The American University in Cairo

School of Business, Economics & Communication

Economics Department

Course Syllabus

Econ 348

Section 01

Semester and Year: Spring 2012
Instructor’s Name: Hoda Hassaballa
Office Number: 1012
Email: hhassaballa@aucegypt.edu
Office Hours: Sun 1:00-2:00

Course Description:
This course is concerned with the application of economic theory to agricultural markets and food security with special reference to Egypt and other developing countries. Analysis will focus upon agricultural resource allocation, price determination, market structures, water scarcity, commodity trading, and other topics within the context of an increasingly globalized framework of trade and financial institutions.

Text Book and Readings:
Also, see the reading list attached.

Exams:
There will be 3 exams: 2 mid terms and a final.
Exam 1 constitutes 25% of the grade.
Exam 2 constitutes 25% of the grade.
Final Exam constitutes 30% of the grade.
No make up exams.

Exam Dates:
Exact exams dates will be announced during the first two weeks of the semester.

Attendance & Participation:
10% is for attendance, assignments and participation. You have twice of your absences are not counted as in case of emergencies. But after that, each time a student is absent, ½ % will be deducted. Participation is also, correlated with attendance, because if you are not present in the class, how can you participate?
Presentations:
- Students are asked to form groups of 2 to give the class a group presentation.
- The choice of the country is up to you, but you should let me know your choice as soon as possible so as not to have two groups presenting the same thing.
- Deadline for countries choice is the lecture after the first mid term.
- The presentation is for 10-15 minutes only (no more).
- Three to five pages are to be handed in as a summary of the presentation.
- It constitutes 10% of the grade.
- Your presentation should include the following:
  1. Choose a country.
  2. What are the major agricultural crops?
  3. Exports and imports related to agriculture.
  4. Industries related to agriculture.
  5. Which stage of development the country is in, according to the three sectoral stage model.
  6. The policies related to agriculture.
  8. Relation to Egypt if it exists.
  9. Lessons learned, advantages and disadvantages.
 10. What are your recommendations to this country?

Grading System:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90% and above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>88-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>82-87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>77-81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>72-76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>62-66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>59-61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>55-58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Less than 50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Course Outline

Part I: Agricultural Development in Developing Countries.

1. Agricultural Development versus Industrialization:
   - Arguments for industrialization.
   - Evidence against Industrial development.
   - Arguments for agricultural development.

2. Resource Structure:
   - Land and theory of rent.
   - Labor.
   - Capital and optimum use of fertilizers.
   - Management.

3. Market Structure:
   - Demand (food).
   - Supply in the short and long run.
   - Elasticities.
   - Equilibrium Price.

Part II: Agriculture in Egypt.

- The main characteristics of the agricultural sector in Egypt.
- Problems hindering the agricultural sector development.
- Policies considerations and solutions.

Part III: Additional Topics in Agriculture.

- Water scarcity.
- Agriculture and environment.
- Commodity trading.