

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



COURSE OUTLINE

AGMT 385 – Agricultural Law

Prepared By: William T. Jones

**SCHOOL OF
BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
April 2016**

- A. **TITLE:** Agricultural Law
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** AGMT 385
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Spring
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** 3 lecture hours per week
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

This course examines areas of law applicable to agriculture, including agricultural law; acquisition and disposal of farmland; farm tenancies; rights and limitations in the use and ownership of farmland; water law; environmental protection; protection of the productivity of agricultural land; and the law of sales and secured transactions in an agricultural context. Critical legal issues facing the industry and consumers will be discussed, including federal farm programs, the structure of farms and industrialized agriculture, migrant labor issues, farm animal welfare, as well as agriculture commercial law.

- I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:** BSAD 201 or permission of instructor.

- J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**
By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

<u>Course Objective</u>	<u>Institutional SLO</u>
1. Recognize relevant knowledge of the structure and function of land ownership, occupation, and use.	2. Critical Thinking 3. Professional Competence
2. Apply agricultural law as it pertains to land ownership.	2. Critical Thinking
3. Differentiate between important agencies affecting agricultural law.	2. Critical Thinking 3. Professional Competence
4. Interpret common agricultural regulations and standards.	2. Critical Thinking 3. Professional Competence
5. Recognize environmental issues facing land owners and farm business tenancy.	1. Communication Skills 2. Critical Thinking 3. Professional Competence

- K. **TEXTS:**

Schneider, Susan A. (2010). Food, Farming, and Sustainability: Readings in Agricultural Law. Durham, NC.: Carolina Academic Press

REFERENCES:

Hill, Berkeley and Davidova, Sophia (2012). Understanding the Common Agricultural Policy. London, England: Taylor and Francis Ltd.

Harl, Neil E. (2012). The Agricultural Law Manual. Kelso, WA: Agricultural Law Press.

Pedersen, Donald B. & Meyer, Keith G. (2008). Environmental Law, 1st edition. Clifton Park, New York: West Legal Studies – Thompson Delmar Learning.

Simonsen, Craig B. (1995). Agricultural Law in a Nutshell, St. Paul, MN: West Publishing Co.

Sydenham, A. (2002). Essential Law for Landowners & Farmers, 4th ed. Hoboken, New Jersey: Wiley

L. **EQUIPMENT:** None

N. **GRADING METHOD:** A-F

O. **MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Papers
- Participation

P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**

- I. Agriculture and Agricultural Law
 - a. The Agrarian Ideal or the Agrarian Myth
 - b. Agrarianism and the Development of U.S. Agriculture Law
 - c. Industrialization of Agricultural Production
 - d. Sustainability
 - e. What is a Family Farm
 - f. A Survey of Current U.S. Agricultural Production
 - g. Consumer Awareness and Impact
- II. Economic Support for Agriculture: The Federal Farm Programs, Federal Crop Insurance, and Disaster Assistance
 - a. Federal Farm Programs
 - b. Federal Crop Insurance
 - c. Disaster Assistance
 - d. Farm Programs and the Food System
- III. Agriculture and Environmental Law
 - a. Agriculture's Environmental Effects
 - b. Exceptions for Agriculture Operations Under Environmental Laws
 - c. Unique Aspects of Environmental Law As Applied to Agriculture

- IV. Financing the Farming Operation
 - a. Distinct Attributes of Farm Finance
 - b. Overview of Current Farm Finances
 - c. Federal Credit Assistance Provided to the Agricultural Sector
 - d. Agricultural Commercial Law: Secured Transactions Involving Farm Assets
- V. “Forty Acres and a Mule” – Discrimination in Agriculture
 - a. History of African American Farmers in the United States
 - b. USDA Discrimination Against African American Farmers
 - c. USDA Discrimination: Native American, Hispanic, and Women Farmers
 - d. Current USDA Policy and Issues
 - e. The Face of Agriculture Today
- VI. Agriculture Labor Law
 - a. Who Are America’s Farm Workers
 - b. An Overview of Federal Labor and Employment Law
 - c. Current Issues
- VII. The Regulation of Livestock Sales
 - a. Introduction to the Packers and Stockyards Act
 - b. Structural Trends in the Livestock Industry
 - c. Unfair, Unjustly Discriminatory, or Deceptive Practices Under the Packers and Stockyards Act
- VIII. Animal Welfare and Farm Animals Raised for Food
 - a. Efforts to Impose Welfare Standards on Livestock Production
 - b. Humane Slaughter Standards
- IX. Biotechnology and Agricultural Law
 - a. An Introduction to Agricultural Biotechnology and its Regulation
 - b. The Patenting of Genetically-Engineered Seeds
 - c. Challenge to the Approved Process for New Genetically Engineered Seeds
 - d. The Labeling of Genetically Engineered Food Products
 - e. International Trade and Genetically Engineered Products
- X. Food and Agriculture
 - a. The Structure of Government Regulation
 - b. The Regulation of Organic Food
 - c. The Local Food Movement
 - d. Food for the Future

Q. **LABORATORY OUTLINE:** NONE