

AEB 4242
International Agricultural Trade Policy (aka Agricultural and Food Policy)
Spring 2019

Class Details

Class Meets Tuesday 1:55-2:45 pm; Thursday 1:55 – 3:50 pm
Room: MCCB G086

Instructor Details

This course will be team taught. Approximate dates instructors will be in class are given below, but subject to change.

Dr. John VanSickle, Jan 10-22 Office: 1185 McCarty Hall A Phone: 294-7634 E-mail: sickle@ufl.edu	Dr. Jaclyn Kropp, Jan 24-Feb 5 Office: 1157 McCarty Hall A Phone: 294-7631 E-mail: jkropp@ufl.edu
Dr. Rod Clouser, Feb 7 – Feb 21 Office: 1161 McCarty Hall A Phone: 294-7623 E-mail: rclouser@ufl.edu	Dr. Travis McArthur, Feb 26 – Mar 14 Office: 1123 McCarty Hall B Phone: 294-7696 E-mail: tmcarthur@ufl.edu
Dr. Tatiana Borisova, Mar 19 – Apr 2 Office: 1097 McCarty Hall B Phone: 294-7666 E-mail: tborisova@ufl.edu	Dr. Angelia Chen, Apr 4 - 24 Office: 2115 McCarty Hall B Phone: 294-7678 E-mail: lijunchen@ufl.edu

TA:

Scott Miller
1094G McCarty B

Office hours:

Wednesdays, 10am-12pm

Course Description:

Explores the role of international trade policy in agriculture and examines the effects of trade and agricultural policies on domestic and international prices, consumption, production, trade and government revenues. Addresses the impact of current trade issues on the agricultural sector. This course focuses on developing an understanding of agricultural and food policy in the United States and the world. It thereby helps students develop a better understanding of policy-making entities at various levels of government in the United States and the rest of the world. It also provides a broad understanding of how policy actions in agriculture impact not only farmers' incomes, but also the well being of consumers, the economic viability of rural communities, and the quality of environmental resources worldwide.

Course Objectives:

- To develop a basic understanding of the history of U.S. agricultural and food policy, including the alternative philosophies used to justify government involvement in agriculture over time.

- To gain the broad appreciation of contemporary agricultural policy issues needed by professionals in a variety of agriculture-related occupations.
- To evaluate the impacts of alternative policy options.
- To develop an understanding of the policy process itself, including the actors and arenas involved, especially as it applies to agricultural and food policy.

Recommended texts:

Course readings will be announced in class. It is each student’s responsibility to read the material prior to class, if you miss a class, make sure you get the reading for the next session before you return. Readings will be posted on e-learning.

Grading and Activities

The scale used will be:

	A	93% or above	A-	90-92.9%
B+	B	83-86.9%	B-	80-83.9%
C+	C	73-76.9%	C-	70-73.9%
D+	D	63-66.9%	D-	60-63.9%
E		Less than 60%		

Grading Summary

	Point per assignment	Total Points
Quizzes	30 points	90
Policy Briefs	30 points	90
Attendance & participation	20 points	20
Total		200 points

Quizzes

There will be three quizzes during the semester. Quiz dates will be announced at least one week in advance. Approximate dates for quizzes will be January 22; February 5; and April 2.

Policy Briefs:

There will be three policy briefs during the semester. Due dates will be announced at least one week in advance. Approximate due dates will be February 21, March 21, and April 16.

Attendance and Make-Up Work

Students must attend and participate in at least 90% of class meetings to receive full credit for attendance and participation. Beyond 90% of class meetings, each absence or lack of participation will result in a deduction of 5-points from the attendance and participation grade. Excused absences will not be counted against your participation score.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Schedule:

- I. History of Agricultural Policy in the United States and the Policy Process
 - a. The Policy Process
 - b. History and Evolution of the U.S. Farm Bill
- II. Economics of Policy Tools
 - a. Review of consumer and producer surplus
 - b. Domestic support policies (price floor, deficiency payment, subsidy, etc.)
 - c. Trade policies (tariffs, quotas, administrative trade barriers, etc.)
- III. Florida Agricultural Policy
 - a. History of U.S. Agricultural Policy and Relationship to Florida Commodities
 - b. "Big" Sugar - A Florida Ag Foundation Commodity
 - c. Specialty Crops in Florida - Where Do They Fit in U.S. Agricultural Policy
 - d. Agricultural Risk Insurance - Florida Only Alternative?
- IV. International Agricultural Policy
 - a. The actors and instruments of trade policy: World Trade Organization, Free Trade Agreements, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, and Congress
 - b. The policymaking process: power and evidence
 - c. Normative issues: efficiency and inequality
- V. Environmental and Natural Resource Policy
 - a. Introduction to natural resource policy
 - b. Water allocation and management
 - c. Pollution control policies
- VI. Food and Nutrition Policy
 - a. Food safety issues
 - b. Review of food safety policies (domestically and internationally) (e.g., policy challenges on food safety: policies toward genetically engineered foods; policies restraining the use of chemicals in animal production; food labeling)
 - c. Nutrition and health issues
 - d. Review of nutrition policies (e.g., policy challenges on improving healthy eating; obesity policies, US food and nutrition programs and their effectiveness - including international food and nutrition programs)

University Policies

The University of Florida holds its students to the highest standards, and we encourage students to read the University of Florida Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code (Regulation 4.040), so they are aware of our standards. Any violation of the Student Honor Code will result in a referral to the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution and may result in academic sanctions and further student conduct action. The two greatest threats to the academic integrity of the University of Florida are cheating and plagiarism. Students should be aware of their faculty's policy on collaboration, should understand how to properly cite sources, and should not give nor receive an improper academic advantage in any manner through any medium.

No student may work or collaborate with another person on any academic activity in this course. Should group work be assigned or this class policy change, I will provide that in writing on the individual assignment instructions

THE HONOR PLEDGE

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Student Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by Students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

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.

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation

0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/*
Counseling Services
Groups and Workshops
Outreach and Consultation
Self-Help Library
Wellness Coaching
- U Matter We Care, www.umatter.ufl.edu/
- *Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu/*