

World Food and Hunger Issues (ABUS 390)
Class Meets: R 5:00-7:50pm PLMS 106

Instructor: Dr. Baohui Song
Office: 229 Plumas Hall
Phone: 530-898-3056
Email: bsong@csuchico.edu
Office Hours: MW 9:30-12:30 or by appointment.

TEXTBOOK: A reader for the course is required. It includes a collection of chapters from books on Economic Development, articles from the Wall Street Journal on global demographic trends, and data tables from the World Bank Annual Report which includes indicators of development. It is available on WebCT.

I. General Education

Agricultural Business 390 is a capstone course in the World Food Issues track of the Global Issues theme. This is a required course in the nine-unit upper division thematic component of general education (GE). This course also meets the non-western requirement for general education. This course is grounded in the discipline of agricultural economics that is a social science; it addresses broad questions regarding world food issues from a multidisciplinary perspective including the natural sciences, humanities and social sciences.

II. General Education Learning Goals

This course applies learning goals to achieve the following student learning outcomes of general education:

1. Improve reading, writing, and communication skills;
2. Improve critical thinking;
3. Increase insight into cultures of peoples of the world;
4. Broaden knowledge of global world food and hunger issues.

III. Course Objectives

The objectives of this course are to have students:

1. develop an understanding of agricultural and economic development;
2. acquire insight associated with global population growth;
3. learn about the hunger and malnutrition problems in the developing world;
4. learn about the economic and political constraints on food production and distribution;
5. develop an understanding of global food issues and the challenges they pose to our common future.

IV. Academic Grading

There will be 500 total points possible. Students will be graded on the basis of paper assignments (100 points), in-class quizzes (60 points), class project –case study (100 points), and class participation and discussion (40 points) as well a midterm (100 points) and the final (100 points). The points will be allocated as follows:

- There will be
- 1) 2 Two-page paper assignments, 20 points each,
 - 2) 2 Three-page paper assignments, with 30 points each,
 - 3) Class Project, 100 points,
 - 4) 6 unannounced in-class quizzes with 10 points each, and
 - 5) One midterm (100 points) and the final (100 Points).

6) Attendance and Discussion (40 points). We will have class discussion occasionally, if you miss the class or not participate in discussion, you will lose 8 points each time and 40 points maximum.

Your final letter grades will be given based on the following table:

93% - 100% A	77% - 79% C+
90% - 92% A-	73% - 76% C
87% - 89% B+	70% - 72% C-
83% - 86% B	65% - 69% D+
80% - 82% B-	60% - 64% D
	0 % - 59% F

V. Course Administration

A. Prerequisites - ABUS 101 or ECON 103

B. Late Graded Item Policy

It is the policy of the agribusiness faculty to not accept late graded items of any type. Excused absence (i.e. jury duty, previous university commitment, etc.) from a graded item requires written notice (see V-F) personally delivered to the instructor well in advance of the scheduled due date. Failure to notify the instructor of an impending absence in advance will result in an at least 50% deduction of the graded points.

C. Paper Assignments (100 Points, 20%)

There will be 4 paper assignments, including 2 two-page paper assignments, and 2 three-page paper assignments. The points will be allocated as follows:

- There will be
- 1) 2 two-page paper assignments, 20 points each.
 - 2) 2 three-page paper assignments, 30 points each.

D. In-Class Quiz (60 Points, 12%)

There will be 7 quizzes for this class with 10 points each. The lowest quiz will be dropped when calculate your final points on quizzes. The total points for in-class quiz will be 60 points. **All**

quizzes will be UNANNOUNCED QUIZZES, some may be given at the beginning of the class, and some may be given the end of the class. Make-up quiz will be given only for those who have an excused absence (see V-C above) and have told the instructor in advance.

E. Class Project-Country Case Study (100 Points, 20%)

Each student will be expected to write a report and present you report based on a case study of a non-western country. You need to select one country from the list provided by your instructor. Each student should select a different country. This case study includes four parts:

- (1) Written report, at least 5 pages (50 points)
- (2) PowerPoint slides (25 points)
- (3) Oral Presentation (20 points)
- (4) One multiple choice question (5points)

Detailed instruction see additional handout.

