

FOS 5732
Current Issues in Food Regulations (3 credits)
Spring 2021 (online)

Course Hours & Location:

T 5th Period (11:45 am to 12:35 pm) – discussion session: synchronous online*

This is 100% online course, combination of asynchronous and synchronous class. Lecture recordings will be posted through Canvas course page.

**Zoom meeting link for discussion session will be provided through the Canvas course page. For security reason, do NOT share zoom class link and password with others.*

Instructor:

Dr. Soohyoun (Soo) Ahn

Office: Room 104A, Bldg 120 – Newell Drive

E-mail: sahn82@ufl.edu

Phone: 352-294-3710

Office hours (Virtual): MW 9:30 to 10:30 am. All other times – by appointment only

Course Description:

This course will deal with regulations involving food wholesomeness, safety, sanitation, handling, processing, distribution, import and export, ingredients, misbranding, and labeling. This lecture course will also have discussions, case studies, and project concerning the governmental laws and regulations affecting the food industry.

As a graduate course, FOS 5732 also has a separate discussion section, which discuss current events in food regulations, food quality and safety issues, and related legal actions to learn how food regulations work to protect consumers and what the limitations of food regulations are.

You will find the course content from the course page

<https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/415363>).

Textbook:

There is NO required textbook for this course. However, two books will be used as primary references.

- Food Law and Regulation for Non-Lawyers – Marc Sanchez (Springer)
- Food Regulation – Law, Science, Policy, and Practice – Neal D. Fortin (Wiley Publication)

These books are recommended but not required. They will be available through Library course reserves. Additional supplemental articles and videos will be used in this course to enhance the learning of topics covered in class. These supplemental materials are available from each module page in Canvas course shell.

Course Format:

This is an 100% online course, in which the lectures are asynchronously delivered as recordings through canvas course page, and class meets for **live** synchronous discussion session. You will find the course content from the course page (<https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/415363>). The course is divided into 12 modules. Each week, students will get access to a new module page that contains materials for the given week. Each page consists of a link to video lectures, presentation slides and handouts, recommended reading materials, and additional supplementary materials (videos and/or readings) relevant to the module. In addition, students join in the live discussion session on Tue (5th period). The link for the discussion session will be provided through Canvas course page.

Course Objectives and Learning Goals:

After completing this course, students should be able to

1. Explain the US legal system and rulemaking process
2. Describe social background or landmark cases that led to the establishment of major US Food Laws and Regulations.
3. Distinguish the function and role of US government agencies that are responsible food regulations and enforcement
4. Describe the requirements of food labeling and nutrition labeling.
5. Explain when food product(s) can be deemed adulterated with examples
6. Compare major US food safety regulations and describe regulatory requirements under each food safety regulations.
7. Examine current issues in food regulations and assess the limitations of food regulations to solve identified issues.

Instruction Method:

All lectures are asynchronously delivered online with synchronous discussion session (Tue 5th period). Students are expected to find the course materials at the course webpage. The course is divided into 12 modules, including group discussion. Each week, students will get access to a new page that contains materials for the given week. Each page consists of a link to video lectures, presentation slides and handouts, recommended reading materials, and additional supplementary materials (videos and/or readings) relevant to the module.

The best way to study the course materials in each module is to begin with the learning goals. It will help you understand the important learning points for that specific module. Next, join the video lecture during the class time. I recommend to print out the presentation handout prior to the lecture and take notes while you join. Presentation slides is a simple summary of what is being explained in the lecture. Much more details are explained in the lecture, and it will be helpful to take notes while you watch the video.

Then, read the assigned reading materials or watch the videos that are posted as supplementary materials (if any). These materials will provide details and support the lecture, and expand your scope of learning. This course does not have a required textbook, but have recommended textbooks, which are electronically available through the course reserves.

Grading:

In-class exams (4)*	60 % (15% each)
Assignments (2)	25 %
Presentation**	15%
Total	100%

*In-class exam (~50 min, closed book exam) will each cover 1/4 of the course materials and be equally weighted. Detailed information on topics is shown below.

