ABUS 390 – World Food and Hunger  On-Line FALL 2016
College of Agriculture California State University, Chico

Instructor: Dr. Patrick D. O’Rourke
Cell Phone and Text 309-532-1932
e-mail: pdorourke@csuchico.edu
Available for Email almost anytime. By Appointment for Telephone Consultation

General Mode of Operation for each Week in the Semester:
1. Reading/Study material will be posted to Blackboard by the previous Thursday or Friday. Each will indicate topic or date for the folder.
2. A Quiz or Exercise for the week will be posted by Tuesday of the week.
3. That completed Quiz or Exercise will be due back to me on Friday of the week. So first assignment will be due Friday Sept 2.
4. FIRST WEEK OF CLASS: Read the posted items in the folder named “Syllabus and Week 1” on the course BlackBoard site. No graded assignment is due first week of class. Be prepared for a quiz on this material and more in the week of Aug 29 – Sep 2. There may be a couple weeks that do not have A Quiz or Exercise.

Course and Catalog Description: A study of agricultural problems and policies of developing nations. Emphasis on cultural values; physical, economic, and political constraints; hunger and international trade. This is an approved General Education and Global Cultures course. Examination of contemporary environmental and related issues that are strongly linked to the past, the current and the potential future environmental, agricultural, and food industry issues.


Additional readings will be assigned and made available. Students are responsible for other reading materials as assigned.

It is good to remember that when considering agriculture, food, malnutrition, population and the environment – facts are important.
Potential Topical Areas (Not all will be covered)

What is Agriculture?  Local Foods and Food Distribution
Food and World Population  Animal Agriculture
Hunger and Poverty and Food Security  Climate Change
Biotechnology  Land and Water Issues
Biofuels and renewable fuels  Agriculture and Food Policy
Ag Chemicals  Other Food and Environmental Issues
Organic and other farming methods

Grades will be based on the following:

Weekly Quizzes (25 points) and Exercises (10 points),
as many as 15 all together @ 25 points or 10 points each.  150 to 375
Final Exam  100
Total  250 to 475

Letter grades will be determined based on your percentage of total points awarded in the course as follows.

90% - 100%  A  60% - 69%  D
80% - 89%  B  Below 60%  F
70% - 79%  C

Exams and Quizzes: An unexcused absence for turning in a quiz or exam will result in a zero. If you must miss a due date for any of these because of an excused absence, please notify me prior to the exam/quiz.

Attention: You are responsible for all the information assigned for the class. If you know you will miss any assignment, notify the instructor in advance to make appropriate arrangements.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Each student is encouraged to work with other students on assigned readings and exercises and to elicit help from the full range of helpful people and information sources. However, the student is expected to complete exercises in his/her own words. The student's quiz and exam answers are to be prepared by him/her and represent his/her own work. Academic dishonesty CANNOT be tolerated. Each student is responsible for their conduct and for adhering to University Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines that apply to them.

OFFICE HOURS: Email almost anytime. By Appointment for Telephone Consultation. You are encouraged to visit with the instructor. Be prepared with specific questions or troublesome topics to make your visit as productive as possible. If your grades are less than satisfactory from your point of view, failure to visit your instructor will indicate a lack of concern on your part. You can schedule with me almost any time with great flexibility.

Good Luck!