

## **Lab #1**

### **Agricultural Economics (ARE 012)**

This lab assignment is **not to be** turned in. You are to complete this assignment during the first day of classes. Please let me know if you need any help with this assignment. Any email package and internet browser can be used to complete this assignment. Just modify the directions to fit your particular computer environment and email package. Good Luck!

#### **Purpose of Lab:**

This assignment will assist you in learning to work with the course's Listserv, polish your email skills, familiarize you with the course's web page.

#### **Your Unity Account: What is it?**

All students at NC State receive Unity computing accounts. Your Unity account is automatically generated when you register for classes. Your Unity account gives you access to the Unity realm, NC State's campus-wide computing network. With your computing account you receive your own network file space and personal e-mail address. You can use the computers and software in computing labs, access the Internet, and publish Web pages. Your computing account and file space is accessible from locations on and off campus.

All students must abide by the Computer and Network User Policy, which you can view on the web at the following URL: <http://www.ncsu.edu/it/rulesregs/>.

#### **What's my login ID and password?**

Before you can access your account, you need to know your **Unity login ID and password**. Your login ID is based on your first and middle initial and the first six letters of your last name (use lowercase, as the system is case-sensitive). Your unity login ID is also called your **Username** and **User ID**. Your initial password is the last four digits of your student ID number and the four digits of your birth month and day. For further information and an example go to:

[http://www.ncsu.edu/it/essentials/your\\_unity\\_account/password.html](http://www.ncsu.edu/it/essentials/your_unity_account/password.html)

You may want to change you password at the conclusion of lab today and often. To change your password, fire up your web browser and go to

<http://www.ncsu.edu/password>

This page will assist you in changing your password.

Many of you are probably working on a computer in your residence. Due to the many different internet service providers (ISP's) and how your personal computer is configured, there is no way for me to provide personal instructions to each of you in a document such as this.

**What's my e-mail address?**

Your e-mail address starts with your unity login ID, in the following format:

**loginid@ncsu.edu**

**Assignments: (The directions below are for using the email package known as Mozilla Thunderbird.)**

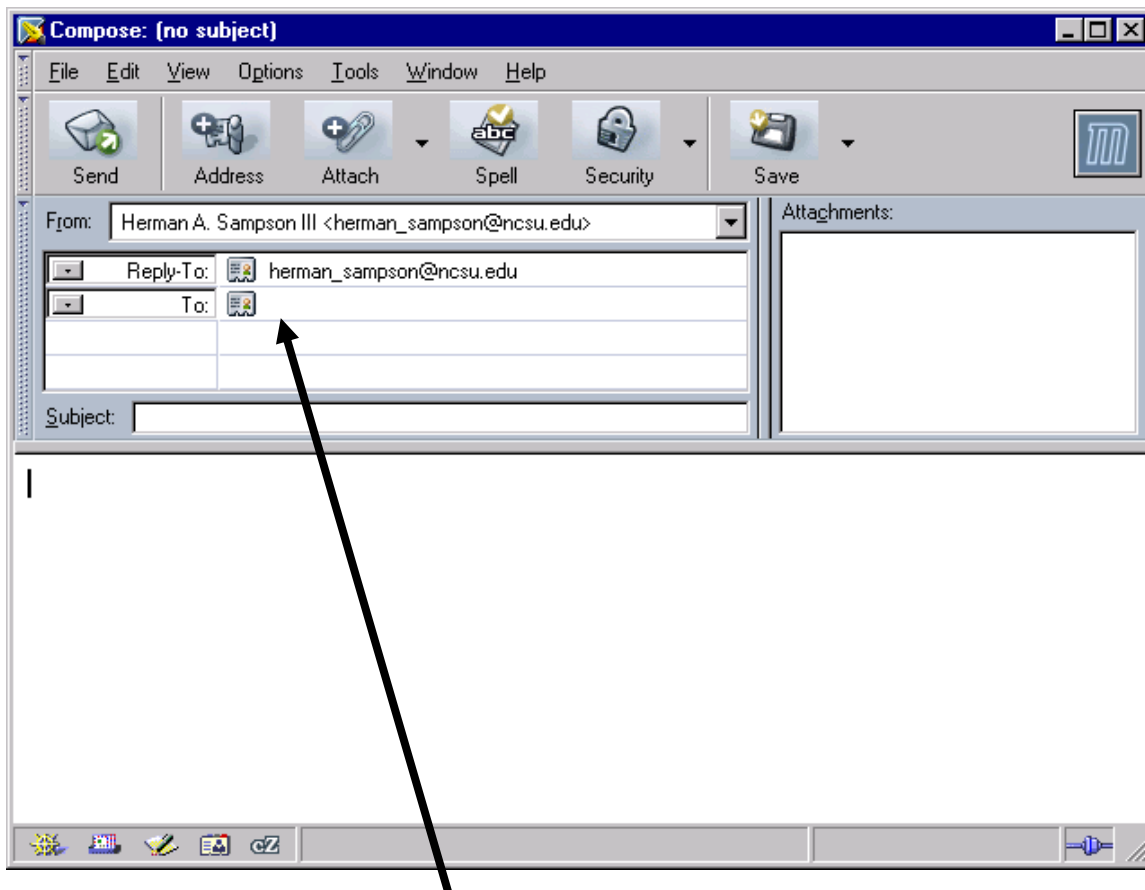
1. **Subscribing to the Listserv for Agricultural Economics (ARE 012).** A Listserv is a group of people who can send email to *all* of the other subscribers on the Listserv by sending an email message to one address. When you send an email message to a Listserv, *everyone* on the list will receive a copy of your message. If you reply to an email message that is sent to you on a Listserv, *everyone* on the list will receive your reply. Please keep in mind that a Listserv is *not* intended for private discussions since everyone on the list receives your mail.

