noon; other times by appointment.
Mode of Instruction:	Face-to-Face
Course Location:	Agriculture and Business Multipurpose Bldg. # 216
Class Days & Times:	Monday: 5:00 PM – 7:50 PM;
Catalog Description:	AGEC 4233 Land and Resource Economics: 3 semester hours. Analysis of the economic, political, and institutional forces involved in the control and use of land and natural resources. Emphasis on land as a factor of production in agriculture.
Prerequisites:	AGEC 1233 or ECON 2113
Co-requisites:	None
Required Texts:	Gilliland, C. E. 2012. Buying Rural Land in Texas, Texas A&M University Press.
Addition Reading:	Barlowe, R. 1986. Land Resource Economics, The Economics of Real Estate. 4 th Ed. Prentice-Hall. Chiras, Daniel, D. (2013). Environmental Science. 9 th Ed. Jones and Bartlett Learning

Student Learning Outcomes:

	Upon successful completion of this course, students will:	Program Learning Outcome # Alignment	Core Curriculum Outcome Alignment
1	Understand the basic economic, public policy and institutional concepts and how they impact decisions people make about land use	Goal 1: Mastery of Content	
2	Gain knowledge about potential problems and identify available resources with regards to purchasing rural land in Texas	Goal 1: Mastery of Content	
3	Appreciate the utility of Identify actors in the food system and the perspectives they bring to food systems planning and practice	Goal 1: Mastery of Content	
4	Develop a better understanding of the relationships that exists between the human economy and the natural world	Goal 1: Mastery of Content	

Major Course Requirements		
Instruments	Value (Points or Percentages)	Total
1) Three Major Exams	15 Each	45
2) Project	10	10
3) Homework	10	10
4) Class Participation/ Attendance	15	15
5) Final Exam	20	20
Total:		100

Grading Criteria and Conversion:

- A = 90-100 pts
- B = 80-89 pts
- C = 70-79 pts
- D = 60-69 pts
- F = 0-59 pts

Detailed Description of Major Assignments:	
This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course	
Assignment Title or Grade Requirement	Description
Exams	Written tests designed to measure knowledge of presented course material. You must provide your own scantron if they are required for exams
Class Project/Quizzes	Introduce students to data collection and research design skill sets. Short written assignments designed to supplement and reinforce course material
Homework	Written assignments designed to supplement and reinforce course material.
Class Participation	Daily attendance and participation in class discussions

Description of Major Class and Study Abroad Assignments

Study Abroad Field-based Experience in Costa Rica

Drs. Noel M. Estwick and Kwaku Addo, College of Agriculture & Human Sciences, Prairie View, TX.

Goal

Develop a Study Abroad Program to enhance the academic, professional and personal development of PVAMU students. The opportunity is open to all PVAMU students. Participants will engage in field-based research related activities at EARTH University in Limon Province and Puerto Viejo, Costa Rica. Students will also learn Agribusiness as it relates to the Cacao industry in Costa Rica.

Study Abroad Objectives

Students will:

- Learn about the field of land resource economics from an international perspective
- Compare and contrast land resource economics approaches in the USA to those in Costa Rica
- Understand how various land management approaches impact economic outcomes such as how governments pay for goods and services in agriculture and other industries

Participants

1. Faculty Leads: Dr. Noel M. Estwick, Instructor; Dr. Kwaku Addo, Associate Director for Academic Programs and Department Head and Dr. Renan Aguero, Director, Fabio Baudrit Agricultural Experiment Station, Universidad de Costa Rica.
2. PVAMU students enrolled in AGEC 4233

Dates

March 11 - 16, 2019

Description of Major Class and Study Abroad Activities

Activity	Description
Pre-Travel Research (for study abroad participants)	Readings and lecture to introduce students to agriculture in Costa Rica. Students will examine basemaps in order to gain understanding about the Costa Rican landscape
Pre-Travel Research (for all AGEC 4233 students)	All students will participate in characterization activities on part of the PVAMU Research Farm. These activities will provide students traveling to Costa Rica with experience with farm characterization and ensure that all students in the class acquire the associated land management knowledge and skills.
Study Abroad Trip	Students will travel to Costa Rica for one week to engage in activities at EARTH University and in Puerto Viejo. They will also participate in a reflection activity prior to leaving Costa Rica. This will allow the faculty leads to assess students study abroad experience
Documentation and Presentations	All students enrolled in AGEC 4233 will produce a report and make presentations at the end of the semester. Those who travelled to Costa Rica will deliver a presentation on their experience and those who did not travel will present on the farm characterization on the PVAMU Research Farm.

