

AGRY 59800
African Development Activities
Spring, 2011
Wednesday & Friday, 8:30 – 10:20
Lilly Hall, 2-425 (Agronomy Conference Room)

Instructors:

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Dr. Schulze will serve as the primary point of contact for the course as mentioned below.

Course Description

This course will examine agricultural, cultural, economic, environmental, and social aspects of sub-Saharan Africa with an emphasis on agricultural development activities in Kenya and South Africa and on how we can become involved in these activities ourselves. There will be a mixture of faculty presentations; presentations, discussions, and debates developed and led by small teams consisting of two or more students and one or more faculty members; discussions of recent literature articles; and discussion and review of at least one book read in common by all class participants. In addition to participants from Purdue, the course will include student and faculty participants at Ivy Tech Community College in Lafayette, Moi University in Eldoret, Kenya, and the University of Fort Hare in Alice, South Africa. Students may have to purchase one or two books for the common reading assignment.

Prerequisites

None

Course Goals

1. To become more familiar with the geography and people of the continent of Africa in general, and the countries of Kenya and South Africa in particular.
2. To better understand some of the major agricultural, health, environmental, and social issues facing the countries of Kenya and South Africa today, with particular emphasis on small holder farmers in rural areas.

3. To establish a student-centered learning environment that will develop collaborative approaches to address the problems and limitations faced by small holder farmers.
4. To build and strengthen linkages between Purdue University, Ivy Tech Community College, Moi University in Eldoret, Kenya, and the University of Fort Hare in Alice, South Africa by collaborating on a joint learning experience.
5. To determine how each institution can internationalize its curricula and broaden the cultural experiences of its students.

Course Requirements

1. Attend all lectures and seminars. If you are unable to attend, please get prior approval from one of the instructors. For each two unexcused absences, your grade will be reduced by one letter grade.
2. Participate in class discussions and in on-line forum discussions.
3. Complete all assignments by the date due. Assignments will be made periodically by instructors and will be based on class input.
4. Present one, team-developed PowerPoint presentation based on a selected topic, and follow the presentation with an expanded written report on the material you individually presented.
5. Conduct peer evaluations of the student oral presentations as directed by the instructors.
6. Select one current reading from the popular press (non-U.S. source) related to Africa and lead a class discussion on the topic.
7. Prepare a final term paper on a topic approved by the instructors and present a brief summary of it to the class.

Required Readings

Quigley, Fran. 2009. *Walking Together, Walking Far. How a U.S. and African Medical School Partnership is Winning the Fight Against HIV/AIDS*. Indiana University Press, Bloomington, IN, USA. 147 p.

Additional readings will be provided by instructors and students.

Policies

General Course Policies

Dr. Schulze will serve as the primary point of contact if you have any questions about the course. Contact him by email or phone (contact info above) and he will respond as quickly as possible. Also, turn in assignments only to Dr. Schulze so that your work does not get misplaced.

We realize that some of you have conflicts between the times scheduled for this course and another course that you are also taking. We will work with you as best as we can to accommodate these conflicts, so long as you let us know about them in advance. Barring any schedule conflicts that you might have, we expect that you will be present on time when the class begins.

If at all possible, we will try to have real-time interactions between the groups at Purdue, Ivy Tech Community College, Moi University, and the University of Fort Hare. If you have a laptop, you are welcome to bring it to class because it will facilitate these interactions.

The course web site will be a primary means of communication during the semester. The course web site will be accessible at <http://drinet.hubzero.org/>. We will provide details of how to establish an account on driNET and how to access the class material during the first class period.

