

**AGEC 46203/52203: International Agricultural Trade and Commercial Policy  
COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Instructor:** Dr. Jada Thompson  
**Office:** 216 Agriculture Building  
**E-mail:** jt074@uark.edu  
**Class hours:** MWF 2:00 –2:50 pm, POSC 0133  
**Office hours:** Wednesday, 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. or by appointment (email for appointment).

**Course Objectives**

Analysis of agricultural market competition and performance in a global economy. The impact of domestic and international agricultural policies on domestic and international markets and welfare. Economic principles applied to the interaction of economic events in the world agriculture economy. Introduction to real and monetary aspects of international trade effect on agricultural commodity flows; partial equilibrium analysis of international trade in agricultural products; institutional aspects of international marketing of agricultural products.

In addition, graduate students will learn and apply econometric models of trade, policy evaluation methodologies, and analytical evaluation skill to international trade policies. This includes gravity models of trade, game theory, and partial equilibrium analysis of international trade in agricultural products. These skills will culminate in a course long project and presentation that applies these skills to real life policies and communicate these findings to the course for peer-to-peer learning.

Required Prerequisite(s): AGECE 1103 and AGECE 2103

<b>What I expect from <u>YOU</u>:</b>	<b>What you should expect from <u>ME</u>:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend class regularly</li> <li>• Participate in discussions</li> <li>• Complete all assignments before class</li> <li>• Treat your classmates with respect</li> <li>• Honor deadlines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Come to class prepared</li> <li>• Make the class interesting and engaging</li> <li>• Treat you fairly and respectfully</li> <li>• Be clear about assignments and grading</li> </ul>

**Grading**

The final grade will be assigned using the following scale. The instructor reserves the right to these curve standards but there is no guarantee this will happen.

A	90-100%	D	60-69%
B	80-89%	F	<60%
C	70-79%		

Your grade will be based on two exams (a midterm and a final), quizzes/homework, in-class presentations, and written reports. The weights assigned to these are as follows:

Item	Weight
Two midterm exams (25% each)	50%
Quizzes and/or homework assignments	20%
Course Project and Written Report	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### *Exams:*

Exams will consist of a midterm and a non-comprehensive final exam. Exams will draw on class lectures and material. The exams will consist of three parts: (1) conceptual understanding, (2) short answer, and (3) analytical thinking.

### *Quizzes and/or Homework Assignments:*

Homework assignment and/or quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Quizzes may be unannounced. The purpose of the homework is to improve your understanding of the material. These are learning tools and you will do much better in the course if you do them. The deadline for all homework is in class the day that they are due. Late assignments will not be accepted without prior approval from the instructor.

### *Course Project:*

This project ties together theories in trade and policy for a specific country. Every student will choose a country and will analyze their internal production, trade situation, and their domestic and international trade policies. This will consist of a written report and a presentation. Complete details are outlined on Blackboard.

### *Make-up Policy:*

Make-up quizzes and exams will be given for student with excused absences that are pre-approved (one week prior to the exam date) by the instructor, or because of doctor-excused illness. If you are sick on exam day, please notify the instructor.

## **Course Organization**

The course is organized as a series of lectures and in-class discussions. There will be class discussions where you will apply course materials to real-world topics as well as written reports. Exams will cover what is discussed in class which may not have supplemental material online. It is highly recommended that you come to class.

While there is not a required text for the class, this book provides a lot of the material for the course:

*International Trade and Agriculture* by Won W. Koo and P. Lynn Kennedy

Additional course material will be on Canvas: You will find some course readings, as well as optional readings and other handouts on the course site. You are not required to read optional readings, but they may strengthen your understanding.

## **Email Policy**

If you talk to me about something in class that required action, you are expected to follow-up with an email. This provides a trail for both of us. If there isn't an email, you cannot guarantee any action on my part.

## **Changes to Course**

The instructor reserves the right to revise the course during the semester with adequate notice to the students.

## **Academic Integrity**

As a core part of its mission, the University of Arkansas provides students with the opportunity to further their educational goals through programs of study and research in an environment that promotes freedom of inquiry and academic responsibility. Accomplishing this mission is only possible when intellectual

honesty and integrity prevail. Each University of Arkansas student is required to abide by the University's 'Academic Integrity Policy' which may be found at [here](#).

### **Artificial Intelligence**

Students have permission to use generative artificial intelligence tools to complete academic work in this course. Please be aware of the limitations of such tools. Additionally, you are expected to properly attribute any content generated by artificial intelligence tools using Chicago format. Please refer to the examples/guidance provided by this [Guide on AI](#) for more information. The use of content generated by AI, without proper citation, will be considered academic dishonesty and reported to the Office of Academic Initiatives and Integrity.

### **Disability Services**

Any student who feels they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Center for Educational Access (CEA). Please request your accommodations letter early in the semester and contact me privately, so that we have adequate time to arrange your approved academic accommodations.

If you have not yet established services through CEA but have a documented disability and require accommodations (conditions include but not limited to: mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical, health or temporary impacts), contact CEA directly to set up an Access Plan. CEA facilitates the interactive process that establishes reasonable accommodations. For more information on CEA registration procedures contact 479-575-3104, [ada@uark.edu](mailto:ada@uark.edu) or visit <https://cea.uark.edu>.

If you got this far, email a photo of a cute animal and get 1 bonus point on the first exam.

### **Emergency Procedures**

Many types of emergencies can occur on campus; instructions for specific emergencies such as severe weather, active shooter, or fire can be found at <https://safety.uark.edu/emergency-preparedness/>

### **Inclement Weather**

Classes will be canceled if the university closes. Alerts for this go out through RazAlert, learn more and to sign up [here](#).

### **Technology**

If you have technology issues, contact 575-2905 or 575-4357.

You can check out [equipment](#) and you can get access to free software at <https://help.uark.edu/> using the Get Software link including Office 365 suite (e.g., Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Teams).