

AGRI 270 / IE 270
WORLD INTERDEPENDENCE: POPULATION AND FOOD
Spring 2020

General:

3 Credits, Traditional Grading Only, No Prerequisites

Meeting: MWF 11:00-11:50 a.m. in Natural Resources 113

Instructor:

Dr. Gregory Graff
Professor, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
gregory.graff@colostate.edu
B328 Andrew G. Clark Building
970-491-4028 (office phone)
Office hours: Wednesdays 1:00-3:00 PM, or by appointment

TA: to be announced

Course Objectives:

1. *To understand the patterns and causes of change in human population and food production and consumption throughout the world community of nations.*
2. *To understand world economic interdependence and how it shapes population and food issues.*
3. *To understand cultural pluralism in the world and appreciate the problems and opportunities created by a world community of nations.*
4. *To understand the physical, scientific principles underlying food production and strategies for improving the world food supply.*
5. *To provide learning experiences to improve skills in reading, literature search, critical thinking, and writing.*
6. *To provide an opportunity to learn about the local economic and food situation through service learning at a community food service such as the Food Bank of Larimer Country.*

Organization and Requirements:

1. Grading

Attendance	5%
Quizzes: 5 @ 3% each	15%
Exam I (midterm, in class)	15%
Exam II (during finals week)	25%
Four Short Response Paper Assignments	20%
Term Paper <i>or</i> Service Learning project	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

2. Attendance: It is important that you attend regularly because most topics will be covered in a single session, discussion will be important to understanding, and there will be no opportunity for review in succeeding classes.

Guest speakers may not provide handout summaries of their remarks. Media and case study presentations will be a rich source of knowledge and perspective building, and contents of these classroom experiences will also be included in quizzes and exams. **Attendance will be taken occasionally in order to assess participation.**

3. Readings: There is no text for this course. Assigned readings can be found on the course's Canvas site. There are number of different types of readings: peer-reviewed academic journal articles; official reports from government agencies and international organizations; news items; case studies, and interactive web resources.

Contents of all assigned reading will be covered in quizzes and on exams. Students will choose an academic article or official report reading on which to focus for each of the four Response Paper writing assignments (see below).

4. Quizzes: On every second Friday there will be a brief quiz of about 15 questions each; the purposes of the quizzes are (1) to encourage you to keep current on class notes and readings and (2) to introduce you to the types of questions you will see on exams.

5. Exams: There are two exams, a midterm and a final. Questions are multiple-choice and relate to *lectures, readings, guest speaker presentations, films, and case studies*. There will not be an opportunity to make-up the midterm; if the midterm is missed due to an accepted excuse (official university travel, documented medical emergency, etc.), then the final will count for the full exam portion of the grade (i.e. 40 percent).

6. Writing Assignments: All writing for this course is done in individual assignments, no group assignments.

a. Response Papers: Each student is assigned four (4) one page, typed, response papers, each based on one of the primary peer-reviewed scholarly article readings previously assigned in this course. Eligible readings are listed in each Response Paper assignment. One response paper is due at the end of each four-week period on Friday at 5:00 PM (as noted in the Canvas schedule). Details of the response paper assignment will be covered in the *College Writing Workshop*. The objective of the response paper is to respond critically to one of the readings you have read during the prior weeks.

All four response papers will initially be graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory as to whether they meet the criteria for the assignment and are on time. This will account for a portion of the response papers grade, equal to 10% of your overall course grade. The entire class will receive general feedback about the response papers, and individual feedback will be available in office hours upon request. In the final week of class, you will choose one of the four response papers that you have already written to revise and resubmit for more detailed grading. That paper's grade will constitute the rest of the course grade allocated to the response papers, equal to another 10% of course grade. Thus, altogether the response paper assignments make up a total of 20% of the course grade.

