Agriculture Development  
(AGD 361)  
Syllabus

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Office Hours:  Wednesdays 9-11 or 2-4 (or by scheduled appointment)  
Office:  Ag Building, Room 112  
Department:  Agriculture  
This is an online class through D2L

Course Description:  This course is a study of the structure and function of agricultural delivery systems and their impact on the industry of agriculture. Special emphasis will be placed on the development of agriculture policy, food safety, the adoption and diffusion of new technology, agriculture service agencies, agricultural communications/advocacy, and agricultural education.

Text:  There is no text required for this course. All course readings are located within the CONTENT section of this course.

Cheating/Plagiarism:  This course will follow standards set forth by the university regarding cheating and plagiarism. This includes cheating on quizzes and exams taken in D2L.

Late Work:  Due dates are posted in D2L for each assignment, discussion, and quiz. Each week you will be required to complete the contents of a module. I will consider the end of the week as Sunday at 11:30 p.m. so everything from a module should be complete by Sunday at 11:30 p.m. Late work WILL NOT be excepted unless prior arrangements were made or an unpreventable emergency occurred. All late work will receive a reduction of 20% each week it is late. Even one day late will constitute a week so 1-7 days late is a reduction of 20%, 8-14 days late is a reduction of 40%, 15-21 days late is a reduction of 60%, etc...

Midterm and Final Exams:  You will not be required to take a face-to-face midterm or final exam. You will be assigned a major project which will take the place of your mid-term and an additional project that will replace your final exam.

There are several things you should understand in regards to taking this course online:

As the instructor, I will make myself available regularly. I will reply to emails and discussions in a timely manner. If I will be unavailable for several days in a row, I will inform you in advance, so that you will know not to expect any responses during that time frame (however, you will still have assignments to do during my absence). If you feel that responses are not meeting your expectations, please contact me at the number listed above.

Modules- The course CONTENT section of this course contains modules that you will complete throughout the semester. Each module will contain contents on one topic or a group of similar
topics. Each module will look a little different but will contain everything you need to complete that module. Any lecture materials, videos, text, or websites needed will be provided or linked through the modules. The assignments, discussions, quizzes, etc… will also be provided inside the modules. Each portion of the module should be completed to ensure maximum success in this course. You are expected to complete one module a week. Modules should be completed in consecutive order starting with Module 1.

Emails- Please use email as a way of communicating with the professor one-on-one, otherwise use the discussion board to post questions and comments that can be read by all the students in the course. The professor will respond to the emails in a timely manner.

Discussions- In order to get credit for participating in a discussion, YOU MUST PARTICIPATE. You should respond to comments made in a mature, educational manner. It is just as important to respond to other student’s posts as it is to respond to the professor's posts. I expect a minimum of two responses to other students’ posts in each discussion. There will be times throughout the semester when questions will be posted and you are expected to respond in a timely manner. D2L should prompt you when you have a new discussion posting. You will only receive full credit for the discussion if you make an original post and respond to at least two other students’ posts.

Assignments- Assignment grades are based on accuracy and quality of work. All assignments will be located in the module.

Quizzes/Exams- All quizzes and exams will be completed through D2L. You should complete all other tasks in the module before taking the quiz/exam but you are required to complete the quiz/exam before Sunday at 11:30 p.m. Some quizzes/exams will have a time limit which will be based on the length and content of the quiz/exam. For instance some quizzes may have to be completed within 15 minutes of starting and others may be an hour from the starting time. You will be notified of the length when you first open the quiz.

**Grades for the course will be based on the following criteria:**

Each assignment, discussion, quiz, exam, and project will be assigned a point value. Grades are calculated on a percentage basis. Thus, at the end of the semester the points you earned dived by the total points available will give you your percentage.

A = 90% to 100%  
B = 80% to 89%  
C + 70% to 79%  
D = 60% to 69%  
F = below 60%
Academic Integrity (A-9.1)
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.