Course Procedures or Additional Instructor Policies**Submission of Assignments:**

Observe deadlines for submitting homework and assignments. Late submissions will result in a 3 points per day penalty and will not be accepted after 4 days. **ALL HOMEWORK WILL BE DUE BY MIDNIGHT ON THE THURSDAY OF THE WEEK IT IS ASSIGNED.**

Formatting Documents:

Microsoft Word is the standard word processing tool used at PVAMU. If you're using other word processors, be sure to use the "save as" tool and save the document in either the Microsoft Word, Rich-Text, or plain text format. **Only tests and in-class assignments may be handwritten. All other assignments must be typed in 11 or 12 point font.**

Exam Policy

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except under documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). Anyone caught cheating during an examination will get a **ZERO** for that examination. All exams will include a 5 point bonus question.

Taskstream

Taskstream is a tool that Prairie View A&M University uses for assessment purposes. At least one of your assignments is **REQUIRED** to be submitted as an "artifact," an item of coursework that serves as evidence that course objectives are met. More information will be provided during the semester, but for general information, you can visit Taskstream via the link in eCourses.

Semester Calendar	
Week One: Jan. 14th – 18th Topic Description Readings: Announcement(s): Add/Drop for all students	M: Introduction- Land Economics: A Study of Land and People Modeling the relationship between the economy and the environment.
Week Two: Jan. 21th – 25th Topic Description: Readings: Assignment(s):	M: No class, Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Week Three: Jan. 28th – Feb. 01th Topic Description Readings: Announcement(s): Jan. 30, 12 th Class Day	M: The Availability of Land for Economic Use Project Introduction Homework
Week Four: Feb. 04th – Feb. 08th Topic Description Readings: Announcement(s): Feb. 6, tuition deadline, 5:00 pm	M: Exam 1 – February 4- First hour of class Environmental Protection and Sustainability Project
Week Five: Feb. 11th – Feb. 15th Topic Description Readings: Announcement(s): 20 th class day	M: Population Pressure and the Demand for Land Homework due Project
Week Six: Feb. 18th – Feb. 22th Topic Description Readings: Assignment(s):	M: Stabilizing the Human Population: Strategies for Sustainability Project Homework-
Week Seven: Feb. 25th – Mar. 01th Topic Description Readings: Assignment(s):	M: Introduction- Buying Rural Land in Texas Project
Week Eight: Mar. 04th – Mar. 08th Topic Description Readings: Assignment(s):	M: Buying Rural Land in Texas continued Project Mid-Semester Exam- First hour of class Homework due
Week Nine: Mar. 11th – Mar. 15th Topic Description Readings: Assignment(s):	Spring Break <i>Study Abroad trip to Costa Rica</i>
Week Ten: Mar. 18th – Mar. 22rd Topic Description Readings: Assignment(s):	M: Location Factors Affecting Land Use Project
Week Eleven: Mar. 25th – Mar. 29th Topic Description Announcement(s): Mar. 27 th , last day to apply for spring graduation	M: Location Factors Affecting Land Use Homework
Week Twelve: Apr. 01th – Apr. 05th Topic Description Readings: Assignment(s):	M: Buying Rural Land in Texas continued Project

Week Thirteen: Apr. 08th – Apr. 12th Topic Description Readings: Assignment(s):	M: Buying Rural Land in Texas continued Project Exam 3 Homework due F: Good Friday- University Closed
Week Fourteen: Apr. 15th – Apr. 19th Topic Description Readings: Assignment(s):	M: Sustainable Economics: Economics and Challenges Facing Industrial Nations and Developing Nations Project /Class Assignment
Week Fifteen: Apr. 22rd – Apr. 26th Topic Description Readings: Assignment(s):	M: Law, Government and Society Project Presentations
Week Sixteen: Apr 29th – May 03nd Topic Description Readings: Assignment(s):	M: April 30, 2018- Final Exam Review May 01 – 07, 2018. Final Exam- will be given on Monday May 6 from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Student Support and Success

John B. Coleman Library

The library and its partners have as their mission to provide resources and instructional material in support of the evolving curriculum, as a partner in Prairie View A&M University's mission of teaching, research, and service and to support the University's core values of access and quality, diversity, leadership, relevance, and social responsibility through emphasis on ten key areas of service. It maintains library collections and access both on campus, online, and through local agreements to further the educational goals of students and faculty. <https://www.pvamu.edu/library/> Phone: 936-261-1500

