

Discipline: Agriculture	Sub-discipline: General Agriculture
General Course Title: Agriculture, Environmental and Society	Min. Units: 3 Semester
Proposed Suffix:	
<p>Course Description:</p> <p>This course involves the sociology of agriculture presented through an examination of relationships between societies and their environments, economics, and agriculture. Emphasis on the analysis of agriculture's use of technology and the corresponding impact on the environment, economy and society.</p>	
Required Prerequisites or Co-Requisites ¹	
Advisories/Recommended Preparation ²	
<p>Course Objectives: <i>At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the historical and geographical relationship between agriculture, the environment and a given society. • Discuss the development of production, processing, and distribution methods of the various agricultural products. • List and describe the major types, operational and functional aspects of producing food. • Identify the historical relationship between immigration, labor, agriculture, and politics in the United States with special emphasis in California. • Outline the development of agriculture and its effect on the environment. • Describe the changing nature of rural society. • Discuss the roles and contributions that California's ethnic and cultural populations have made to agriculture. • Identify the nature of current ethical issues in agriculture. • Interpret future trends in agriculture. • Define, collect, analyze, and evaluate data pertaining to a current agricultural-environmental-social issues. 	
<p>Course Content:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Selected historical view of the relationship between agriculture, the environment and society <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Definition of terms: agriculture, society, environment b. The goals of agriculture c. The function of social institutions d. The components of an ecosystem 2. Relationship between early man and the cultivation of crops and domestication of livestock and the connection between the natural sciences, social sciences, economics, and agriculture 3. Selected highlights of human history with an emphasis on the types of social, political, and economic systems, climate, primary agricultural enterprises and quality of life 4. Selected significant agricultural developments in the United States <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Historical patterns of change in the structure of U.S. agriculture <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Significant Federal agricultural legislation b. Agriculture, environment and the society of Native Americans <p>Agriculture, Environment and Society (Content Continued)</p>	

¹ Prerequisite or co-requisite course need to be validated at the CCC level in accordance with Title 5 regulations; co-requisites for CCCs are the linked courses that must be taken at the same time as the primary or target course.

² Advisories or recommended preparation will not require validation but are recommendations to be considered by the student prior to enrolling.

5. The development of California agriculture
6. Agriculture and the world economy
 - a. Basic needs, income and development
 - b. Food as a weapon
7. Development of production and processing methods
 - a. Soil preparation
 - b. Cultural practices
 - c. Harvesting
 - d. Food handling and processing
 - e. Transportation and distribution systems
8. U.S. agricultural enterprises and labor
 - a. Relationship between immigration, agriculture and politics
 - b. The reduction of the agricultural labor force
 - c. Non-farm organizations and agriculture
9. Development of agriculture and its effect on the environment
 - a. Impact of agriculture on soils
 - b. Impact of agriculture on air quality
 - c. Agricultural pest control and the environment management
10. The changing nature of rural society
 - a. Urban influences
 - b. Decline in the numbers of family farms
 - c. Urbanization of rural areas
 - d. Rural poverty
 - e. Health care
 - f. Women and agriculture
11. Ethical issues in agriculture
 - a. Social ethics, animal rights and animal welfare
 - b. Corporate farming
 - c. Biotechnology
12. Future trends in agriculture
 - a. New sources of food for the world
 - b. Sustainable agriculture
 - c. Integrated pest management
 - d. Land-use planning

Laboratory Activities: Individual Laboratory Activities are designed to support course objectives.

Methods of Evaluation: Lecture Comprehensive Quizzes and Exams Written Critical Thinking Scenarios Problem Analysis and Solution Research and Term Papers	Methods of Evaluation: Laboratory Laboratory Skill Validation by Observation Laboratory Reports Laboratory Research Projects and Reports Laboratory Skill Practicum Exams
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Typical Textbooks, Manuals, or Other Support Materials
Under Review

CSU GE Area D.7 Interdisciplinary Social or Behavior Science

FDRG Lead Signature:

Date:

Mark E. Bender, PhD CSU Stanislaus

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