

**FOS 5732**  
**Current Issues in Food Regulations (3 Credits)**  
Spring 2022(in-person)

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**Course Hours & Location:**

TR 4<sup>th</sup> Period (10:40 to 11:30 am), AFPL 101

T 5<sup>th</sup> Period (11:45 am to 12:35 pm), AFPL 101

**Instructor:**

Dr. Soohyoun (Soo) Ahn

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Phone: 352-294-3710

Office hours (Virtual): M/W 9:30 to 10:30 am. Other times or in-person – 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/437677>).

**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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. – 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:** Students will acquire knowledge of the current food regulations and their enforcement through the lectures, class discussions, reading and assignments.

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

### Grading:

Exams (4)*	60 % (15% each)
Assignment	15 %
Group Discussion & Presentation	10%
Individual Presentation**	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Exam (~50 min, open-note 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. All exams in this course are open-note/open-book.

### Group Discussion Details:

Students will be assigned to work in a group of 4-5 (depending on the final enrollment number). Each group will be given a list of food regulation-related questions, and work together to answer all questions. Each group will have topics that are briefly introduced in class but not discussed in detail and thus it will require thorough research and study of topics. Although discussion time will be given in class whenever possible, each group is strongly encouraged to organize virtual meetings for discussion, or use discussion board on Canvas.

If you need any assistance in organizing an online meeting, ask for help to instructors.

Keep in mind the group discussion and presentation can be replaced with individual assignment when we have too small/big class.

### 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).

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.

## 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/>

## Academic Honesty:

Student Conduct Code and Student Honor Code from University of Florida will be enforced on the case of disruptive/endorsing 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](mailto:accessuf@ufsa.ufl.edu), and is located at 001 Reid Hall. Detailed information is available at: <https://disability.ufl.edu/>.

## COVID-19 related Classroom Policy (IMPORTANT!):

In response to COVID-19, the following practices are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

- If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available at no cost and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit this link for details on where to get your shot, including options that do not require an appointment: <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/vaccinations/vaccine-availability>. Students who receive the first dose of the vaccine somewhere off-campus and/or outside of Gainesville can still receive their second dose on campus.
- You are expected to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated. Please continue to follow healthy habits, including

best practices like frequent hand washing. Following these practices is our responsibility as Gators.

- Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be located in every classroom.
- If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email [covid@shcc.ufl.edu](mailto:covid@shcc.ufl.edu)) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website for more information.
  - Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.
  - If you are withheld from campus by the Department of Health through Screen, Test & Protect you are not permitted to use any on campus facilities. Students attempting to attend campus activities when withheld from campus will be referred to the Dean of Students Office.
- Continue to regularly visit [coronavirus.UFHealth.org](https://coronavirus.UFHealth.org) and [coronavirus.ufl.edu](https://coronavirus.ufl.edu) for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and vaccination.

### **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 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](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [umatter.ufl.edu/](http://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/](http://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/](http://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](mailto: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/](http://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/) On-Line Students Complaints: <https://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/>

### Tentative Course Outline<sup>1</sup>:

Week	Dates	Module/ /Assessment	Discussion (FOS 5732 only)
1	Jan 6	Course Introduction	
2	Jan 11, 13	Module 1. History of Food Regulation	Brief Introduction
3	Jan 18 Jan 20	Module 1. History of Food Regulation Module 2. US legal System	Course Introduction (Topic Discussion and Rubric Review)
4	Jan 25 Jan 27	Module 2. US legal System Module 3. Overview of US Government Agencies	Class Discussion (Instructor-led)
5	Feb 1 <b>Feb 3</b>	Module 3. Overview of US Government Agencies <b>Exam 1</b>	
6	Feb 8 Feb 10	Module 4. Introduction to FD&CA Module 5. Food Labeling	Presentation 1
7	Feb 15, 17	Module 5. Food Labeling	Presentation 2
8	Feb 22, 24	Module 6. Nutrition Labeling	Presentation 3

<sup>1</sup>Circumstances 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.

<b>9</b>	Mar 1 Mar 3	<b>Exam 2</b> Module 7. Health Claims	
<b>10</b>	Mar 8, 10	Spring Break	Presentation 4
<b>11</b>	Mar 15 Mar 17	Module 7. Health Claims Module 8. Food Adulteration <b>Assignment Due (Mar 17)</b>	Presentation 5
<b>12</b>	Mar 22 <b>Mar 24</b>	Module 8. Food Adulteration <b>Exam 3</b>	
<b>13</b>	Mar 29 Mar 31	Module 9. Food Safety Regulations – review Module 10. Food Safety Modernization Act	Presentation 6
<b>14</b>	Apr 5, 7	Module 10. Food Safety Modernization Act	Presentation 7
<b>15</b>	Apr 12 Apr 14	Module 11. Florida Food Regulations Module 12. Group Discussion (presentation)	
<b>16</b>	<b>Apr 19</b>	<b>Exam 4</b>	

### Exam and Assignment Schedule

Type	Materials Covered	Exam Date / Submission Due
Exam 1	Module 1-3	Feb 3
Exam 2	Module 4-6	Mar 1
Exam 3	Module 7-8	Mar 24
Exam 4	Module 9-11	Apr 19
Assignment 1	Module 5-7	Mar 17
Discussion	Module 1-12	Apr 14
Pre-assessment Quiz*	N/A	Jan 5 - Jan 12
Post-assessment Quiz*	N/A	Apr 18-22