MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
COURSE SYLLABUS OUTLINE

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

COURSE NUMBER: AGR 533  CREDIT HOURS: 3

I. **TITLE:**  
Seminar in International Agricultural Systems

II. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**  
A course designed to enhance students’ understanding of international agriculture systems and how they relate to the overall impact on world food processing and production. An emphasis is placed on systems which have the potential to impact and add value to America agriculture, as well as, those which hold key relationships to U.S.-based agricultural trade and food development.

Prerequisites: All students are required to participate in an international trip. The trip will be conducted during the week of Spring Break and will be funded by the individual. Also, Agricultural Economics or Economics must have already been taken.

*To receive graduate credit for this course, a student must be admitted to graduate studies prior to registering for the course.*

III. **PURPOSE:**  
To develop and enhance students’ knowledge and understanding of international agricultural systems and how they relate to U.S. systems.

IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

A. To acquaint students with international agricultural systems.
B. To develop students understanding of international products/processing.
C. To enable students to visualize world food production, as well as develop an understanding of the importance of international trade in agricultural products.
D. To utilize international experiences to develop new and innovative ideas, marketing techniques, and profitable production and processing systems.
E. To establish contacts and relationships with international agricultural businesses/production facilities for current and future gain.
F. To provide experiences in internationally-based travel.
G. To allow students to research and report on international agriculture and trade developments.
V. CONTENT OUTLINE:

A. United States agricultural trade and developments.
B. International production and processing techniques.
C. Exploration of international agricultural markets.
D. World food production and increased global demand and supply.
E. International travel to selected agricultural production/processing systems.
F. Technological impacts on selected countries agricultural systems.

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

A. Seminars and international guest speakers.
B. Assignments – written and oral presentations.
C. International travel to selected countries of interest.
D. Internet and multi-media communication.

VII. FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:

All students are required to participate in an international trip. The trip will be conducted during the week of Spring Break and will be funded by the individual.

VIII. RESOURCES:

A. Internet (WWW), Library, and Professionals
B. State and National Agencies of Agriculture to include the Foreign Agriculture Service, USDA, FAO, and European Economic Community
C. International students

IX. GRADING PROCEDURES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class presentation (Post abroad)</th>
<th>100 points</th>
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<tr>
<td>International Travel Journal</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Agriculture Trip</td>
<td>300 points</td>
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Total 500 points

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:
A = 90%     B = 80%     C = 70%     D = 60%     E = Below 60%

Note: Graduate students will be expected to complete additional assignments.
X. ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Please refer to the most current copy of the Murray State University’s Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin.

XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

Please refer to the most current copy of the Murray State University’s Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin.

NOTE: The School of Agriculture Faculty have adopted and implemented an Academic Honesty Policy in addition to the University Honesty Policy, which can be found in the current Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin. The policy sets guidelines regarding acts of dishonesty and the procedure to follow should an event occur. It is each Agriculture student’s responsibility to obtain and read a copy of this document. The School’s Academic Honesty Policy can be obtained by asking for a copy from any Agriculture Faculty member or the Secretary.

XII. TEXT AND REFERENCES:

Selected readings as assigned by the instructor.

XIII. PREREQUISITES:

All students are required to participate in an international trip. The trip will be conducted during the week of Spring Break and will be funded by the individual. Also, Agricultural Economics or Economics must have already been taken.

XIV. STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact Sabrina Y. Dial, Director of Equal Opportunity, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318. Telephone: 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).
XV. **MSU SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE CELL PHONE POLICY**

The School of Agriculture recognizes that in today’s world cell phones are a familiar and often necessary form of communication for students.

It shall be the policy of the School that no cell phone usage shall be allowed in class and/or labs without the prior consent of the course instructor. This shall include verbal calling, incoming calls, email, text messaging, and use of cell phone calculators on tests and quizzes.

Cell phones must be kept off and out of sight (i.e. secured to a person’s belt or kept in a bag or purse away from desks and lab counters).

Should a student’s cell phone be visible, ring, or other form of unauthorized usage that is interruptive to the class or lab, the student may be asked to leave class and not return for that class/lab period.

Upon prior consent of the instructor, a student may obtain permission to have their phone on in case of an emergency or in critical family situations.

This policy also includes pagers and other electronic equipment such as blackberries and/or computers/laptops.