**Graduate students are expected to give at least 1 presentation on their topic of interest (with instructor's approval) during the semester. Detailed rubric will be provided by the instructor.

Grading scale:

Passing grade	A	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
Course Average %	90-100	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	<60

*Grading scale is based on rounded up average. There is no curb in this course.

Exam Details:

There are 4 exams in this course. Each exam covers multiple modules (but non-cumulative), and contains multiple choice, True/False, and short essay questions. They are open-note¹ exams, and will be **proctored by Honorlock**. All exams should be taken online via the Canvas course website. Exams will be open for 24 hrs, and should be taken during this time period. Each exam will be timed and, once you start the exam, should be completed in 60 min.

Honorlock will proctor your exams this semester. Honorlock is an online proctoring service that allows you to take your exam from the comfort of your home. You DO NOT need to create an account, download software or schedule an appointment in advance. Honorlock is available 24/7 and all that is needed is a computer, a working webcam, and a stable Internet connection.

To get started, you will need Google Chrome and to download the Honorlock Chrome Extension. You can download the extension at www.honorlock.com/extension/install. When you are ready to test, log into Canvas, go to your course, and click on your exam. Clicking "Launch Proctoring" will begin the Honorlock authentication process, where you will take a picture of yourself, show your ID, and complete a scan of your room. Honorlock will be recording your exam session by webcam as well as recording your screen. Honorlock also has an integrity algorithm that can detect search-engine use, so please do not attempt to search for answers, even if it's on a secondary device.

Honorlock support is available 24/7/365. If you encounter any issues, you may contact them by live chat, phone (844-243-2500), and/or email (support@honorlock.com).

Policy regarding make-up exam and late submission:

Each exam will be given as scheduled in course outline (see Tentative Course Outline). Students must take the exams on the day scheduled. Make-up exams will be allowed in case of emergencies or legitimate reasons (illness, family emergency). In those excusable circumstances, students should notify the instructor **PRIOR TO** the scheduled exam and provide proper proof afterwards (if applicable). All make-up exams must be taken **within two days of the scheduled exam** (so make-up by the following Thursday for Tuesday exams; make-up by the following Monday for Thursday exams).

¹You are allowed to use lecture notes, presentation slides, and textbook for the exams. However, all lecture materials need to be **pre-printed** in advance to the exam. Honorlock will prevent you from opening other tabs, windows, or applications during the exam so that you cannot look up the information from the computer during the exam.

All assignment and work must be completed and submitted by the designated due dates. Extension of due dates can be allowed in case of emergencies or legitimate reasons (see above). However, this should be discussed with the instructor **prior to the due**. Late submission of assignments and work will be still be accepted but with late penalty of 10% per day.

Course Communication

Important announcements related to the course will be made through Canvas under Announcements. This will also generate an email that will be delivered to your Gatorlink email. In this course, I mostly communicate with students via e-mail (the one on file with UF). So, if you use other e-mail accounts, please check your UF e-mail regularly or set-up forwarding on the UF system. While I do my best to reply to your emails as quickly as possible, please allow 48 hours to receive a reply.

Students will have multiple channels to communicate with instructors:

- E-mails (either direct emailing or through Canvas mail)
- Canvas course page - Q&A forum in Discussion
- Office Hours – Instructor will offer virtual office hours
- During the lecture, students can ask questions using “Chat” function in Zoom
- After the lecture, instructors will be available to take any questions

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions, and chats.

Technology requirements:

Students must use their Gatorlink email account for this course. Students are recommended to check their email account daily for the duration of the course. All students are required to have access to a computer with stable internet access, microphone, and webcam.

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-4357 - select option 2
- lss.at.ufl.edu

Online Security and Privacy Protection:

It is critical to protect your data and privacy. Since we use several online tools for this course (Canvas, Honorlock, Zoom), you should be mindful of protecting your own data.

