Teaching as a Graduate Student – How I Survive, Enjoy, and Proceed

Na Zuo, Assistant Professor of Practice
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economic
University of Arizona

University of Kentucky Graduate, August 2017
# The Teaching Me: University of Kentucky

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AEC 445G <em>Introduction to Natural Resource and Environmental Economics</em></td>
<td>Teaching Assistant</td>
<td>Fall 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEC 300 <em>Applied Agricultural Economics with Excel</em> (1 credit)</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>Spring 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEC 300 <em>Introduction to Resource and Environmental Economics</em></td>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>Spring 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEC 422 <em>Agribusiness Management</em></td>
<td>Teaching Assistant</td>
<td>Spring 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEC 303 <em>Microeconomic Concepts in Agricultural Economics</em></td>
<td>Teaching Assistant</td>
<td>Spring 2017</td>
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</tbody>
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## The Teaching Me: Eastern Kentucky University

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGR 310 <em>Principles of Agribusiness Management</em></td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 440 <em>Agricultural Finance</em></td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 409 <em>Agriculture Business Records &amp; Analysis</em></td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 308 <em>Agricultural Economics</em></td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 350 <em>Agricultural Marketing</em></td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 306 <em>Global Food Supply</em></td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 210 <em>Agricultural Measurements</em> (2 credits)</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Study – <em>Value of Migrant Workers on farms in Georgia</em></td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Study – <em>A Financial Plan for a Hydroponic Farm</em></td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent Study – <em>A Marketing Plan for a Hydroponic Farm</em></td>
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<td>Alltech Innovation Competition (extracurricular activity)</td>
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</table>
The Surviving Strategy

STEAL LIKE AN ARTIST
10 THINGS NOBODY TOLD YOU ABOUT BEING CREATIVE
AUSTIN KLEON

WHAT’S YOUR STYLE?
Surviving Tactics

Caring
Organizing
Communicating
Read the news!
Surviving Tactics – Caring

Show that I care:

• “How is everyone today?”
• “I am here to help.”
• FYIs
Surviving Tactics – Organizing

Set up the expectations:
- Syllabus
- Quiz 0
- Practice exams
- “Daily” announcement
Surviving Tactics – Organizing

**Market: Demand and Supply**

**Key Concepts**

**Market**
- Demand, Total benefit (TB), Marginal benefit (MB), Consumer Surplus (CS)
- Supply, Total cost (TC), Marginal cost (MC), Producer Surplus (PS)

**Market**
A market refers to buying and selling some good (product or service) at some particular place and time.

To Economists, market is a way to create value through the voluntary exchange of goods and services regulated by competition.

- Why market is powerful or a good thing?
  -

**Demand**
Demand reflects a relationship among three things related to buyers in a market. What are they?
- 
- 
- 
- Let’s define some terms related to the benefits that consumers receive from consuming a good.
- What does the term total benefit mean?
- What does the term marginal benefit mean, and how is it different from total benefit?
Surviving Tactics – Organizing

Next, let’s look at a specific, mathematical example to further develop our concept of demand. Let’s consider weekly demand for gasoline by a household.

Suppose that the marginal benefits that the Wilson family receives from using gasoline is expressed as \( mb = 8 - 0.2q \), where \( mb \) is marginal benefit expressed in dollars and \( q \) is quantity demanded in gallons per week.

How much marginal benefit do the Wilsons receive from the 1st gallon of gasoline in a week. From the 2nd, 5th, 10th? Fill in the table below:

<table>
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<th>5th gallon</th>
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In the blank figure, draw the line representing the Wilson’s marginal benefit equation.

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AEC 300-02, Handout 02 2/6 Market: Demand and Supply
Surviving Tactics – Communicating

*Cultivating a two-way communication environment:*

- **Formal**
  - Background survey
  - Midterm feedback survey
  - Feedback questions on Finals

- **Informal**
  - Personal touch
  - Pause for question
  - Open door policy
Surviving Tactics – Communicating

Response and/or Adjust

MESSAGE

FEEDBACK

Sender

Reciever

Motivated and Contribute more
Surviving Tactics – Read the News!

Ground the teaching in the real world:

- Read the news
- Excel/Quickbook labs
- Business plan project
- Commodity project
- Country project

Stay relevant, Stay apply
Enjoy
Enjoy
Enjoy

Teaching in the perspective of building relationships
Students do pick up on my attitude and effort.
Proceed

• Managing a larger classroom?
• Holding-hands and challenging?
• Personal and professional?

• Scholarly teaching

• Teaching as a graduate student - “It takes a department!”
My Sincere Gratitude Goes to

• Dr. Jack Schieffer
• Dr. Leigh Maynard, Dr. Michael Reed, Dr. Carl Dillon, and Dr. Roger Brown
• Dr. Tim Woods and Dr. Kenneth Burdine
• Dr. Steve Isaacs and Dr. Tyler Mark
• Jerrod Penn

And all UK AEC family!
THANK YOU

Na Zuo
nazuo@email.arizona.edu
What things do you like most about the teaching in this course?
I like the packets that you give out. They are very helpful and please continue to use them.

What things do you like most about the teaching in this course?
Great teacher, enjoy the daily handouts.

What things do you like most about the teaching in this course?
I like when you go over graphs on the projector.

What things do you like most about the teaching in this course?
I like the notes packet. It makes it easier to follow along.
I wish I could do better...

- It takes a lot of time to set up a new course on your own!!! Be prepared!! (2014 Spring) + picture of my notes

- Do not reply late-night emails…unless it is emergency (2016 Spring)

- Slowdown in class, talk too fast, do not be in a hurry (Spring 2014)

- Slow down on your talking and general speed of lectures (Spring 2015)

- Do NOT rash: one concept after another (Fall 2015)
1. STEAL LIKE AN ARTIST.
2. DON’T WAIT UNTIL YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE TO GET STARTED.
3. WRITE THE BOOK YOU WANT TO READ.
4. USE YOUR HANDS.
5. SIDE PROJECTS AND HOBBIES ARE IMPORTANT.
6. THE SECRET: DO GOOD WORK AND SHARE IT WITH PEOPLE.
7. GEOGRAPHY IS NO LONGER OUR MASTER.
8. BE NICE. (THE WORLD IS A SMALL TOWN.)
9. BE BORING. (IT’S THE ONLY WAY TO GET WORK DONE.)
10. CREATIVITY IS SUBTRACTION.

STEALLIKEANARTIST.COM
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Good Theft</th>
<th>Bad Theft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honor</td>
<td>Degrade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study</td>
<td>Skim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steal from Many</td>
<td>Steal from One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit</td>
<td>Plagiarize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transform</td>
<td>Imitate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remix</td>
<td>Rip Off</td>
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