The Learning Curve (Center for Academic Support)

The Learning Curve offers Tutoring via peer tutoring. The services include workshops (i.e., Save My Semester, Recalculate Your Route), seminars (i.e., Tools You Can Use: TI-84), group review sessions (i.e., College Algebra Topic Reviews, GRE Preparation), group study opportunities (i.e., TSIA, HESI, Study Break, Exam Cram), and test-taking strategies (How to take Notes, Study Buddy, 5 Day Study Guide). The Learning Curve is a nationally certified tutoring program through the National Tutoring Association. The peer tutors are trained and certified by the coordinator each semester. Location: J.B. Coleman Library Rm. 207F. Phone: 936-261-1561

The Center for the Oversight and Management of Personalized Academic Student Success (COMPASS)

The Center for the Oversight and Management of Personalized Academic Student Success (COMPASS) is designed to help Prairie View students in their second year and beyond navigate towards graduation by providing the following services: Academic Advisement, Targeted Tutorials for Personalized Learning, Campus-Wide Referrals, and Academic & Social Workshops. Location: J.B. Coleman Library Rm. 306. Phone: 936-261-1040

Writing Center

The Writing Center provides student consultants on all aspects of the writing process and a variety of writing assignments. Writing Center consultations assist students in such areas as prewriting, brainstorming, audience awareness, organization, research, and citation. Students taking on-line courses or courses at the Northwest Houston Center or College of Nursing may consult remotely or by email. Location: Hilliard Hall Rm. 121. Phone: 936-261-3724.

Student Counseling Services

The Student Counseling Services unit offers a range of services and programs to assist students in maximizing their potential for success: short-term individual, couples, and group counseling, as well as crisis intervention, outreach, consultation, and referral services. The staff is licensed by the State of Texas and provides assistance to students who are dealing with academic skills concerns, situational crises, adjustment problems, and emotional

difficulties. Information shared with the staff is treated confidentially and in accordance with Texas State Law. Location: Owens-Franklin Health Center Rm. 226. Phone: 936-261-3564

Testing

The Department of Testing administers College Board CLEP examinations, the HESI A2 for pre-nursing majors, LSAT for law school applicants and MPRE for second-year law students, the Experiential Learning Portfolio option, the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment, which determines college readiness in the state, and exam proctoring, among other service such as SAT and ACT for high school students. Location: Delco Rm. 141. Phone: 936-261-4286

Office of Diagnostic Testing and Disability Services

As a federally-mandated educational support unit, the Office of Disability Services serves as the repository for confidential disability files for faculty, staff, and students. For persons with a disability, the Office develops individualized ADA letters of request for accommodations. Other services include: learning style inventories, awareness workshops, accessibility pathways, webinars, computer laboratory with adapted hard and software, adapted furniture, proctoring of non-standardized test administrations, ASL interpreters, ALDs, digital recorders, livescribe, Kurtzweil, and a comprehensive referral network across campus and the broader community. Location: Evans Hall Rm. 317. Phone: 936-261-3585

Veteran Affairs

Veterans Services works with student veterans, current military and military dependents to support their transition to the college environment and continued persistence to graduation. The Office coordinates and certifies benefits for both the G.I. Bill and the Texas Hazlewood Act. Location: Evans Hall Rm. 323. Phone: 936-261-3563

Office for Student Engagement

The Office for Student Engagement delivers comprehensive programs and services designed to meet the co-curricular needs of students. The Office implements inclusive and accessible programs and services that enhance student development through exposure to and participation in diverse and relevant social, cultural, intellectual, recreational, community service, leadership development and campus governance. Location: Memorial Student Center Rm. 221. Phone: 936-261-1340

Career Services

Career Services supports students through professional development, career readiness, and placement and employment assistance. The Office provides one-on-one career coaching, interview preparation, resume and letter writing, and career exploration workshops and seminars. Services are provided for students at the Northwest Houston Center and College of Nursing in the Medical Center twice a month or on a requested basis. Distance Learning students are encouraged to visit the Career Services website for information regarding services provided. Location: Evans Hall Rm. 217. Phone: 936-261-3570

University Rules and Procedures

Disability Statement (Also See Student Handbook):

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in Evans Hall, Room 317, or call 936-261-3585/3.

Academic Misconduct (See Student Handbook):

You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with your Student Handbook, especially the section on academic misconduct. Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures.

