



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE

BIG ORANGE. BIG IDEAS.

**AREC 395: The Jim Herbert Executive Seminar Series
Fall 2020, 1 credit hour**

Fridays: 11:20 – 12:35pm, Face-to-Face Instruction
Plant Biotech (PBB) 160

Faculty Contact Information:

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Course Description

Global and local leaders in agriculture and agricultural-related fields will engage students in discussions of a range of cutting-edge topics facing the food and agriculture industry. Topics include the challenges and opportunities of feeding the world and the impact of technology on the future of the agriculture and food industry. Students will be exposed to real-world applications of business and economic principles, agricultural policy implications, and business and institutional leadership through face-to-face interaction with these industry leaders. *Registration Restriction(s): Junior or senior standing.*

Books and Materials

There is no required text for this course. **Information on speakers & assignments will be posted to CANVAS.**

Course Requirements

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Every class period you are absent, your grade is decreased by 6%. Under extenuating circumstances, some leeway is allowed, at the discretion of the instructor. University excused absences are permitted, but the written excuse letter will need to be provided. A student who is unable to attend class due to COVID-19 exposure will be required to join the class via Zoom.

Weekly Assignments (80% of final course grade)

Thirty-minutes of each speakers' session is devoted to question and answer time from the students. Therefore, weekly readings will be assigned to prepare students to engage speakers on a given topic. Students will submit three questions they would like to ask the speaker using Canvas on Wednesdays by midnight. On Friday, we will select some of these questions for you to then ask the speakers (you are responsible for asking the questions you submitted to the speaker). Please come to class prepared to ask questions to the speakers. Late assignments are accepted prior to Friday at 11:20am, but the grades will be reduced by 30% due to being late.

Final Paper (20% of final course grade)

A class paper will be due over CANVAS at the beginning of the final exam date which is **on Wednesday, December 9 at 10:30am-12:45pm.** All final exams are held online this semester, so we will be meeting over Zoom with a provided Zoom link (sent on email and placed on CANVAS) on our final exam date that **Wednesday, December 9 at 10:30am-12:45pm.** This paper will serve as a capstone for the course and

will enable students to reflect on the insight they have gained from the course. Students will be responsible for discussing their final paper thoughts over Zoom on the final exam date.

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

A = 94-100	B- = 80-83	D+ = 67-69
A- = 90-93	C+ = 77-79	D = 64-66
B+ = 87-89	C = 74-76	D- = 60-63
B = 84-86	C- = 70-73	F = <60

COVID-19 Policy

This class is face-to-face instruction. It is very likely some of our speakers will be joining us by Zoom. Regardless of if our speakers join us by Zoom, or in the classroom, we will still always meet in PBB 160. For speakers Zooming in, they will be broadcast in our classroom. In the event all classes get moved online, we will easily transition this class to meet over Zoom. We hope that will not happen though. There are only 19 students enrolled in this course. PBB 160 is a giant classroom so we have plenty of room to social distance. Make sure to wear a mask and sit six-feet apart since that is required by UTK guidelines. We are available anytime to discuss any concerns you may have with class being face-to-face. Our goal is to make this semester seem as normal as we can while keeping everyone safe!

UTK Social Distancing Policy (taken from <https://provost.utk.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2020/06/Syllabus-language-masks-and-social-distancing.pdf>)

“Students are required to wear face masks at all times and maintain social distancing (6 feet between individuals in traditional classrooms, or, in instructional laboratories and similar settings, only a few minutes in closer proximity when absolutely necessary to achieve learning objectives). Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, or a higher than normal temperature will be excused from class and should stay at home. Instructors have the right to ask those who are not complying with these requirements to leave class in the interest of everyone's health and safety. In the event that a student refuses to comply with these requirements, the instructor has the right to cancel class. Additionally, following other simple practices will promote good health in and out of the classroom, such as frequent and thorough hand washing, wiping down desks and seats with disinfectant wipes whenever possible, not sharing personal items such as pens and cell phones, and avoiding crowded hallways and other enclosed spaces.”

University Withdrawal Policy

- **August 25** is the last day you may drop full-term courses without a W on your transcript.
- **November 10** 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 28

(last day of classes), 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

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a documented disability or if you have emergency information to share, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 974-6087.

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." Click on http://catalog.utk.edu/content.php?catoid=1&navoid=156#hono_stat for more information.

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."