Course Syllabus

Fall 2005

Monday
6th Period
12:50pm - 1:40pm
New Physics Building, Room 1002
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Monday - 6th Period 12:50pm - 1:40pm
New Physics Building, Room 1002

Instructor: Dr. Michael T. Olexa
Office: McCarty B, Room 2126
Phone: 392-1881, extension 327
FAX: 392-9898
email: olexa@ufl.edu
Office Hours: M, 3:30pm-4:30pm

Secretary: Vicki Jenkins
Office: McCarty B, Room G-104
Phone 392-1881, extension 300

Text  None required. Handout material will be made available.

Course Objectives: 1. To introduce the student to current agricultural and agribusiness legal issues.
2. To provide the student presentations from individuals prominent in the fields of agriculture, law, and natural resources.
3. To generate classroom discussion and debate from the issues presented in class.
4. To enhance the student's knowledge of the symbiotic relationship between agriculture, environment, and agribusiness.
5. To encourage critical thinking.

Attendance: Attendance is important. The student's grade is based on attendance and timely submission of class papers. This is a no excuses course.

Since grades are largely dependant on attendance, students engaged in extracurricular collegiate activities which may result in class absences are encourage not to enroll in this course. If upcoming extracurricular collegiate activities are to be attended, the instructor must be notified during the first week of class.

All absences must be backed-up with paperwork. If your vehicle breaks down, provide the towing or repair records. If the instructor receives an email before or after a holiday break that your are or were ill and unable to attend class, provide medical documentation. If you repeatedly have excuses for late papers, your paper will not be accepted. If religious holidays, weddings, baptisms, barmitzvahs or UF sanctioned athletic events are on your schedule, you must inform your instructor of your intended absence(s) during the first week of class.

Students will be penalized one-half (1/2) a letter grade for each absence. There are no unexcused absences. Because of the time, effort and commitment of guest speakers, as a common courtesy to guest speakers, students are expected to attend class and arrive to class on time. For every two late arrivals, students will be penalized one-half (1/2) a letter grade. Excuses for late arrivals will not be accepted.

Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class period.

If you must miss a class and want to be excused, you must have written approval from the Dean of Student's Office:

Dean of Student's Office - 109 Peabody Hall - 352-392-1261

Eating, drinking and reading newspapers are not permitted during class. Guest speakers are to be provided with the student's full attention. Cellular phones are not to be used in class. Turn them OFF!
Papers

All papers submitted are to be typed in 12 point font (type face) comparable to CG Times or Times Roman. Papers are to briefly summarized key points raised by each speaker and the student’s personal thoughts regarding the speaker’s comments. Students are encouraged to freely express themselves regarding each presentation. Samples of Acceptable and Non-Acceptable papers are attached.

Exams

There will be no exams given in this course.

Grades

Student performance will be evaluated on class attendance, on-time arrival and the submission of papers summarizing each presentation. Papers are due at the beginning of each class one week following guest lectures. Papers will only be accepted at the beginning of each class period.

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following formula:

- Attendance and on-time arrival 50%
- On-time paper submission 50%

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>89.9</td>
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<td>87.9</td>
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<td>69.9</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>67.9</td>
<td>D</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Extra Credit

No individual student will be given the opportunity to earn extra credit or bonus points unless the opportunity is extended to all students.

Academic Honesty

Each of you signed an agreement to adhere to the academic honesty guidelines when you were admitted to the University of Florida. I fully expect adherence to these guidelines. To refresh your recollection, a copy of the guidelines from the UF undergraduate catalog is attached with an accompanying form for your signature.
The Commitment to Academic Honesty

"I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the University."

Acts of Academic Dishonesty

I. **Taking Information**
- copying graded homework from another student
- working together on a take-home test or homework when specifically prohibited by the professor
- looking at another student's paper during an exam

II. **Tendering Information**
- giving your work to another to be copied
- giving someone answers to exam questions during the exam
- after taking an exam, informing a person in another section, of questions that appear on the exam
- giving or selling a term paper to another student

III. **Plagiarism**
- copying homework answers from your test and handing them in for a grade
- quoting test or other works on an exam, term paper or homework without citation
- handing in a paper purchased from a term paper service
- re-typing a friend's paper and handing it in as your own
- taking a paper from fraternity/sorority files and handing it in as your own

IV. **Conspiracy**
- planning with one or more students to commit any from of academic dishonesty together
- giving your term paper to another student who you know will plagiarize it

V. **Misrepresentation**
- having another student do your computer program
- lying to a professor to increase your grade

VI. **Bribery**
- offering money, any item or service to a faculty member or any other person to gain academic advantage for yourself or another
The University and Gainesville Community offer a number of personal counseling services for students at the University of Florida. Contact the appropriate agency listed below.

