

SYLLABUS
AGEC 50101 SEMINAR: Math Camp
Fall 2026

Instructor: Sunjin Ahn, Ph.D.
AGRI 218E
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Office hour: Appointment only

Class Meetings: Thursday 3:30 – 4:20 pm

Course Description: This course is an advanced primer in mathematics commonly used in economics. This math camp is designed to help you follow other economics classes, particularly Microeconomics and Econometrics. Topics include mathematical notation, differential calculus, unconstrained and constrained optimization, and matrix methods. If a department seminar is scheduled, the class may be replaced by the seminar.

Course Objectives / Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Apply differential calculus to analyze functions and identify optimal values.
2. Formulate and solve unconstrained and constrained optimization problems commonly encountered in economics.
3. Perform matrix and vector operations used in econometric analysis.

Course Materials: All materials will be uploaded to Blackboard. Please check Blackboard before coming to class. *Download and print them, as we can't do math just by looking*—we'll be doing a lot of practice in class! The textbook is not assigned, but the reference book is *Fundamental Methods of Mathematical Economics, 4th Edition*, by Alpha Chiang & Kevin Wainwright, McGraw-Hill

Course Requirements and Grading: Final grades are assigned as Pass or Fail based on the overall weighted course score. A final score of 70% or higher is required to receive a Pass.

Quiz 1: 25%

Quiz 2: 25%

Quiz 3: 25%

Attendance: 25%

Grading Scale:

Pass: 70% or higher

Fail: Below 70%

Academic Integrity

As a core part of its mission, the University of Arkansas provides students with the opportunity to further their educational goals through programs of study and research in an environment that promotes freedom of inquiry and academic responsibility. Accomplishing this mission is only possible when intellectual honesty and individual integrity prevail.

Each University of Arkansas student is required to be familiar with and abide by the University's Academic Integrity Policy, which may be found at <https://honesty.uark.edu/policy/>. Students with questions about how these policies apply to a particular course or assignment should immediately contact their instructor.

Access and Accommodations (Disabilities)

Your experience in this class is important to me. University of Arkansas Academic Policy Series 1520.10 provides for reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have established accommodations with the Center for Educational Access (CEA), please request your accommodation letter early in the semester and contact me privately so that we have adequate time to arrange your approved accommodations. If you believe you may need accommodations, contact CEA at 479-575-3104, ada@uark.edu, or visit <https://cea.uark.edu/>

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI): Generative AI tools may not be used during class, quizzes, or other in-class activities unless specifically authorized by the instructor. Students may use AI tools outside of class as a study aid for reviewing concepts, practicing problems, or seeking additional explanations. Students remain responsible for verifying the accuracy of any AI-generated content.

Inclement Weather and Class Cancellation: If the University is open, class will normally meet as scheduled. I reserve the right to cancel class due to inclement weather or other circumstances. Students will be notified through University email and Blackboard. If a class is cancelled, missed course material will be addressed through rescheduling or other appropriate instructional activities. Students should use their best judgment regarding safe travel. University inclement weather and emergency operations will follow University policy.

Emergency Procedures: Emergency procedures for situations such as severe weather, building evacuation, or an active threat are available at <https://emergency.uark.edu/>.

Severe Weather (Tornado Warning): In the event of a tornado warning, follow the instructor's or emergency personnel's directions and seek shelter immediately. Move to the lowest available level of the building, preferably a basement, and stay in an interior area away from windows, exterior walls, and doors. Follow University RazALERT instructions and remain sheltered until the threat has passed.

Active Threat: Follow the University's Avoid, Deny, Defend guidance. Avoid the threat by leaving the area if it is safe to do so. If you cannot safely leave, deny access by locking or

barricading doors, silencing devices, and staying away from windows. Defend yourself and others only as a last resort if Avoid and Deny are not possible. In an emergency, call 911 or contact UAPD at 479-575-2222.