

Course title and number AGEC 639/ SCSC 635 Comparative Global Standards in Food Systems
Term (e.g., Fall 200X) Fall 2016
Meeting times and location Online – <http://ecampus.tamu.edu>

Course Description and Prerequisites

Laws, regulations and standards governing the production, distribution, processing, and marketing of food across regions of the world; international standard setting bodies and risk assessment committees; regulatory equivalency and harmonization; cost/benefits of global standards and trade agreements.

Key Topics

This course will address the following topics:

- Globalization and Standards Development
- Principles of Standards Development
- Regional Food Laws and Regulations
 - Africa
 - Asia
 - Europe
 - Latin America and the Caribbean
 - North America and South West Pacific
 - Near East
- Impact of Food Law and Regulations on Trade, Food Security, and Food Protection
- Trade and Food Safety Related Organizations
- Emerging Issues

Learning Outcomes or Course Objectives

After completing this course, students will possess a working knowledge of feed and food law, regulations, and standards in different regions of the world. The course is intended to equip the student with breadth of knowledge needed to make decisions about which standards apply and under which circumstances based on economic, public health and safety, and quality management factors.

Instructor Information

Name Dr. Vicky Salin, Professor
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Name Dr. Tim Herrman, Professor
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Office hours By Appointment via e-mail
Office location Office of the Texas State Chemist

Textbook and/or Resource Material

No textbook is required for this course. Readings will be taken from reference materials, including government publications and standards. Most readings will be available in ECampus in .pdf format. Other readings will be available online, with a hyperlink provided in ECampus.

Presentations

Online slide presentations with audio or each module can be accessed from ECampus. The slides for each presentation will be provided as a .pdf file which can be downloaded and printed. Participants will also receive a packet of materials, which includes course materials on CD, via mail.

Grading Scale/Policy

Quizzes (7)	20 pts
Discussions (5)	30 pts
Projects (2)	50 pts

A	≥ 90 pts
B	80 – 89 pts
C	70 – 79 pts
D	60 – 69 pts
F	<60 pts

Class activities must be completed on the dates set by the instructor on the course website unless prior approval has been granted by an instructor.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be used to assess your understanding of concepts throughout the course.

Discussions: Course discussions will be held on the discussion forum on the course management system. These discussions are good way for you to communicate with other students and the instructor and to share ideas and insights. If you need an immediate answer, please e-mail Dr. Herrman (tjh@otsc.tamu.edu) or Dr. Salin (v-salin@tamu.edu) directly.

Projects: Projects are designed to explore the complex relationship between trade and food safety regulation and standards throughout the world. All projects require you to research and cite literature outside the assigned course readings.

Project # 1- Analyzing a Regional Trade Agreement

Project # 2 - Becoming an Export Power

Course Topics, Calendar of Activities, Major Assignment Dates

Week	Topic	Assignments	Due Date
Unit 1 Globalization and Standards			
1 Aug. 29 – Sept. 4	Global Food Chain Trade flows, Population & Income Public Health and Safety	Quiz Discussion	9/5/16
2 Sept. 5 – 11	Trade policy regimes	Quiz Discussion	9/12/16
3 Sept. 12 - 18	Codex Alimentarius and the role of Harmonization, Equivalency & Transparency	Quiz	9/19/16
4: Sept. 19 - 25	Food Import/Export Inspection & Certification Systems; OIE & IPPC; Food Hygiene	Discussion	9/26/16
Unit 2 Principles of Standards Development			
5: Sept. 27 - Oct2	Legal systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liability orientation versus regulatory orientation • Precautionary principle • Science-based standards Litigation in current global food system	Discussion	10/03/16
Unit 3 Regional Food Laws and Regulations (See Project 1 Description for Individual Due Dates)			
6 Oct. 3 - 9	Africa	Quiz; Project 1	10/10/16
7: Oct. 10 - 16	Asia	Project 1	10/17/16
8: Oct. 17 - 23	Europe	Project 1	10/24/16
9: Oct. 24 – 30	Latin America and the Caribbean	Quiz; Project 1	10/31/16
10: Oct. 31 – Nov. 6	North America and South West Pacific	Project 1	11/7/16
11: Nov. 7 - 13	Near East	Quiz; Project 1	11/14/16
Unit 4 Impact of Food Law and Regulations on Trade, Food Security, and Food Protection			
12: Nov. 14 - 20	3 rd party certification and audit	Quiz	11/28/16
13 : Nov. 21 – 27	<i>Happy Thanksgiving!</i>		
14: Nov. 28 - Dec 4	Cost-Benefits	Discussion	12/5/16
16: Dec. 5 - 7	Becoming an Export Power	Project 2	12/12/16

Other Pertinent Course Information

Course Tools:

All course materials and activities will be presented using the eCampus Learning Management System. Access eCampus by logging into <http://ecampus.tamu.edu> and perform the Browser Check by clicking on the 'Check Browser' button.

Technology Requirements

To ensure successful participation, students must have access to:

- A computer that is less than 4 years old;
- High-speed Internet connection (cable/DSL or better) & updated browser;
- Office software such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint & Excel or equivalent;
- Common plug-ins (e.g., Adobe Reader, Flash Player, virus protection, etc.);
- Microphone and speakers; and
- CD/DVD player/burner.

Instructor/ Student Communication

Please send all e-mail messages directly to the instructors at: v-salin@tamu.edu or tjh@otsc.tamu.edu. Instructors will not use the ECampus Mail Tool. All student communication will be sent via TAMU email accounts (<http://gateway.tamu.edu>) unless you provide a preferred email address. Post any questions you have about the material to the discussion board so other students can respond to it and/or benefit from the ensuing discussion. The instructors read the discussion board and will reply to messages as appropriate.

Copyright

Course packets and all other materials generated and/or used during this course are copyrighted. Because these materials are copyrighted, you do not have the right to copy the course packets, unless the instructor expressly grants permission.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information, visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Academic Integrity

For additional information please visit: <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu>

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do."