Syllabus

World Food Issues: Past and Present
Spring 2014

Time: January 13- May 9
   Section 2: MWF 11-11:50 AM, 2026 Agronomy
   Section 4: MWF 1:10 – 2:00 PM, 2026 Agronomy
   Section XW: Online

Instructor: Clark Ford, 2567 Food Sci, 294-0343, cfford@iastate.edu
Course Website: http://www.public.iastate.edu/~cfford/342WFI.htm


Course Description: We will examine world food issues from the perspectives of:

1) The way things are in the present. Class material will focus on the book The World Food Problem, which looks globally at the interrelated economic, political and social issues related to world hunger in developing nations, including: inequity, food production, biotechnology, ecological destruction, population growth, policy, and aid. Ethical issues concerning these topics will be discussed.

2) How things got this way. Early humans, hunter and gatherer cultures, the agricultural revolution, hierarchical and warring agricultural societies, food production and geography, invention and technology, winners and losers through 10,000 years of conquest, population growth, and the interaction of religion, government, and economic systems. The unequal treatment of women, the industrial revolution, colonialism, and global economic domination by wealthy nations over developing nations will be discussed.

3) Policies and solutions for the future. Our discussion will attempt to synthesize the information from past and present, examine our personal and societal values and policies concerning world food issues, and explore organizations involved in hunger relief and development.

Grades are determined on a 90-80-70-60 percentage basis (with plusses and minuses). Exams are short answer and are based primarily, but not solely, on study guide questions. Students in sections 2 and 4 are required to be in attendance during student presentations, Feb 24-28.

Quizzes, 20 pts each - 140 pts
Nutrition Report – 20 pts
News Report – 20 pts
Green Revolution Report – 20 pts
Student Powerpoint Presentations - 20 pts
Movie Report – 20 pts
Origins of Poverty and Hunger Report – 20 pts
Aid Organization Report –20 pts
Extra Credit paper – 20 pts
Extra Credit lectures 2@ 5 pts each
Dates                                Topic                                                     Reading in Text

**Section 1:** Jan 13- Jan 24      World Hunger, Famines, Malnutrition           WFP Ch 1-3

  Quiz 1: Jan 24

**Section 2:** Jan 27- Feb 7             Hunger Ethics, Economics, Population          WFP Ch 4-11

  Nutrition Report due by: Jan 31

  Quiz 2: Feb 7

**Section 3:** Feb 10-21          Environment, Agriculture, Biotech                   WFP 12-14

  News Report due by: Feb 14

  Quiz 3: Feb 21

**Student Presentations:** Feb 24-28 (For online students all presentations due by Feb 28)

**Section 4:** Mar 3- Mar 14        Agricultural Revolution, Ancient History

  Green Revolution Report due by: Mar 7

  Quiz 4: Mar 14

**Section 5:** Mar 24- Apr 4            Industrial Revolution, Women, Religion

  Movie Report due by: Mar 28

  Quiz 5: Apr 4

**Section 6:** Apr 7-18                   Policies: Health, Globalization, Consumers         WFP 15-20

  Historical Origins of Poverty and Hunger Report due by: Apr 11

  Quiz 6: Apr 18

**Section 7:** Apr 21- May 2          Policies: Agriculture, Aid, Development         WFP 21-24

  Aid Organization Case Study due by: Apr 25

  Quiz 7: May 2

**No Final Exam**

**All Extra Credit due by May 9**

Required Reading includes Text and links on the course webpage:
http://www.public.iastate.edu/~cfford/342WFI.htm

If you have a disability and require accommodations, please contact the instructor early in the semester so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. You will need to provide documentation of your disability to the Disability Resources (DR) office, located on the main floor of the Student Services Building, Room 1076, 515-294-6624.