F. Examination (200 Points, 40%)

There will be one midterm and the final, with 100 points each. Materials covered in lectures, discussions, handouts, readings, etc. will be fair game for the examination. Exam questions will consist of multiple choices, short answers or essays, and problem solving (mathematical and graphical analysis). The final is cumulative examination.

G. Attendance (40 Points, 8%)

There will be 40 points for class attendance. If you miss one class, you will lose 8 points. If you have any **excused absence** (i.e. jury duty, previous university commitment, field trip for other classes, serious sickness, etc.), you must notify your instructor in advance and fill an Excused Absence Note (available from your instructor). Otherwise you will lose 8 points, too. The total points you can lose are 40.

Excused Absence Note	
Name: _____	Date: _____
For Course, ABUS _____	
Reason: _____	
Student Signature: _____	
Instructor Signature: _____	Date: _____

H. Bonus points. When we watch a video in the class, the instructor may randomly announce some bonus points for watching the video. No make ups for any missed bonus points.

I. Academic Rigor

This class will be conducted in a manner that conforms to the University's policy of academic rigor. The CSUC definition of academic rigor for instructors and students can be accessed at <http://em.csuchico.edu/aap/Undergrad/help/ARigor.asp>.

J. Other Information

Students should regularly monitor WebCT for this course in order to stay current with course activities (i.e. assignments, grades, etc.). Note: CSUC considers e-mail an official method of communication. Students should feel free to discuss their individual performance with the instructor, whether it is their overall course grade or a score they earned on a single graded item. Professors are human too and occasionally a scoring mistake will be made; if a student has reason to believe a graded item deserves a point value higher than the one earned, bring it to the instructor's attention during scheduled office hours or by appointment. There is no formal attendance requirement. However, new material will be presented everyday in this class and quizzes will be given randomly. If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting the notes or the lost points of quizzes.

VI. Academic Honesty

Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for the respect of others' academic endeavors. Students who violate these standards (e.g., cheating and plagiarism) must be confronted and must accept the consequences of their actions. The university's policies on academic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. It is the student's responsibility to know and understand the CSUC Academic Honesty Policy. The university's policy is provided in their catalog as well as via its web site at www.csuchico.edu/gisp/gs/public/gradline/honesty.htm. Ignorance of university policies or of what constitutes academic dishonesty is not an acceptable excuse in this matter. If there is evidence that the student has been involved in any form of academic dishonesty, they will receive an "F" grade for the course, be locked from Vista, and a report will be provided to Student Judicial Affairs for further action.

VII. Disabilities

If a student has a disability that requires special accommodations, the student must contact a counselor at Disability Support Services (www.csuchico.edu/dss/). In addition, the student should let the instructor know as soon as possible so the instructor is aware of, and can provide for, any necessary accommodations.

VIII. Expected Student Behavior in the Classroom

- A. All students are expected to attend each class and show up on time, finish all the homework assignments, and participate in class discussion actively.
- B. All students have the right and privilege to learn in the class, free from harassment and disruption. Inappropriate or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated, nor will lewd or foul language.

C. All class participants are expected to exhibit respectful behavior to other students and the instructor. Students may not read other materials (newspapers, magazines) during class nor should they carry on personal discussions with their peers during lectures, presentations, etc.

D. Students are expected to turn off all pagers, cell phones and other electronic devices during class time. **NO TEXT MASSAGING IN THE CLASS!!!**

E. Leave a few seats open next to the door for those who enter late or must leave early.

F. The class follows the standard set in the *Code of Students Rights and Responsibilities (EM 96-38)* and students are subject to disciplinary action for violation of that code.

IX. COURSE OUTLINE AND CONTENT

I. Introduction

II. Development: Meaning and Measurements of Stages of Economic Growth

- Terminology and Measurement
- Substitutes for Development
- Political Obstacles to Development

III. Social Aspects and Human Welfare

- Measurements of Income and Inequality
- Poverty
- Strategies for Growth with Equity

IV. The Economics of Food

- Population and the Demographic Situation
- International Trade and Development
- Agriculture

V. Developing Country Study

- China
- Brazil
- India
- Mexico

Examination Dates:

Mid-term: March 12, 2009, Thursday (class time)

Final: May 21, 2009, Thursday, (6:00-7:50 pm)