

**FOS 4731**  
**Government Regulations and the Food Industry (2 credits)**  
Spring 2025 (online)

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**Course Hours & Location:**

This is an asynchronous 100% online course. Lecture recordings and materials will be posted through the Canvas course page.

**Instructor:**

Dr. Soohyoun (Soo) Ahn

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Phone: 352-294-3710

Office hours: M/W 9:30 to 10:30 am (virtual), <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/2231135293>

T 9:00 to 10:00 am (in-person)

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 projects concerning the governmental laws and regulations affecting the food industry.

**Prerequisite:** FOS3042 or with the instructor's permission

**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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. – Marc Sanchez (Springer)
- Food Regulation – Law, Science, Policy, and Practice, 3<sup>rd</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 the Canvas course shell.

### **Course Format:**

This is an asynchronous online course, in which the lectures are delivered as recordings through canvas course page. You will find the course content on the course page (<https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/523512>). 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.

Students will acquire knowledge of the current food regulations and their enforcement through the lectures and reading and assignments.

### **Course Objectives and Learning Goals:**

After completing this course, you will be able to

1. Explain the US legal system and rulemaking process.
2. Analyze key historical events and social circumstances that shaped major US food laws and regulations
3. Identify and compare the roles of US government agencies that are responsible for food regulations and enforcement in the US
4. Describe the requirements of food labeling and evaluate their significance in preventing misbranding
5. Explain circumstances under which food products are deemed adulterated with examples
6. Compare the primary intent of major US food safety regulations and explain their specific regulatory requirements.
7. Discuss Florida-specific food regulations and how they complement or differ from federal regulations

### **Instruction Method:**

All lectures are delivered asynchronously online. Students can access course materials on the course webpage. The course is divided into 11 modules, with a new module page available each week. Each module page includes links to video lectures, presentation slides, handouts, required readings, and additional supplementary materials (videos and/or readings) relevant to the module.

To effectively study the course materials in each module, follow these steps:

1. **Start with the Learning Goals:** Begin by reviewing the learning goals to understand the key points for the module.
2. **Watch the Video Lecture:** Schedule a specific day and time to watch the video lecture. Print out the presentation handout beforehand and take notes during the lecture. The presentation slides provide a summary, but the lecture will offer more detailed explanations.
3. **Review Required Readings and Supplementary Materials:** After the lecture, read the assigned reading materials and watch any supplementary videos. These resources will enhance your understanding and support the lecture content.

This course does not have a required textbook, but recommended textbooks are available electronically through the course reserves.

### Grading:

Module Assessment Quiz (11)*	50 %
Assignments (3)	30 %
Group Discussion (2)	20 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 %</b>

\*The lowest grade will be dropped.

### Grading scale<sup>a,b</sup>:

Passing grade	A	A–	B+	B	B–	C+	C	C–	D+	D	D–	E
<b>Course Average %</b>	100% to 94.0%	<94.0 % to 90.0%	<90.0 % to 87.0%	<87.0 % to 84.0%	<84.0 % to 80.0%	<80.0 % to 77.0%	<77.0 % to 74.0%	<74.0 % to 70.0%	<70.0 % to 67.0%	<67.0 % to 64.0%	<64.0 % to 60.0%	<60.0 %

<sup>a</sup>There is no curb in this course.

<sup>b</sup>Please note I do not round up grades. Requests to do so will not be considered.

### Quiz Details:

There are 11 quizzes in this course. Each quiz covers a single module and contains multiple choice, True/False, matching, and short essay questions. They are “limited open-note tests” (see the following testing rules) and will be **proctored by Honorlock**. All exams should be taken online via the Canvas course website. Quizzes will be open on Friday for 24 hrs (from 12:00 am to 11:59 pm) and should be taken during this time. After the due date, you won’t get access to the quiz. Each quiz will be timed, and once you start the quiz, it should be completed in the given time (normally around 20 min, but vary depending on the number of questions). 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 a failing grade on the exam.

#### IMPORTANT TESTING RULES: READ CAREFULLY

- 1. Notes Policy:** You can bring ONE sheet of paper with information on both sides. The note must be created by yourself and cannot be a copy of the presentation or handout. The note must be in print (either handwritten or printed) and should not be in electronic form. Honorlock will prevent you from opening other tabs, windows, or applications during the test, so you cannot look up information on the computer. You are required to turn off your phone and show the note in front of the webcam when you start testing.
- 2. Electronic Devices:** The use of electronic devices, such as phones, tablets, or laptops (other than the computer you are using for the test), is strictly prohibited. Honorlock detects the use of unauthorized electronic devices and will flag your test. Using electronic devices during the test is a serious violation of the student honor code and may result in a failing grade and other severe consequences.
- 3. Testing Environment:** Make sure to choose a quiet place with minimal background noise for your testing environment. No one else is allowed to be present in the room during the exam. Additionally, headphones and background noise, such as from a TV, radio, or music streaming, are not permitted unless accommodations have been approved through the DRC.
- 4. Camera and Screen:** During the exam, keep your focus on the computer screen at all times. Frequently looking away may trigger a flag for suspicious activity, as it could suggest the use of unauthorized materials. Ensure that you remain in the camera frame throughout the exam, and adjust your webcam so that your entire face is clearly visible.
- 5. Technical Issues:** If you experience technical issues during the exam, try to complete the exam if possible and notify me via email immediately afterward. If Honorlock disconnects you, attempt to refresh the page and continue testing. For urgent support during the exam, you can contact Honorlock Customer Help through live chat.

