

## SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS

### Colorado State University, Academic Partner

<b>Voyage:</b>	Spring 2018
<b>Discipline:</b>	International Education/Agriculture
<b>Course Number and Title:</b>	IE/AGRI 270: World Interdependence-Population & Food
<b>Division:</b>	Lower
<b>Faculty Name:</b>	Melissa Wdowik, PhD, RDN
<b>Semester Credit Hours:</b>	3

**Prerequisites:** None

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Finding food for a growing world population offers an opportunity to understand both the challenges and potential solutions in a global context. This course explores the patterns and causes of change in population and food throughout the world; world economic interdependence and how it shapes population and food issues; cultural pluralism; the physical, scientific principles underlying food production; agriculture and sustainable practices; and strategies for improving the world food supply. Students will compare and contrast cultural differences in farming systems, food security and insecurity, politics and policies, food waste, and environmental and economic issues in various countries.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the patterns and causes of change in global population and food production.
- Evaluate world economic interdependence and its effects on population and food issues.
- Recognize cultural pluralism in the world and appreciate the problems and opportunities created by a world community of nations.
- Assess physical, scientific principles underlying food production and strategies for improving the world food supply.
- Explain political influences on food production and allocation.
- Analyze industrial influences on food sources and distribution.
- Examine economic, social and cultural implications of hunger.
- Discuss problems and potential solutions related to food sustainability and security in countries visited.
- Consider pros and cons of technology and biotechnology.
- Identify and apply knowledge of food and society to practices in each of the countries on the SAS Spring 2018 course.

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

AUTHOR: Robert Paarlberg  
TITLE: Food Politics: What Everyone Needs to Know  
PUBLISHER: Oxford University Press  
ISBN #: 9780199322381  
DATE/EDITION: 2013, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition

AUTHOR: Raj Patel  
TITLE: Stuffed and Starved: The Hidden Battle for the World Food System  
PUBLISHER: Melville House  
ISBN #: 9781612191270  
DATE/EDITION: 2012, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition

Other readings will be listed throughout and available on e-reserve to be read before class.

## TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

### Depart Ensenada, Mexico – January 5

**B1–January 8:** Introduction and Overview

- Patterns and causes of change in population and food throughout the world
- World economic interdependence, population and food issues

**B2–January 10:** Food Production and Population Growth  
Cultural Pluralism in Hawaii  
[Reading: Textbook - Paarlberg Ch. 1 and 2](#)  
[Reading: Can Hawaii Feed Itself?](#)

### Honolulu, Hawaii – January 12

**B3–January 13:** Recap of Hawaii, USA, Population and Food  
The Hunger and Obesity Contradiction  
A Rural Autopsy  
[Reading: Textbook - Patel Ch. 1 and 2](#)  
[Reading: The 9-Billion People Question - The Economist](#)

*Turn in Independent Field Assignment*  
*Be ready to discuss/present*

**B4–January 15:** Actors in the Global Food System  
Farm Subsidies and Trade  
[Reading: Textbook - Paarlberg Ch. 5 and Ch. 8](#)  
[Reading: Textbook - Patel Ch. 3 and Ch. 4](#)

January 16—International Date Line crossing (Lost Day)

**B5—January 18:** Food System Business  
The Politics of High Food Prices  
Reading: Textbook - Paarlberg Ch. 3  
Reading: Textbook - Patel Ch. 5

No Class — January 19

**B6—January 21:** Global Perspectives of Food Security and Insecurity  
Faces of Hunger  
Reading: Global Demand for Food Is Rising. Can We Meet It?

**B7—January 23:** Economic, Social and Cultural Implications of Hunger  
Preparing for Japan, China and Hong Kong  
Reading: Textbook - Paarlberg Ch. 4  
Reading: World Food Program “Hunger”

Kobe, Japan — January 24-28

**B8—January 30:** Urbanization, Migration and Transition  
Reading: Urbanisation and Food Security  
Reading: The Nutrition Transition and Obesity in China

*Turn in Independent Field Assignment  
Be ready to discuss/present*

Shanghai, China — January 31 - February 1

In-Transit — February 2-3

Hong Kong, SAR — February 4-5

**B9—February 7:** Recap of Japan, China and Hong Kong  
Food Safety and Production Efficiency  
Food Loss and Food Waste  
Reading: Vietnam: Better Food Safety and Production Efficiency with  
Good Animal Husbandry Practices