- Do not share your personal information online.
- Do not share the password for zoom lectures (We don't want any stranger in our virtual classroom!)
- While we will not record all zoom discussion sessions, some sessions may be recorded for students to refer back and/or for students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited. but if there is any need to record the lecture, you will be notified so you could turn off your camera if you don't want to get recorded.

For information about the privacy policies of the tools used in this course, see the links below:

- Instructure (Canvas)
 - [Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Accessibility](#)
- Zoom
 - [Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Accessibility](#)
- Honorlock
 - [Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Accessibility](#)

Software Policy:

All faculty, staff, and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Academic Honesty:

Student Conduct Code and Student Honor Code from University of Florida will be enforced on the case of disruptive/endangering behavior and infringement of academic integrity, including plagiarism, cheating and prohibited collaboration or consultation. Any incident will be reported to Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution (SCCR). Details can be found at:

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

The Disability Resource Center provides services to students with physical, learning, sensory or psychological disabilities. Services include registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, and mediating any other issues. Disability Resource Center can be reached at 352-392-8565 or accessuf@ufsa.ufl.edu, and is located at 001 Reid Hall. Detailed information is available at: <https://disability.ufl.edu/>.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and then can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>

Campus Helping Resources:

On-campus resources are available for students having personal problems that interfere with their wellbeing and/or academic performances.

Health and Wellness:

- U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu/ to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit counseling.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit shcc.ufl.edu/.

- University Police Department: Visit <https://police.ufl.edu/> or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- UF Health Shands Emergency Room/Trauma Center: For immediate medical care, call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; <https://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center>.

Academic Resources

- E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail athelpdesk@ufl.edu.
- Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services; <https://career.ufl.edu/>.
- Library Support: various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources; <https://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>
- Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring; <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>
- Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers; <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>
- Student Complaints On-Campus: sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/ On-Line Students Complaints: <https://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/>

Tentative Course Outline²:

Week	Dates	Module/ /Assessment	Discussion on Tue (FOS 5732 only)
1	Jan 12	Course Introduction	Brief Introduction
	Jan 14	Module 1. History of Food Regulation	
2	Jan 19, 21	Module 1. History of Food Regulation	Course Introduction (Topic Discussion and Rubric Review)

²Circumstances may arise during the course that may prevent the instructor from fulfilling components of this syllabus; therefore, syllabus should be viewed as a guide and is subject to change. Students will be notified of any changes.

3	Jan 26, 28	Module 2. US legal System	Class Discussion (Instructor-led)
4	Feb 2, 4	Module 3. Overview of US Government Agencies	Presentation 1
5	Feb 9 Feb 11	Module 3. Overview of US Government Agencies Exam 1	
6	Feb 16 Feb 18	Module 4. Introduction to FD&CA Module 5. Food Labeling	Presentation 2
7	Feb 23, 25	Module 5. Food Labeling	Presentation 3
8	Mar 2, 4	Module 6. Nutrition Labeling	Presentation 4
9	Mar 9 Mar 11	Exam 2 Module 7. Health Claims	
10	Mar 16 Mar 18	Module 7. Health Claims Module 8. Food Adulteration Assignment 1 Due (Mar 18)	Presentation 5
11	Mar 25 Mar 25	Module 8. Food Adulteration Exam 3	
12	Mar 30 Apr 1	Module 9. Food Safety Regulations – review Module 10. Food Safety Modernization Act	Presentation 6
13	Apr 6, 8	Module 10. Food Safety Modernization Act	Presentation 7
14	Apr 13, 15	Module 11. Florida Food Regulations Assignment 2 Due (Apr 15)	Presentation 8
15	Apr 20	Exam 4	

Exam and Assignment Schedule

Type	Materials Covered	Exam Date / Submission Due
Exam 1	Module 1-3	Feb 11
Exam 2	Module 4-6	Mar 9
Exam 3	Module 7-8	Mar 25
Exam 4	Module 9-11	Apr 20
Assignment 1	Module 5-7	Mar 18
Assignment 2	Module 1-12	Apr 15