Grading

A. Grading of Oral Presentations

Formal class presentations will be evaluated by the instructors and class members based on the following:

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|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Quality of Visuals | 25% |
| 2. Presentation Techniques | 25% |
| 3. Organization and Content | 50% |
| a. Technical accuracy | |
| b. Completeness (coverage of topic) | |
| c. Depth | |
| d. Development of topic | |

B. Grading of Written Assignments

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|---|-----|
| 1. Organization of paper | 20% |
| a. Introduction (statement of topic) | |
| b. Supporting documentation | |
| c. Conclusion | |
| 2. Neatness, grammar and sentence structure | 20% |
| 3. Content | 60% |
| a. Technical accuracy | |
| b. Completeness (coverage of topic) | |
| c. Depth | |
| d. Development of topic | |

C. Course Grade

- | | |
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| 1. Participation in discussion in class | 10% |
| 2. Participation in on-line "forum" discussions | 10% |
| 2. Oral PowerPoint presentation | 15% |
| 3. Peer review of oral presentations as assigned | 5% |
| 3. Paper on PowerPoint presentation | 10% |
| 4. Student selected reading and student lead discussion | 10% |
| 5. Final Term Paper on selected topic
(topic selected must be different from that of the oral PowerPoint presentation and must be approved by the instructors by February 25) | 25% |
| 6. Oral summary of term paper | 5% |

7. In class written assignments 10%

90% = A, 80% = B, 70% = C, 60% = D, < 60% = F

Academic Dishonesty

Purdue's student guide for academic integrity is available at <http://www.purdue.edu/odos/aboutodos/academicintegrity.php>. In other words, don't lie, cheat, or steal, or give the appearance thereof. One aspect of academic honesty is that we must all attribute and cite the sources of information that we use in classroom presentations and papers.

Attendance

You must attend every class period, unless you have a valid reason for not doing so. If you need to miss a class period, please let Dr. Schulze know beforehand, if at all possible. As stated above, unexcused absences will result in reduction of your grade. Purdue's attendance policy is available at <http://www.purdue.edu/odos/services/classabsence.php>.

Missed or Late Work

All written and oral assignments are expected to be on time, unless prior arrangements have been made with Dr. Schulze.

Students with Disabilities

Purdue University is required to respond to the needs of the students with disabilities as outlined in both the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 through the provision of auxiliary aids and services that allow a student with a disability to fully access and participate in the programs, services, and activities at Purdue University.

If you have a disability that requires special academic accommodation, please make an appointment to speak with Dr. Schulze within the first week of the semester in order to discuss any adjustments. It is important that we talk about this at the beginning of the semester. It is the student's responsibility to notify the Disability Resource Center (<http://www.purdue.edu/drc>) of an impairment/condition that may require accommodations and/or classroom modifications.

Emergencies

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control. Relevant changes to this course will be posted onto the course website or can be obtained by contacting the instructors via email or phone. You are expected to read your @purdue.edu email on a frequent basis.

Nondiscrimination

Purdue University is committed to maintaining a community which recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters tolerance, sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among its members; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. In pursuit of its goal of academic excellence, the University seeks to develop and nurture diversity. The University believes that diversity among its many members strengthens the institution, stimulates creativity, promotes the exchange of ideas, and enriches campus life.

Purdue University prohibits discrimination against any member of the University community on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability, or status as a veteran. The University will conduct its programs, services and activities consistent with applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and orders and in conformance with the procedures and limitations as set forth in Executive Memorandum No. D-1 (http://www.purdue.edu/policies/pages/human_resources/d_1.html), which provides specific contractual rights and remedies.

Class Schedule

The class schedule is posted on the course web site. The schedule for the first 3 weeks of the semester is fairly certain, but the remainder of the schedule will evolve as the semester progresses in response to the interests of the class participants.

Week 1

Wednesday, January 12 – Introductions, discussion of syllabus, class web site demo, etc.

Friday, January 14 – An overview of the geography of Africa (Schulze)

Week 2

Wednesday, January 19 – Global Population reading and discussion

Friday, January 21 – 2009 World Food Prize Lauriat Dr. Gebisa Ejeta, *Revitalizing agricultural research for global food security*

Week 3

Wednesday, January 26 – *Dancing Across the Gap* DVD and class exercise

Friday, January 28 – Pedro Sanchez presentation titled, *Going From 1 to 3 Tons/Ha in Africa with More Variable Rainfall*, from a symposium titled, *The African Green Revolution: First Five Years*, at the 2010 Soil Science Society of America meeting

This syllabus may be modified during the course of the semester.