AREC 415
INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE
Fall 2014
Tuesday/Thursday 11:00-12:15 a.m., BHSCI 107

Instructor: Amanda M. Leister, Assistant Professor
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday each week from 2:00-3:00 p.m., or by appointment.

Course Description: AREC 415, International Agricultural Trade covers agricultural trade patterns and institutions, trade theory with applications to agriculture, and current issues in agricultural trade.

Agricultural trade patterns are influenced by three main factors, including general economic growth and macroeconomic performance, comparative advantage, and trade and domestic agricultural policies in various countries. Therefore, this course develops the relevant economic theories and empirical examples for these factors.

Course Objectives: Upon the completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Identify current agricultural trade patterns, issues and selected macroeconomic and institutional issues.
2. Formulate and explain the implications of major theories of international trade
3. Be able to use the above skills to analyze the benefits, costs and politics of agricultural trade.
4. Integrate the experience in this course into a general analytical capability by linking the tools of analysis, issues and empirical analyses.

Course Organization:
1. Consistent class attendance has a strong, positive correlation with student learning and academic performance. Since there is no required textbook for this class, a complete set of class notes is a valuable learning asset during the semester.
2. Class periods will emphasize lectures and class discussions, activities and guest speakers.
3. All assigned, graded work is due on the announced date, in class (hard copy please). Late assignments will be penalized 10% for each day or partial day that they are late. No late assignments are permitted once graded and passed back to the class.

3. **No make-up exams** are allowed. Missing an examination is considered a serious action by the student. Extenuating circumstances should be brought to the instructor’s attention in a timely manner, prior to the exam to make alternate arrangements.

**Prerequisites:** ECON 204, Introduction to Macroeconomics and AREC 310, Agricultural Marketing. These can be concurrent, transferred, or other equivalent courses may be counted with instructor approval.

**Course Withdrawal:**

If you decide to withdraw from this course you must notify the instructor prior to nonattendance in classes and execute drop or withdrawal procedures in accordance with CSU guidelines: [http://registrar.colostate.edu/registration-changes](http://registrar.colostate.edu/registration-changes)

**Incomplete Policy:**

At the discretion of the instructor, a temporary grade of Incomplete - 'I' - may be given to a student who demonstrates that they could not complete the requirements of the course due to circumstances beyond the student's control and not reasonably foreseeable. A student must be passing a course at the time that an Incomplete is requested unless the instructor determines that there are extenuating circumstances to assign an Incomplete to a student who is not passing the course. Any incomplete grade must be verified with a written agreement between the student and instructor specifying the work to be done and a timetable of completion. CSU guidelines for incomplete grades will be adhered to: [http://registrar.colostate.edu/incomplete-grades](http://registrar.colostate.edu/incomplete-grades)

**Special Needs and Accommodations:**

Students who need special accommodation or services should contact Resources for Disabled Students [http://rds.colostate.edu/](http://rds.colostate.edu/). You must register and request that RDS send me official notification of your accommodations needs as soon as possible. Please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate. *The need for accommodations must be documented properly.*

**Classroom Behavior:**

Please turn off your cell phone during the classroom period. Laptop computers may be used to take notes but only with the instructor’s permission. The right to use a laptop will be rescinded if another student finds the material on the laptop distracting. Also, please do not read the newspaper or sleep while class is in session. Disruptive students will be asked to leave the classroom.
**Student Code of Academic Integrity:**

Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. This course will adhere to the CSU Academic Integrity Policies and Guiding Principles as found in the General Catalog: [http://www.catalog.colostate.edu/Content/files/2012/FrontPDF/1.6POLICIES.pdf](http://www.catalog.colostate.edu/Content/files/2012/FrontPDF/1.6POLICIES.pdf) and the Student Conduct Code: [http://www.conflictresolution.colostate.edu/conduct-code](http://www.conflictresolution.colostate.edu/conduct-code)

At a minimum, violations will result in a grading penalty in this course and a report to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services.

**Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated.**

**Student Evaluation:**

I use a standards-based grading system where final grades will be as follows:

- A = 94-100%; A- = 90 – 93%; B+ = 88 – 89%; B = 84-87%; B- = 80–83%;
- C+ = 78–79%, C = 74-77%; C- = 70-73% D= 60-69%; F = <60%.

**Assessment Design**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>200</td>
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<td><strong>Course Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
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*May be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

**Textbook:**

There is no required textbook for this class. As a result, it is essential that students attend all classes. Supplementary reading materials (handouts) will be distributed during the semester. The student is responsible for the class handouts.

Material for this class has been drawn from a wide variety of sources, including the optional textbooks:

General Course Outline*
(*Subject to change with advance notice; as deemed appropriate by the instructor)

Module
I. The World Food System and Agricultural Trade (2 weeks)
   A. Course Overview
   B. Introduction to Agricultural Trade and the World Food System
   C. Factors contributing to Food Prices

II. International Macroeconomics (3-4 weeks)
   A. Key International Macroeconomic Variables
   B. Circular Money Flow
   C. Twin Deficits
   D. Exchange Rates
   E. Foreign Exchange Markets
   F. Assignment

III. International Trade Theory (4-5 weeks)
   A. Reasons for Trade
   B. Trade and Technology: The Ricardo Model
   C. Trade and Resources: The Heckscher-Ohlin Model
   D. New Trade Theory
   E. Partial Equilibrium Model: Gains from Trade
   F. Assignment

IV. Market Distortions and Economic Shocks (3-4 weeks)
   A. Market Interventions
      1. Import Tariffs
      2. Export Tariffs
      3. Import Tariff Rate Quotas
      4. Export Tariff Rate Quotas
   B. Small Country Case
   C. Economic Shocks
      1. Supply Shocks
      2. Demand Shocks
   D. Assignment

V. International Institutions, Multilateral Negotiations and Special Topics (2-3 weeks)
   A. International Institutions
   B. Multilateral Trade Negotiations
   C. Special Topics in Agricultural Trade
   D. Assignment

IMPORTANT DATES:
   October 2: NO CLASS
   October 23: Midterm Exam*
   November 25 – 27: Thanksgiving Break- No Class
   December 16: Final Exam 9:40-11:40 a.m. BHSCI 107 (regular classroom)