



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE

BIG ORANGE. BIG IDEAS.

AREC 332: Food Policy

Spring 2020, 2 credit hours

Mondays and Wednesdays: 1:25PM-2:15PM, Morgan Hall 226

Faculty Contact Information:

Instructor: Dr. Karen DeLong and Ruthann Geib

E-mail: Dr. DeLong email: klewis39@utk.edu, Ms. Geib email: rgeib@utk.edu

Office Hours: Karen's office: 302-G Morgan Hall. Ruthann's office: 307-B. Stop by or schedule an appointment by email.

"The only people who understand the Farm Bill are people who are paid to understand it, and they only understand the part they are paid to understand." -Marion Nestle, Professor NYU

Course Description:

Economic rationale for and effects of policies and programs relating to food production and consumption, including hunger and nutrition, safety, labeling, advertising, organic production, and local food systems. Prerequisite: AREC 201 or ECON 201 or ECON 211.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives:

Provide a thorough analysis of U.S. food policy formation, the entities involved with food policy, and the policies governing U.S. food. At course completion, students should understand:

- the wide-range of entities involved with food policy formation (e.g., producer/commodity/agribusiness trade associations, food manufacturer and marketing associations, consumer groups, environmental groups, the government);
- different food policies related to the following: nutrition (SNAP, feeding programs), health/medical (obesity, allergies, WHO), animal welfare, technology (cell-derived foods, biotechnology), food labeling (organic, GMO, local), food safety, and media/advertising;
- the political process, the regulatory agencies involved in food policy, and legal aspects of food policy.

Course Communications:

CANVAS will be used to post power points and reading material. Occasional homework assignments will also be submitted over CANVAS.

Texts/Resources/Materials:

Required: *Food Policy in the United States, An Introduction, 2nd Edition*. 2018. Parke Wilde Routledge. Purchase at: <https://www.routledge.com/Food-Policy-in-the-United-States-An-Introduction/Wilde/p/book/9781138204003>

Note: Make sure to get the 2nd edition and not the 1st edition!

Websites: In addition to the textbook, popular press articles and industry/government reports will be posted to CANVAS to be read.

Course Requirements, Assessments, and Evaluations:

Participation and Attendance (10%)

Occasionally, there will be a class sign-in for attendance. If you are absent one of the days attendance is taken, your overall grade will decrease by 2%. Participation in class is critical since this is a policy course. There are no wrong opinions or sides of the argument.

Assignments (45% of total)

About 5-8 assignments will be given throughout the course.

Note: Contact instructor prior to assignment due date if there is an adequate reason the assignment cannot be turned in on time.

Tests/Exams (30% total)

2 Exams (including final exam): 15% each

Contact instructor prior to the exam if there is an adequate reason the exam cannot be completed on the exam date.

Class Project- (15% of total)

Choose a specific food policy. Explain how this food policy was written and passed into law (e.g., was it included in the Farm Bill?). Include all of the different institutions involved with lobbying for and against this policy. Please provide rationale for why this should and should-not be a policy. Explain the regulatory agencies that govern this food policy. A PowerPoint presentation on your project will be completed at the end of the semester. Additional details regarding the project will be provided later in the semester and your chosen food policy must be approved by the instructor.

Grading Scale: The following scale will be used to assign final course grades:

Percentage (%)

A =94-100

A- =90-93

B+ =87-89

B =84-86

B- =80-83

C+ =77-79

C =74-76

C- =70-73

D+ =67-69

D =64-66

D- =60-63

F =<60

Final Exam Date used for Class Presentations: 10:15am – 12:15pm on Monday, May 4 (same room, Morgan Hall 226)

Course Outline (subject to change)

Topics Covered Prior to Exam 1

- Wilde Chapter 1: Making Food Policy in the U.S.
- Wilde Chapter 2: Agriculture Overview
- Farm Bill & PACS
- Wilde Chapter 4: Food & Agricultural Trade
- Wilde Chapter 8: Dietary Guidance and Health

Topics Covered Prior to Exam 2 (Final Exam). Note: the Final Exam is Cumulative

- Wilde Chapter 7: Food Safety
- USDA agencies and functions
- Wilde Chapter 9: Food Labeling and Advertising
- Wilde Chapter 10: Hunger and Food Insecurity
- Wilde Chapter 11: Nutrition Assistance Programs for Children

University Policies:

- **January 15** is the last day you may drop full-term courses without a W on your transcript.
- **March 31** is the last day you may drop full-term courses and receive a “W” on your transcript that is not computed in your GPA.

The following additional regulations relate to dropping classes after the No W drop deadline:

- Students are allowed four drops during their academic career (until a bachelor’s degree is earned).
- Students holding a B.S. degree who return to pursue a second B.S. degree are allowed four additional drops.
- Students pursuing more than one major or degree simultaneously are not allowed additional drops.
- The W grade is not computed in the grade point average.
- After the 84th day, no drops are permitted.

Courses may be dropped on the web through MyUTK. Failure to attend a course is not an official withdrawal and will result in the assignment of an NC grade.

Total Withdrawal from the University

If you need to drop all of your courses for the term (e.g. due to unexpected illness, accident, etc.), you may do so by applying for a total withdrawal from the university for the term. The deadline for total withdrawal is April 24, and may be done through MyUTK. If you apply for a total withdrawal, you must also apply for readmission through the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

Disability Accommodations

“Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact Student Disability Services in Dunford Hall, at 865-974-6087, or by video relay at, 865-622-6566, to coordinate reasonable academic accommodations.

University’s Honor Statement

“An essential feature of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville is a commitment to maintaining an atmosphere of intellectual integrity and academic honesty. As a student of the university, I pledge that I will neither knowingly give nor receive any inappropriate assistance in academic work, thus affirming my own personal commitment to honor and integrity.”

Plagiarism

“Students are also responsible for any acts of plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the intellectual property of someone else without giving proper credit. The undocumented use of someone else’s words or ideas in any medium of communication (unless such information is recognized as common knowledge) is a serious offense, subject to disciplinary action that may include failure in a course and/or dismissal from the university. Specific examples of plagiarism are:

- Copying without proper documentation (quotation marks and a citation) written or spoken words, phrases, or sentences from any source;
- Summarizing without proper documentation (usually a citation) ideas from another source (unless such information is recognized as common knowledge);
- Borrowing facts, statistics, graphs, pictorial representations, or phrases without acknowledging the source (unless such information is recognized as common knowledge);
- Collaborating on a graded assignment without the instructor’s approval;
- Submitting work, either in whole or in part created by a professional service and used without attribution (e.g., paper, speech, bibliography, or photograph).”

For more information on the expectations of academic integrity shared by all members of the academic community at the University of Tennessee, visit catalog.utk.edu and click on “Academic Policies and Procedures.”