*Turn in Independent Field Assignment  
Be ready to discuss/present*

## Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam – February 8-13

**B10—February 15:** Recap of Vietnam, Population and Food Challenges of Improving Nutrition  
Overview and Politics of Dietary Guidance  
Reading: Textbook - Paarlberg Ch. 7  
Reading: The Challenges of Improving Nutrition: Facts and Figures  
Reading: “Not Just Calories” from The 9 Billion-People Question, p 13

*Turn in Independent Field Assignment*  
*Be ready to discuss/present*

## No Class –February 16

**B11—February 18:** Exam 1

## Yangon, Myanmar – February 19-23

**B12—February 25:** The Green Revolution  
Reading: Textbook - Paarlberg Ch. 6  
Reading: Textbook - Patel Ch. 6  
Readings: Lessons from the Green Revolution 1 and 2

*Turn in Independent Field Assignment*  
*Be ready to discuss/present*

**B13— February 27:** Farming, the Environment, and Climate Change  
Reading: Textbook - Paarlberg Ch. 9  
Reading: Farming Systems and Poverty, FAO – Intro only

## Cochin, India – February 28 – March 5

### No Class – March 7

**B14—March 8:** What is Sustainability?  
Defining Organic and Locally Grown  
Reading: Textbook - Paarlberg Ch. 12

*Turn in Independent Field Assignment*  
*Be ready to discuss/present*

**B15—March 10:** Biotechnology, and Genetically Engineered Foods  
Reading: Textbook - Paarlberg Ch. 13  
Reading: Food Security\_Science

**Port Louis, Mauritius – March 11**

**B16–March 13:** Scarcity and Allocation: Corruption, War and Food  
Reading: Niger Feels Ripple Effect of Boko Haram as Fears of Food Shortage Spread

**B17–March 15:** Livestock  
Reading: Textbook - Paarlberg Ch. 10  
Reading: Livestock and Environment\_FAO

*Turn in Independent Field Assignment  
Be ready to discuss/present*

**B18–March 17:** Fisheries  
Reading: Textbook - Paarlberg Ch. 10  
Reading: Slow Food In Africa  
Reading: Ravaging the Oceans and Seas

**Cape Town, South Africa – March 18-23**

**B19–March 25:** Soil and Water  
Reading: Tropical Soils and Food Security  
Reading: The Disappearing Nutrient  
Reading: Global Water Security

*Turn in Independent Field Assignment  
Be ready to discuss/present*

**B20–March 27:** Preparing for Ghana  
Agribusiness, Supermarkets, and Fast Food  
Reading: Textbook - Paarlberg Ch. 11

**B21–March 29:** **Exam 2**

**Takoradi, Ghana – March 30 - 31**

**Tema, Ghana – April 1-3**  
**FIELD CLASS APRIL 3**

**B22–April 5:** Recap of Ghana, Population and Food

*Turn in Field Class Assignment  
Be ready to discuss/present*

**B23—April 7:** Review of World economic interdependence and how it shapes population and food issues

**Study Day — April 8**

**B24— April 10:** Presentations: Groups 1, 2, 3 & 4

**Casablanca, Morocco — April 11-14**

**B25—April 16:** Recap of Morocco, Population and Food  
Presentations: Groups 5, 6, 7 & 8

**Arrive Bremerhaven, Germany — April 19**

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### **FIELD WORK**

Semester at Sea field experiences allow for an unparalleled opportunity to compare, contrast, and synthesize the different cultures and countries encountered over the course of the voyage. In addition to the one field class, students will complete independent field assignments that span multiple countries.

**Field Class attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field class.** Field Classes constitute at least 20% of the contact hours for each course.

### **Field Class and Assignment**

The Field Class for this course will take place on Tuesday, April 3, in Tema, Ghana.

Field Class Title: Visit to a Small Ghanaian Farm and the World Bank

Field Class Description: Over half of Ghana's workforce is employed in agriculture, and farmers' success plays an important role in the country's survival. This field course will build on classroom discussion of agricultural practices, food self-sufficiency, and development in Ghana. Student will begin the day with a tour of a small farm, accompanied by local university students. The interactions with both farmers and peers will give perspective to the challenges and opportunities of food production.

Lunch at a local restaurant will allow participants to explore unique regional dishes while continuing conversations with local students.

After lunch, a special opportunity to visit the World Bank and meet with its experts will inform participants about plans for economic development and growth along with poverty reduction in Ghana.