Forms of Academic Dishonesty:

1. Cheating: deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not mastered; giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations.

2. Academic misconduct: tampering with grades or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of a scheduled test.
3. Fabrication: use of invented information or falsified research.
4. Plagiarism: unacknowledged quotation and/or paraphrase of someone else's words, ideas, or data as one's own in work submitted for credit. Failure to identify information or essays from the Internet and submitting them as one's own work also constitutes plagiarism.

Nonacademic Misconduct (See Student Handbook)

The university respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either (1) the instructor's ability to conduct the class, (2) the inability of other students to profit from the instructional program, or (3) campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Such incidents will be adjudicated by the Dean of Students under nonacademic procedures.

Sexual Misconduct (See Student Handbook):

Sexual harassment of students and employers at Prairie View A&M University is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the university community violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Title IX Statement

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) is committed to supporting students and complying with the Texas A&M University System non-discrimination policy. It seeks to establish an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you experience an incident of sex- or gender-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, sexual assault or attempted sexual assault, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, the faculty member must report the basic facts of your experience to Ms. Alexia Taylor, PVAMU's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you privacy or confidentiality, there are individuals who can meet with you. The Title IX Coordinator is designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies and can assist you with understanding your options and connect you with on- and off-campus resources. The Title IX Coordinator can be reached by phone at 936-261-2123 or in Suite 013 in the A.I. Thomas Administration Building.

Class Attendance Policy (See Catalog for Full Attendance Policy)

Prairie View A&M University requires regular class attendance. Attending all classes supports full academic development of each learner whether classes are taught with the instructor physically present or via distance learning technologies such as interactive video and/or internet.

Excessive absenteeism, whether excused or unexcused, may result in a student's course grade being reduced or in assignment of a grade of "F". Absences are accumulated beginning with the first day of class during regular semesters and summer terms. Each faculty member will include the University's attendance policy in each course syllabus.

Student Academic Appeals Process

Authority and responsibility for assigning grades to students rests with the faculty. However, in those instances where students believe that miscommunication, errors, or unfairness of any kind may have adversely affected the instructor's assessment of their academic performance, the student has a right to appeal by the procedure listed in the Undergraduate Catalog and by doing so within thirty days of receiving the grade or experiencing any other problematic academic event that prompted the complaint.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Minimum Recommended Hardware and Software:

- Intel PC or Laptop with Windows 7; Mac with OS X; Smartphone or Tablet with Wi-Fi
- High speed Internet access
- 8 GB Memory
- Hard drive with 320 GB storage space
- 15" monitor, 800x600, color or 16 bit

- Sound card w/speakers
- Microphone and recording software
- Keyboard & mouse
- Most current version of Google Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer or Firefox

Note: Be sure to enable Java & pop-ups in the Web browser preferences

Participants should have a basic proficiency of the following computer skills:

- Sending and receiving email
- A working knowledge of the Internet
- Proficiency in Microsoft Word (or a program convertible to Word)
- Proficiency in the Acrobat PDF Reader
- Basic knowledge of Windows or Mac O.S.

Netiquette (online etiquette):

Students are expected to participate in all discussions and virtual classroom chats (if organized) as directed. Students are to be respectful and courteous to others on discussions boards. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated.

Technical Support:

Students should go to <https://mypassword.pvamu.edu/> if they have password issues. The page will provide instructions for resetting passwords and contact information if login issues persist. For other technical questions regarding eCourses, call the Office of Distance Learning at 936-261-3283

Communication Expectations and Standards:

Emails or discussion postings will receive a response from the instructor, usually in less than 48 hours. Urgent emails should be marked as such. Check regularly for responses. The instructor will **ONLY** send email to PVAMU issued email addresses.

Discussion Requirement:

Online courses often require minimal to no face-to-face meetings. However, conversations about the readings, lectures, materials, and other aspects of the course can take place in a seminar fashion. This will be accomplished by the use of the discussion board. The exact use of discussion will be determined by the instructor.

It is strongly suggested that students type their discussion postings in a word processing application and save it to their PC or a removable drive before posting to the discussion board. This is important for two reasons: 1) If for some reason your discussion responses are lost in your online course, you will have another copy; 2) Grammatical errors can be greatly minimized by the use of the spell-and-grammar check functions in word processing applications. Once the post(s) have been typed and corrected in the word processing application, it/they should be copied and pasted to the discussion board.