I will use the Listserv to communicate with the class as a whole. For example, I may send you newspaper articles related to the subject matter of this course. You can use the Listserv to communicate with other students. For example, you may want to use the Listserv if you are having trouble understanding a topic in this course and would like help from your classmates, or from me.

**LOOK!!!!**

**I have subscribed you to the class listserv using the email address you have on file with Registration and Records. If you want to add another address as your contact address for the listserv, simply follow the directions below:**

- a) Fire up your email software.
- b) You should see a something that looks similar to the one below:

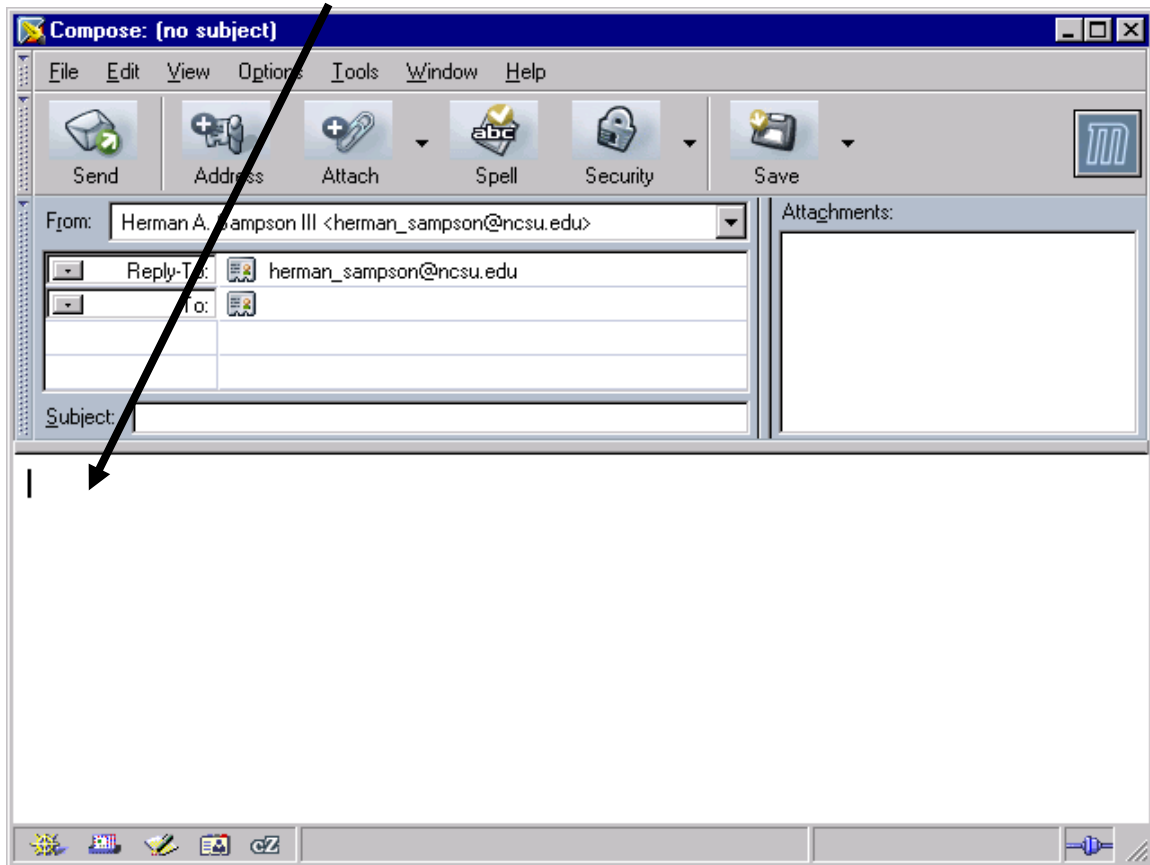


**Address the message to:** [mj2@lists.ncsu.edu](mailto:mj2@lists.ncsu.edu), by typing in the address in the box to the right of the word To: as illustrated above.

Now, with your mouse, move the cursor into the text area, and click with the left mouse button. You can now type the message that we want to send to the listserv to get your alternative email address subscribed.

c) Type the following message in the text area:

subscribe are01201



**Where you:**

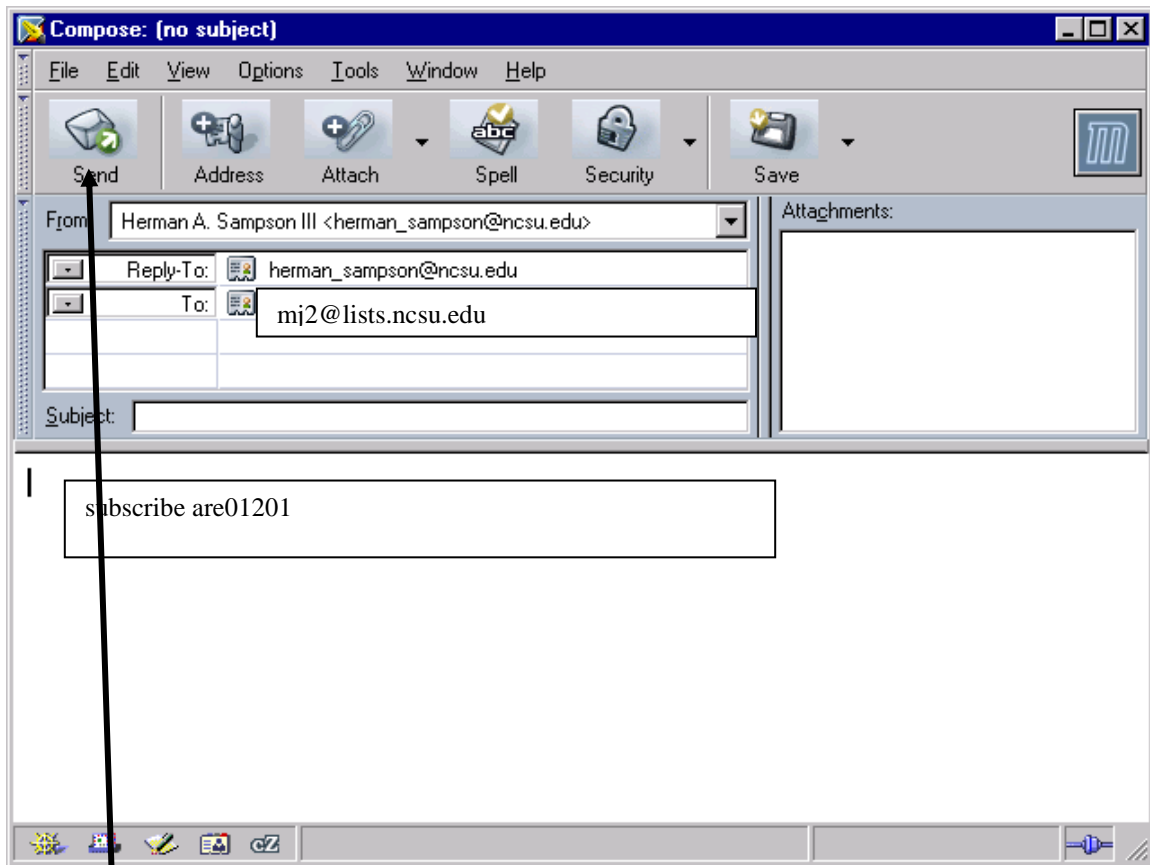
- **Include blank spaces** between *subscribe* and *are01201*. The listserv has nothing to do with the section number of the class that you are registered for. The name of our listserv is "are01201".

