

FOS 5732
Current Issues in Food Regulations (3 Credits)
Summer C 2024 (online)

Course Hours & Location:

W 2nd Period (9:30 to 10:45 am) – discussion session: synchronous online*

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

**A Zoom meeting link for the discussion session will be provided through the Canvas course page. For security reasons, do NOT share the 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: M/T 9:30 to 10:30 am (virtual), <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/2231135293>

All other times – by appointment only

Course Description:

This course provides a comprehensive understanding of regulations involving food safety, quality, and labeling. In addition to lectures, this course will engage students through discussions, case studies, and practical projects. By understanding food laws and regulations, students will be better prepared to contribute to the dynamic field of the food industry. As a graduate course, FOS 5732 also has a separate discussion section, which discusses 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.

Textbook:

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

- Food Law and Regulation for Non-Lawyers, 2nd Ed. – Marc Sanchez (Springer)
- Food Regulation – Law, Science, Policy, and Practice, 3rd Ed. – Neal D. Fortin (Wiley Publication)

- Food Law: A Practical Guide - Tommy Tobin (Ed) (American Bar Association)

These books are recommended but not required. Some of them 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 the Canvas course shell.

Course Format:

This is a 100% online course, in which the lectures are asynchronously delivered as recordings through the Canvas course page, and class meets for *live* synchronous discussion sessions. You will find the course content on the course page (<https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/506419>). The course is divided into 11 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, graduate students join in the live discussion session on Wed (2nd period). The link for the discussion session will be provided through the Canvas course page.

Students will gain an understanding of food regulations via lectures, discussions, and readings, which they will then apply to their assignments to reinforce their understanding.

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 for 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 regulation.
7. Discuss current issues in US food regulation and evaluate legislative efforts to solve those issues.

Instruction Method:

All lectures are asynchronously delivered online. Students are expected to find the course materials on the course webpage. 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, watch the video lecture (preferably with a specific day/time set for the lecture). I recommend printing out the presentation handout before the lecture and taking notes while you listen/watch. Presentation slides are a simple summary of what is being explained in the lecture. Many 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 that support the lecture and expand your scope of learning. This course does not have a required textbook but has recommended textbooks, some of which are electronically available through the course reserves.

Grading:

Exams (4) ^a - limited open note	45 %
Assignments ^b (3)	25 %
Assignment I reflection survey (1)	5 %
Individual Presentation or Report ^c	15 %
Discussion Participation	10 %
Total	100 %

^aEach exam (~50 min) will be equally weighted. You can bring **up to two sheets of handwritten/printed notes (written front and back)**.

^bAssignment grades and feedback will be released within 7-10 days from their due dates.

^cGraduate students are expected to give at least 1 presentation on their topic of interest (with the instructor's approval) during the semester. Depending on the enrollment number, the presentation may be replaced by an individual report on the topic of choice. Detailed instruction and grading rubric will be provided by the instructor.

Grading scale^{a,b}:

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
Course Average %	100% to 94%	<94% to 90%	<90% to 87%	<87% to 84%	<84% to 80%	<80% to 77%	<77% to 74%	<74% to 70%	<70% to 67%	<67% to 64%	<64% to 60%	<60

^aThere is no curb in this course.

^bPlease note I do not round up grades. Requests to do so will not be considered.

Exam Details:

There are 4 exams in this course. Each exam covers multiple modules (but non-cumulative), and contains multiple choice, True/False, matching, and short essay questions. They are limited 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 (12:00 am to 11: 59 pm) and should be taken during this time period. Each exam will be timed and, once you start the exam, should be completed **in 50 min**. You must follow [testing guidelines](#) and any non-compliance will be considered a violation of the Student Honor Code, which can result in academic sanction of failing grade on the exam.

Exam Proctoring:

We will use Honorlock to proctor your exams. 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 mic, 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 take the test, log into the Canvas course page and click on your exam. Clicking "Launch Proctoring" will begin the Honorlock authentication process, where you will take a picture of yourself and show your ID. Honorlock will record 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

¹You are allowed to bring two sheets of notes (handwritten or printed with information front and back). Any electronic notes are strictly prohibited. Honorlock will prevent you for opening other tabs, windows, or applications during the exam so that you cannot look up the information from the computer during the exam. You are required to turn off your phone and show two sheets of notes in front of webcam when you start testing.

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).

