



<i>Course Title</i>	Comparative Global Standards in Food Systems – AGECE 639 / SCSC 635
<i>Term</i>	
<i>Meeting Location</i>	Online
<i>Credit Hours</i>	3

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.

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

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

<i>Name</i>	Dr. Vicky Salin, Professor
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Course Tools

All course materials and activities will be presented using the eCampus Learning Management system, powered by Blackboard. Log into eCampus at <http://ecampus.tamu.edu> to gain access. Before you access course materials, please perform a Vista Browser Check by clicking on the Check Browser Support link to ensure compatibility.

Resource Materials

There are no required text books. 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. Online slide presentations with audio for each module can be accessed from eCampus. The slides for each presentation will be provided as a .pdf file that can be downloaded and printed if needed.

Technical Requirements

To ensure successful participation, students must have access to:

- A computer that is less than 4 years old
- Microphone and speakers
- High-speed Internet connection (cable/DSL or better) and an updated browser
- Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel (2003-2013) or equivalent
- Plug-ins for course materials (e.g. [Adobe Reader](#), [Adobe Flash player](#), etc.)

Software is available to students at a discounted price through the Texas A&M Software Center, available at <http://software.tamu.edu>

Instructor/Student Communication

If you have a question about the material, please post it in the discussion board so that other students have the chance to respond to it and/or benefit from the answer. I will read the discussion board and will reply to messages when necessary. All student communication will be

sent via TAMU email accounts (<http://gateway.tamu.edu>) unless you provide a preferred alternate email address.

Graded Assessments

Discussions (5)

There will be five graded discussions held on the discussion forum in eCampus. Your responses to the questions posted to the discussion board will be evaluated and included in your final grade. Ungraded discussions are also available and are a good way to communicate with other students to share ideas and insights or ask a question. However, if you need an immediate answer to a question, please send an email directly to Dr. Herrman (tjh@otsc.tamu.edu) or Dr. Salin (v-salin@tamu.edu) directly.

Quizzes (5)

Quizzes will be used to assess your understanding of concepts throughout the course. All quizzes will be administered through eCampus.

Projects (2)

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 will be to analyze a regional trade agreement. Project #2 will involve becoming an export power.

Exams

There are no exams for this course.

Grading Policies

Discussions, homework, quizzes, and projects must be completed by the due date unless prior approval has been granted by the instructor. Your grades will be determined as follows:

Quizzes (5) = 25 points

Discussions (5) = 25 points

Projects (2) = 50 points

A = 90+ points

B = 80 - 89 points

C = 70 - 79 points

D = 60 - 69 points

F = < 60 points

Attendance and Make-up Policies

Due to the participatory nature of this online class, regular log-in to the eCampus is expected. Excused absences are subject to Texas A&M rules and guidelines. For more information, visit <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>. If an absence is excused, the instructor will either provide the student an opportunity to make up any quiz, exam, or other work that contributes to the final grade or provide a satisfactory alternative by a date agreed upon by the student and the instructor. The make-up work must be completed in a timeframe not to exceed 30 calendar days from the last day of the initial absence.

University Policies

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 for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services at Student Services at the White Creek Complex on west campus, or call (979) 845-1637. For additional information, visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>

Information regarding Texas A&M's Accessibility Services can be found at <http://itaccessibility.tamu.edu>

Copyright

Course materials and all other materials generated and/or used during this course are copyrighted. As a result, you do not have the right to copy the course packets unless given explicit permission by the instructor.

Academic Integrity

“An aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do.”

For more information about the Aggie Honor code, please visit <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu>

Course Topics, Calendar of Activities, Major Assignment Dates

Week	Topic	Assignments	Due Date
Unit 1 – Globalization and Standards			
1	Global Food Chain Trade flows, Population & Income Public Health and Safety	Quiz, Discussion	
2	Trade policy regimes	Quiz, Discussion	
3	Codex Alimentarius and the role of Harmonization, Equivalency & Transparency	Quiz	
4	Food Import/Export Inspection & Certification Systems; OIE & IPPC; Food Hygiene	Discussion; Project # 1- Part A	
Unit 2 Principles of Standards Development			
5	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;	
Unit 3 – Regional Food Laws and Regulations (See Project 1 Description for Individual Due Dates)			
6	Africa	Quiz, Project 1(Parts A & B)	
7	Asia	Project 1(Parts A & B)	
8	Europe	Project 1(Parts A & B)	
9	Latin America and the Caribbean	Project 1(Parts A & B)	
10	North America and South West Pacific	Project 1(Parts A & B)	
11	Near East	Project 1(Parts A & B)	
Unit 4 – Impact of Food Law and Regulations on Trade, Food Security, and Food Protection			
12	3 rd party certification and audit	Quiz	

13	<i>Happy Thanksgiving!</i>		
14	Cost-Benefits	Discussion	
15	Becoming an Export Power	Project 2	