**Example:**

Herman Sampson would type the following message in the text area to subscribe to the Listserv for ARE 012:

subscribe are01201

d) You should have something like this on your screen



e) To send this message, simply click your mouse on the *Send* button. Wait a few minutes for the listserv to respond.

f) After waiting a few minutes, check your email for new messages. If you get a message from the listserv that does not tell you that you are successfully subscribed, please contact me.

2. **Who Are You?.** Obtain my email from the syllabus. In the Subject area, type your name and ARE 012.

If your name is Zachary Sampson, then you would type Zachary Sampson ARE 012 in the subject line.

Send an email message to me that tells me a little something about you. Where are you from? What is your major? What are your interests? Why are you taking this course? Provide anything that you would like to share with me so that I can get to know you better. You may want to share your email address with others in the class. If so, send your email address in a message to the listserv and all students subscribed to the listserv will receive your email address. I do not feel comfortable giving out email addresses of students to other students. You have a right to your privacy that I want to respect.

3. **Familiarize Yourself with the Course's Web Page.**

Open your internet browser and open the web page for ARE 012: Agricultural and Resource Economics. The easiest way to get to this page is by typing the URL for the course in the address box of your browser. The URL for this course is:

<http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/course/are012/intro.html>

**You may want to “bookmark” this address for future reference**

4. **Answer the questions below to familiarize yourself with the web page for this course. All of the answers are found in the *links* off the course's web page. Answer these questions for yourself. You don't have to turn in anything.**

a) Find and print Assignment #1. When is Assignment 1 due?

b) What topic is covered in Lecture Series 11? What is the relationship between the income from wages and age? Draw a sketch of this relationship.

c) Print out *Practical #2 Help Sheet*. What is the purpose of the *Practical #2 Help Sheet*?

d) What is the "Rule of Thumb for a Typical Student" regarding studying time? (Hint: Click on "*Developing A System of Study for This Course*" from the home page of the course web site.).

e) Try to answer question 1a) on Exam 1 during the spring 1996 term using information you can find on the course web site.

f) Find the article entitled, "Study Finds College Costly, But Worth It.". According to the article, what are the average salaries for high school graduates, college graduates, and for people with advanced degrees in 1992?

g) Click on the "Class Notes Available" link on the course home page. Then click on the "Lecture Series 1" link to open the first lecture series.

**NOTICE: The lecture notes are provided in two formats. PowerPoint format and Adobe PDF format. Scroll down the page to see the PDF format.**

What is a negative externality? What is a positive externality? Use the definitions given in the lecture notes. Why do you think that we are studying externalities in economics?

5. **Now we are going to take a little test.** That's right, a little test. The National Council on Economic Education has developed a twenty question multiple choice test to assess the economic literacy of the general population. You are to take this test. Your test will be instantaneously graded and the results will be sent to me by email. I will then determine the class average. We will take this test again at the end of the semester, and I hope that grades will improve significantly.

a) Go to the home page for the course.

- b) Scroll down to the bottom of the page, and click on *National Council on Economic Education, Economic Knowledge Exam*.
- c) Read each question and select the best answer by moving your mouse to the little circle to the left of the answer you want, then click.
- d) If you change your mind about an answer, that's fine. Just put your mouse on the new answer and click.
- e) Enter your email address in the email box.
- f) Enter any comments you may have about the test in the comment box. If you have no comment, then just leave this box empty.
- g) Submit your test by clicking the **HERE Button**.