Counseling Related to Personal Issues

• **Alachua County Crisis Center** 264-6789
  Crisis Line phone counseling is available 24 hours a day.
  218 SE 24th Street, Gainesville 32641
  http://communityservices.alachua.fl.us/new/crisis/contact.htm

• **Career Development Assistance and Counseling** 392-1601
  Career Resource Center  M-F; 8:00am - 4:30pm
  Reitz Union-1st Floor
  www.crc.ufl.edu

• **Corner Drug Store** 334-3800
  For assistance with drug and alcohol related problems.
  1300 NW 6th Street, Gainesville
  Monday - Thursday, 8:00am - 7:30pm
  Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm
  http://cornerdrugstore.org

• **International Student Services** 392-5323, ext. 600
  Assistance is provided for International students at the University.
  123 Griner Hall
  Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:30pm
  www.ufic.ufl.edu/iss.htm

• **The Dean of Students Office, formerly Office for Student Services** 392-1261
  A staff member is available to assist students.
  P202 Peabody Hall
  Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:30pm
  http://oss.ufl.edu/

• **Student Health Services** 392-1161
  A counselor is available to assist students to work through personal issues.
  Student Health Care Center (1 Fletcher Driver)
  Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:30pm
  shhc.ufl.edu/CARE

Center for Sexual Assault/Abuse Recovery and Education (CARE) 392-1161, ext. 4231
  A Counselor is on-call 24 hours a day to assist with sexual assault issues.
  Student Health Care Center
  Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:30pm
  Weekends, On-Call
  www.health.ufl.edu/shhc/CARE.htm

Campus Alcohol and Drug Resource Center 392-1161
  Information on drug and alcohol counseling is available to the University Community.
  P202 Peabody Hall
  Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm

Students Mental Health Services 392-1171
  Infirmary, Room 245
  A Mental Health Counselor is on-call 24 hours a day to respond to emergencies.
  Monday & Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm; Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 8:00am - 6:00pm

• **University Counseling Center** 392-1575
  A counselor is available to assist students to work through personal issues.
  P301 Peabody Hall
  Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm
  www.counsel.ufl.edu

Disability Clause: Any student who feels that an accommodation for a disability is in order is encouraged to consult with the instructor during the first week of class.
I have read and understand the provisions of the course syllabus and agree to abide by those provisions, including the University of Florida’s academic honesty guidelines.

**Academic Honesty**

As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: “I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University”.

**Software Use**

All faculty, staff and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

We, the member of the University of Florida, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.
# Course Outline

**Monday - 6th Period 12:50pm - 1:40pm**

New Physics Building (NPB), Room 1002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject Area</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 29</td>
<td>Course Introduction</td>
<td>Olexa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 5</td>
<td>Labor Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 12</td>
<td>Introduction to Agricultural Law</td>
<td>Olexa</td>
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<td>Sept 19</td>
<td>Introduction to Agribusiness Management: A Case Study</td>
<td>Ryngaert</td>
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<td>Sept 26</td>
<td>Food Policy and Regulation</td>
<td>Turner</td>
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<td>Oct  3</td>
<td>Relationships of Government and Private Markets: Impacts of Institutional</td>
<td>Mulkey</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Change</td>
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<td>Oct 10</td>
<td>Water Management District Oversight</td>
<td>Sample</td>
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<td>Oct 17</td>
<td>Agricultural Biotechnology: From Nuts to Bolts</td>
<td>GalloMeagher</td>
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<td>Oct 24</td>
<td>Agriculture and Water Policy</td>
<td>Kuhl</td>
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<td>Oct 31</td>
<td>Agricultural Terrorism</td>
<td>Roberts</td>
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<td>Nov  7</td>
<td>Farm Credit</td>
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<td>Nov 14</td>
<td>Worker's Compensation</td>
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<td>Nov 21</td>
<td>International Trade Policy</td>
<td>Messina</td>
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<td>Nov 28</td>
<td>Lobbying for Agriculture: An Introduction</td>
<td>Littlejohn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec  5</td>
<td>Instructor Forum</td>
<td>Olexa</td>
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</table>
Globalization is a current hot topic: discussed in small private circles as well as receiving international attention through the news media. What does globalization really involve for us as individuals and what are the implications for the Florida farmer? Dr. Drummond’s lecture on International Trade Policy enlightened the class to the history of the World Trade Organization (WTO), the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and the planned implementation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA).

In a nutshell, the concept of multilateral free-trade benefits all consumers according to economists. The lowering of tariffs and barriers to trade (subsidies and quotas) will force suppliers to maximize efficiency on a global scale. This concept utilizes the theory of comparative advantage of resources. As a global economy, we will compete efficiently for the best use of our resources: land, labor, capital, and management.

NAFTA was ratified in 1993 as a tri-lateral agreement between Canada, Mexico, and the United States. Today, Canada and Mexico are our #1 and #2 trading partners. Within fifteen years or inception, tariffs will be phased out and we expect to have tri-lateral free-trade. The success of NAFTA, so far, has inspired negotiations for the FTAA, which is expected to start in 2005 throughout North and South American countries. Globalization will undoubtedly allow products to be traded freely. Florida farmers could expect diversification of the commodities that they supply due to increased competition from South America.
The presentation by the wildflower grower was very informative and interesting. He began by introducing us to the wildflower industry. He then stated the conditions of corporations and their sub-chapters. The next topic of discussion pertained to the growing demand for these sunflower seeds. In conclusion, he estimated his business to be booming in three to five years.