7. Term Project

a. Service Learning (OPTION 1): The service-learning opportunity will be explained during the first week of class. Those who decide to take advantage of this opportunity will be required to establish an agreement with the volunteer coordinator or liaison person at an approved local food-assistance program (including food banks, food pantries, soup kitchens, or shelters) and inform Professor Graff about your commitment to that organization.

Possible volunteer programs include the *food assistance programs* of the following organizations:

The Food Bank of Larimer County (<http://www.foodbanklarimer.org/volunteer/>)

Weld Food Bank (in Greeley) (<http://www.weldfoodbank.org/GetInvolved/Volunteer.aspx>)

Catholic Charities of Northern Colorado (<https://ccdenver.org/larimer-county-services/volunteer-donate/>)

Salvation Army Fort Collins (<https://fortcollins.salvationarmy.org/>)

Fort Collins Rescue Mission (<https://fortcollinsrescuemission.org/category/volunteering/>)

Harvest Farm (<https://www.harvestfarm.org/>)

The Growing Project (<http://www.thegrowingproject.org/volunteer.html>)

FoCo Café (<http://fococafe.org/volunteer/>)

Other volunteer opportunities can be found through listings at **United Way of Larimer County** (<https://uwaylc.org/Volunteer>). Or you may know of an opportunity through a church, club, or other community organization. If you are interested in volunteering at another organization that provides food assistance, that is great! But, please, you will need to get prior approval from Prof. Graff before you make your volunteer commitment. Credit cannot be given for unapproved volunteer work.

The following requirements for the service learning project must be met:

- **Attend our College Writing Workshop:** In class on the second Friday of the semester. Workshop attendance is required for all students.
- **Written commitment:** Due, in Canvas, on Friday of the second week of class, same day as our *College Writing Workshop*, please provide me with a written indication of the commitment you are making to a volunteer program, detailing the position or activity (in just two sentences), your planned schedule, and the volunteer coordinator or contact person at the organization, with their contact information (phone number and email)
- **Regular participation with your organization for at least one hour each week, for 14 weeks:** Beginning no later than the third week of the semester, participation must continue through the last week of regular classes. **If you miss the agreed schedule twice, the service learning experience cannot be counted for credit.**
- **Service learning report:** You are encouraged to keep a journal or log of your experiences during the semester. Then at the end of semester use your log entries to write a two-page, thoughtful report of what you did, what you learned, and how it relates to this class. Service learning report will be due the last weeks of class. The report should be written to explain your volunteer experience to your fellow students.

You are encouraged to bring your service learning experience to the classroom through comments and questions throughout the semester.

b. Term Paper (OPTION 2): Students who do not to engage in a service learning project will instead be asked to write a seven page term paper. Please see Term Paper assignment in Canvas for more details. Deadlines for the term paper are:

- **Attend our College Writing Workshop:** In class on the second Friday of the semester. Workshop attendance is required for all students.
- **Term paper topic:** Due second Monday in March.
- **Annotated references:** Due last Friday in March.
- **TERM PAPER DUE** in the **Peer Review Workshop** held in class on last Friday in April. Workshop attendance is required for all students submitting term paper; those doing Service Learning option are excused. Also submit an electronic version of your term paper on Canvas.
- **Final revised draft of term paper:** Due in class on the second-to-last Friday of the semester. Submit in hard copy in the following order, with all three stapled together:
 - (1) final revised version of your term paper on top,
 - (2) peer review worksheet from the Peer Review Workshop in between, and
 - (3) previous version of your term paper that was submitted and reviewed at the Peer Review Workshop on the bottom.

Also submit an electronic version of your final revised term paper in Canvas.

8. Late Assignment Penalties: Any papers for the course submitted late will receive a *10 percent penalty per day late* (1 day late= -10%, 2 days late= -20%, etc). Papers submitted more than one week late will not be graded and a score of zero will be recorded.

9. Cheating and Plagiarism: Cheating on examinations and plagiarism in papers are not acceptable and will result in no credit for the examination or assignment. When plagiarism is suspected, papers may be checked with one of several internet plagiarism detection programs.