

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NEW YORK**



COURSE OUTLINE

AGMT 305 – AGRICULTURAL POLICY

Prepared By: Dr. Edouard Mafoua

**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
BUSINESS DEPARTMENT
May 2016**

- A. **TITLE:** Agricultural Policy
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** AGMT 305
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:**
3 lecture hours per week
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**
This course introduces students to the role of government and other institutions in setting agricultural and food policy. It develops an understanding of the application of economic theory to agricultural problems and the policy decision process. Topics such as macroeconomic policies, farm policies, rural development policies, agricultural trade policy, environmental policy, food safety and security policy, and food assistance and nutrition policy are discussed.
- I. **PRE-REQUISITES:**
Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 101) and Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 103) and a minimum 45 credit hours, or permission of instructor.
- J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**
By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

| <i>Course Objective</i> | <i>Institutional SLO</i> |
|--|--------------------------|
| a. Explain the U.S. policy process and the role of economists in the policy-making process | 3. Prof. Competence |
| b. Identify the geopolitical centers of influence and the WTO that have significant effects on agricultural and trade policies | 3. Prof. Competence |
| c. Discuss farm policies and their impacts on the agricultural sector | 3. Prof. Competence |
| d. Analyze policies related to limited resources (water, farmland, and endangered species) and environmental degradation | 2. Crit. Thinking |
| e. Examine food safety issues, hunger problem and food assistance programs | 2. Crit. Thinking |

- K. **TEXT:**
Knutson, R.D., Penn, J.B., Flinchbaugh, B.L. and J.L. Outlaw (2007). *Agricultural and Food Policy*. Sixth edition, Pearson Prentice Hall.

L. REFERENCES:

Novak, J.L., J.W. Pease, and L.D. Sanders.(2015). *Agricultural Policy in the United States: Evolution and Economics*. Routledge.

Halcrow, Harold G., Spitze, Robert G.F., and Joyce Allen-Smith (1994). *Food and Agricultural Policy: Economics and Politics*. Second edition, McGraw-Hill.

M. EQUIPMENT: Technology enhanced classroom.

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F

O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS: Case studies analysis, class participation and presentation, research paper, quizzes, tests, essays, and/or exams

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:

- I. Economic and Political Forces of Agricultural Policies Change
 - A. Globalization
 - B. Technology and Food Safety
 - C. Agricultural Industrialization
 - D. Politics

- II. Rationale for Government Involvement in Agriculture and Food System
 - A. Conditions Leading to Government Involvement
 - B. Constraints on Government Involvement
 - C. U.S. Policy Decision Process
 - D. Role of Economists in the Policy-Making Process

- III. Geopolitical Centers of Influence and International Trade
 - A. Agriculture, Trade, Policies and Issues
 1. NAFTA
 2. MERCOSUR
 3. European Union
 4. CAIRNS Groups
 5. Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum (APEC)
 6. Japan
 7. China
 8. Russia
 9. Developing Countries
 - B. World Trade Organization
 - C. U.S. Trade and Development Policy

- IV. U.S. Farm Policies
 - A. Historical Perspective
 - B. Farm Problems and Policy Goals
 - C. Theory of Farm Policy
 - D. Farm Policy Options and Consequences
 1. Free Market
 2. Price Supports
 3. Supply Controls

4. Direct Payments
 5. Crop Insurance
 6. Program Buyouts
- V. Limited Resources Issues and Policies
- A. Farmland Use, Policy Options and Consequences
 - B. Water Use, Policy Options and Consequences
 - C. Endangered Species and Biodiversity
- VI. Environmental Policy
- A. Development and Implementation of Environmental Policy
 - B. Evolution of Agricultural Environmental Policy
 - C. Environmental Policy Options and Consequences
- VII. Food Safety and Security Policy
- A. Dimensions of Food Safety and Biosecurity
 - B. Development and Implementation of Food Safety and Biosecurity Policy
 - D. Evolution of Food Safety and Biosecurity Policy
 - E. Food Safety and Biosecurity Policy Options and Consequences
- VIII. Food Assistance and Nutrition Policy
- A. Problems of Global and U.S. Hunger
 - B. International Hunger Policy
 - C. U.S. Hunger and Nutrition Policy
 - D. U.S. Hunger and Nutrition Policy Options and Consequences
- Q. **LABORATORY OUTLINE:** None