### Quiz Proctoring:

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 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](http://www.honorlock.com/extension/install). When you are ready to take the 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](mailto:support@honorlock.com)).

### Grade Turnaround Time:

Type of Assessment	Turnaround Time
Module Assessment Quizzes	1 Week after from the due date
Assignments	2 Weeks after the due date <sup>1</sup>
Group Discussion	2 Weeks after the due date <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>If you submitted late (after the due date), your grade turnaround time will be 2 weeks from your submission date.

### Policy regarding make-up quizzes:

Each quiz will be given as scheduled in the course outline (see Tentative Course Outline). Students must take the quizzes on the day scheduled. Make-up quizzes will be allowed in case of emergencies or legitimate reasons (illness, family emergency) that are aligned with the UF Attendance policies. In those excusable circumstances, students should notify the instructor **PRIOR TO** the scheduled exam and provide proper proof afterward (if applicable). All make-up quizzes must be taken **within 3 days** from the original quiz date.

### Policy regarding late submission:

All assignments must be 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**. If no arrangement was made in advance, late submission will still be accepted but with a late penalty of 10% per day. Late submission is allowed only for assignments, and this policy does not apply to the module assessment quizzes. Taking a quiz after the due date with a late penalty is NOT allowed.

### 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 email (preferred) or through Canvas mail
- Canvas course page - Q&A forum in Discussion
- Office Hours – The instructor will offer virtual office hours
- Individual Zoom conference meeting scheduled on request

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 daily for the duration of the course. All students are required to 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](mailto:learning-support@ufl.edu)
- (352) 392-4357 - select option 2
- <https://it.ufl.edu/helpdesk/>

### 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 link for Zoom lectures 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 a 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 can 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](mailto: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/>.

### **Course AI Policy:**

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 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](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/](https://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/](https://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.ufl.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](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/](https://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	Module/Topic	Exam/Assignment
1 (Jan 13)	Course Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>EC<sup>2</sup> self-introduction (Due on Jan 26)</b></li> <li>• <b>EC Pre-Assessment Quiz (Jan 13-26)</b></li> <li>• Syllabus quiz (Jan 13-26)</li> <li>• <b>EC AI Survey – Part I (Jan 13-26)</b></li> </ul>
2 (Jan 20)	Module 1. History of Food Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 1 Quiz (Jan 20-26)</li> <li>• <b>EC AI Practice (Due on Jan 26)</b></li> <li>• <b>Assignment 1 (Due on Feb 3)</b></li> </ul>
3 (Jan 27)	Module 2. US legal System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 2 Quiz (Jan 27 – Feb 2)</li> </ul>
4 (Feb 3)	Module 3. Overview of US Government Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 3 Quiz (Feb 3 – Feb 9)</li> <li>• <b>EC AI Survey – Part II (Feb 3-Feb 9)</b></li> </ul>
5 (Feb 10)	Module 4. Introduction to FD&CA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 4 Quiz (Feb 10 – Feb 16)</li> </ul>
6 (Feb 17)	Module 5. Food Labeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Assignment 2 (Due on Mar 17)</b></li> </ul>
7 (Feb 24)	Module 5. Food Labeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 5 Quiz (Feb 24 – Mar 2)</li> </ul>
8 (Mar 3)	Module 6. Nutrition Labeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 6 Quiz (Mar 3-9)</li> <li>• <b>Group Discussion 1 (Mar 3-17)</b></li> </ul>
9 (Mar 10)	Module 7. Health Claims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 7 Quiz (Mar 10-16)</li> </ul>
10 (Mar 17)	<b>Spring Break</b>	
11 (Mar 24)	Module 8. Food Adulteration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 8 Quiz (Mar 24-30)</li> <li>• <b>Group Discussion 2 (Mar 24-Apr 6)</b></li> </ul>
12 (Mar 31)	Module 9. Food Safety Regulations – review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 9 Quiz (Mar 31-Apr 6)</li> </ul>
13 (Apr 7)	Module 10. Food Safety Modernization Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Assignment 3 (Apr 7-21)</b></li> </ul>

<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.

<sup>2</sup>EC, extra-credit: These assignments are optional, and the more you complete, the more points you will receive at the end of the term. Details will be explained through the course announcement.

14 (Apr 14)	Module 10. Food Safety Modernization Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module 10 Quiz (Apr 14-20)</li></ul>
15 (Apr 21)	Module 11. Florida Food Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module 11 Quiz (Apr 21-27)</li><li>• <b>Extra-Credit Post-Assessment Quiz (Due: Apr 21-27)</b></li></ul>