IMPORTANT TESTING RULES: READ CAREFULLY

Testing Rules are: **1) Only two sheets of paper with written or printed notes are allowed.** Using any other note (whether digital or in paper) during the exam will be considered as violation of testing rule and consequently, violation of honor code, and will result in a failing grade and report to SCCR. **2) Use of electronic devices (phone, tablet, laptop) is prohibited** (other than the computer you are using for the exam) during the exam. Honorlock detects the use of secondary electronic device and will flag your exam. Use of the electronic device is serious violation of student honor code and will be treated as such, potentially resulting in failing grade and other more serious consequences. **3) You should find a quiet place to take the exam with minimal background noise.** Presence of other people in the same room is not allowed and will be considered as testing violation. Unless you received the accommodation through DRC, use of headphone or noise from TV, radio, or other music streaming service is prohibited. **4) Make sure you look ahead at your computer screen.** Frequently looking away from your computer screen will flag your testing as suspicious activity as it looks like you are using unauthorized notes. Also stay in camera frame. Adjust your camera so your entire face would appear in the camera frame. **5) Technical glitches can happen.** If it ever happens to you, complete testing if you can. Then notify me by sending me an email. If Honorlock kicks you out of testing, try to refresh and keep on. You can always contact Honorlock Customer Help during testing through live chat.

Policy regarding make-up exams, late submission, and resubmission:

Make-up exams: Each exam will be given as scheduled in the 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 **before** the scheduled exam and provide proper proof afterward (if applicable). All make-up exams must be taken **within two days of the scheduled exam.**

Late submission: All assignments 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 **before the due**. Late submission of assignments and work will be accepted with a late penalty of 10% per day.

Resubmission: Resubmission is not allowed unless the instructor authorizes it. Any unauthorized resubmission will not be graded.

Course Communication

Important announcements related to the course will be made through Canvas 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 the instructor:

- E-mails (either direct emailing or through Canvas mail)
- Canvas - Q&A forum in Discussion
- Office Hours
- Individually scheduled Zoom conference meeting

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 accounts daily for the duration of the course. All students should have access to a computer with stable internet access, a microphone, and a webcam. This online course requires basic computer skills including using MS Word for assignment submission.

For issues with technical difficulties 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 Zoom link for class or for virtual office hours (We don't want any strangers in our virtual classroom or office!)

- Since this course is an asynchronous online class, there will be no recording of live class; however, if we ever need to record any Zoom sessions, a reminder will be given before the recording starts. 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 unmute 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.

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/>.

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/>.

Use of generative AI tools such as ChatGPT is prohibited in this course unless the instruction to use one is specifically given by the instructor. Individual assignments will provide specific guidance about AI use in their instructions. Unauthorized use of generative AI tools will be considered as cheating under UF Student Honor Code 4.040(3)(a), and thus will result in a 0% grade.

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/>

In-Class Recording Policy:

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips,

private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Campus Helping Resources:

On-campus resources are available for students having personal problems that interfere with their well-being 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>.
- Whole Gator (available through Campus Resources Tab in Canvas): Visit <https://one.uf.edu/whole-gator/topics>

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	Module/Topic	Exam/Assignment	Discussion (Wed) (FOS 5732 only)
1 (May 13)	Course Introduction Module 1. History of Food Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● EC³ self-introduction (Due: May 20)● EC Pre-Assessment Quiz (Due: May 20)● EC AI Practice (Due May 20)● Assignment 1 (Due: May 27)	May 15 - Brief Introduction
2 (May 20)	Module 2. US legal System		May 22 - Course Introduction (Topic Discussion and Rubric Review) – Topic Due: Jun 5
3 (May 27)	Module 3. Overview of US Government Agencies	Exam 1 (May 31) – Modules 1-3	No Discussion (Exam week)

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.

³EC, extra-credit

4 (Jun 3)	Module 4. Introduction to FD&CA	Assignment 1 Reflection Survey (Due Jun 10)	Jun 5 - Class Discussion (Instructor-led)
5 (Jun 10)	Module 5. Food Labeling	Assignment 2 (Due: Jul 3)	Jun 12 - Topic and Schedule Discussion
6 (Jun 17)	Module 6. Nutrition Labeling	Exam 2 (Jun 21) – Modules 4-6	No Discussion (Exam week)
7 (Jun 24)	SUMMER BREAK		
8 (Jul 1)	Module 7. Health Claims		Jul 3 - Presentation 1
9 (Jul 8)	Module 8. Food Adulteration	Exam 3 (Jul 12) – Modules 7-8	No Discussion (Exam week)
10 (Jul 15)	Module 9. Food Safety Regulations – review	Assignment 3 (Due: Jul 29)	Jul 17 - Presentation 2
11 (Jul 22)	Module 10. Food Safety Modernization Act		Jul 24 - Presentation 3
12 (Jul 29)	Module 11. Florida Food Regulations		Jul 31 - Presentation 4
13 (Aug 5)	Course Self-review (No new module open)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam 4 (Aug 5-7) – Modules 9-11 • EC Post-Assessment Quiz (Due: Aug 7) 	No Discussion (Exam week)