### Field Class Learning Objectives:

1. Connect classroom study of food systems with small farm logistics and local farmers
2. Understand agriculture strategies and development through the eyes of experts at the World Bank
3. Explore local food culture by sampling traditional food and interacting with local university students

Evaluation: Students will prepare by participating in class discussion and viewing course materials related to Ghana. They will then be graded on two outcomes. 1) Participation and engagement with local guides and 2) A 2-3 page essay on connecting the visit to class discussions on food security. Include up to 5 photos.

### INDEPENDENT FIELD ASSIGNMENTS (20%)

Experiences in port will enhance course material by allowing you to experience and observe local practices and customs. You will select 5 ports (out of the following 9 only: Hawaii, Japan, China, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Myanmar, India, Mauritius, and South Africa) in which to do an Independent Field Assignment. For each assignment, you will type a 2-3 page essay (12 point, double spaced) on the foods you observe or consume as they relate to one of three topics:

1. Agriculture of the country
2. Food waste
3. Cost comparison of different foods available

Include a discussion of your food experience (what, where, how) and reflection on how it relates to your topic as discussed in class. Include photos as desired. Students will each orally (informally) present their field assignment at least once during the semester. These presentations will occur in the class immediately following the port visit.  
(5 @ 20 points each = 100 pts)

### OTHER ASSIGNMENTS

#### Exam 1 (15%)

*To include material from classes 1-10, their readings, and class discussions*

#### Exam 2 (15%)

*To include material from classes 12-20, their readings, and class discussions*

#### Class Participation (15%)

*You are expected to prepare for each class by reading the assigned paper and/or reflecting on recent port visits.*

#### Presentation (15%)

*Presentations April 5-16. Students will form eight groups of up to 4 members each. Each group will offer a 20-minute presentation on one of the topics discussed in class, using a minimum of 3 countries visited to provide examples. Details to be provided.*

## EVALUATION SUMMARY

20% Field Class	100 points
20% Independent Field Assignments	100 points
15% Exam 1	75 points
15% Exam 2	75 points
15% Class Participation	75 points
<u>15% Presentation</u>	<u>75 points</u>
	500 points

## GRADING SCALE

The following Grading Scale is utilized for student evaluation. Pass/Fail is not an option for Semester at Sea coursework. Note that C-, D+ and D- grades are also not assigned on Semester at Sea in accordance with the grading system at Colorado State University (the SAS partner institution).

Pluses and minuses are awarded as follows on a 100% scale:

<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Satisfactory/Poor</u>	<u>Failing</u>
97-100%: A+	87-89%: B+	77-79%: C+	Less than 60%:
93-96%: A	83-86%: B	70-76%: C	
90-92%: A-	80-82%: B-	60-69%: D	

All deadlines are non-negotiable. Any assignment turned in after its due date will be subject to a penalty of 5 points per day.

## ATTENDANCE/ENGAGEMENT IN THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Attendance in all Semester at Sea classes, including the Field Class, is mandatory. Students must inform their instructors prior to any unanticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion.

## LEARNING ACCOMMODATIONS

Semester at Sea provides academic accommodations for students with diagnosed learning disabilities, in accordance with ADA guidelines. Students who will need accommodations in a class, should contact ISE to discuss their individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner prior to implementation.

A letter from the student's home institution verifying the accommodations received on their home campus (dated within the last three years) is required before any accommodation is provided on the ship. Students must submit this verification of accommodations to [academic@isevoyages.org](mailto:academic@isevoyages.org) as soon as possible, but no later than two months prior to the voyage.



## **STUDENT CONDUCT CODE**

The foundation of a university is truth and knowledge, each of which relies in a fundamental manner upon academic integrity and is diminished significantly by academic misconduct. Academic integrity is conceptualized as doing and taking credit for one's own work. A pervasive attitude promoting academic integrity enhances the sense of community and adds value to the educational process. All within the University are affected by the cooperative commitment to academic integrity. All Semester at Sea courses adhere to this Academic Integrity Policy and Student Conduct Code. I will request students write out and sign the following honor pledge on the midterm and final exams: "I pledge on my honor that I have not received or given any unauthorized assistance on this exam". Please see me early in the semester if you have questions or concerns regarding the student conduct code.

## **RESERVE BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY**

None

## **FILM REQUESTS:**

None

## **ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS**

To be provided on e-reserve

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

None