

FEB 20 2007

OFFICE OF THE
SENATE COUNCIL

APPLICATION FOR NEW COURSE
SAG 490
Integration of Sustainable Agriculture Principles

1.	Submitted by College of	AGRICULTURE	Date	JULY 2006
	Department/Division offering course	NOT APPLICABLE		
2.	Proposed designation and Bulletin description of this course			
	a. Prefix and Number	SAG 490	b. Title*	Integration of Sustainable Agriculture Principles
		*NOTE: If the title is longer than 24 characters (including spaces), write a sensible title not exceeding 24 characters		Integ. Sustain. Agric.
	c. Lecture/Discussion hours per week	2 lectures, 75 min/lect.	d. Laboratory hours per week	-0-
	e. Studio hours per week	NOT APPLICABLE	f. Credits	3
	g.	Course description Examination of the complex scientific and social issues involving sustainable agriculture systems. Intensive experience in critical analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data will be provided, and students will consider substantive ethical issues and global themes. Students will evaluate the sustainability of different world agricultural systems and consider the potential implications.		
	h.	Prerequisites (if any) Senior standing in College of Agriculture, SAG 201, 397		
	i.	May be repeated to a maximum of	NOT APPLICABLE	(if applicable)
4.	To be cross-listed as			
		NOT APPLICABLE		
		Prefix and Number	Signature, Chairman, cross-listing department	
5.	Effective Date	Spring 2008	(semester and year)	
6.	Course to be offered	Fall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spring	Summer
7.	Will the course be offered each year? (Explain if not annually)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
8.	Why is this course needed? This course will provide an opportunity for students to further investigate and integrate their understanding of Sustainable Agriculture in a sustainable world. It will integrate the foundational knowledge and concepts that students acquire in other Sustainable Agriculture courses with unique knowledge from their own major.			
9.	a.	By whom will the course be taught?	Dr. Victoria Bhavsar, Teaching and Academic Support Center	
	b.	Are facilities for teaching the course now available? If not, what plans have been made for providing them?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

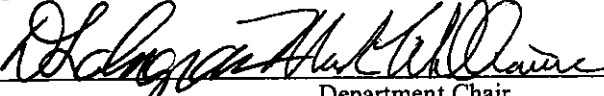
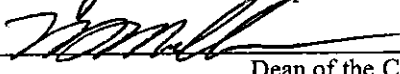
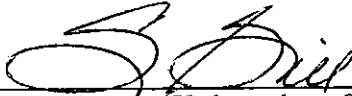
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10.	What enrollment may be reasonably anticipated?	8 to 15 each Spring semester			
11.	Will this course serve students in the Department (i. e., the Major) primarily?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
	Will it be of service to a significant number of students outside the Department?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
	If so, explain. We expect it to serve primarily students in the Minor in Sustainable Agriculture However, others in related majors will also be welcome.				
	Will the course serve as a University Studies Program course?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
	If yes, under what Area?				
12.	Check the category most applicable to this course				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	traditional; offered in corresponding departments elsewhere;			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	relatively new, now being widely established			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	not yet to be found in many (or any) other universities			
13.	Is this course applicable to the requirements for at least one degree or certificate at the University of Kentucky?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
	Sustainable Agriculture, but could serve as an elective in many degree programs.				
14.	Is this course part of a proposed new program?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
	If yes, which? Minor in Sustainable Agriculture.				
15.	Will adding this course change the degree requirements in one or more programs?*	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
	If yes, explain the change(s) below				
16.	Attach a list of the major teaching objectives of the proposed course and outline and/or reference list to be used.				
17.	If the course is a 100-200 level course, please submit evidence (e.g., correspondence) that the Community College System has been consulted. Check here if 100-200.				
18.	If the course is 400G or 500 level, include syllabi or course statement showing differentiation for undergraduate and graduate students in assignments, grading criteria, and grading scales. <input type="checkbox"/> Check here if 400G-500.				
19.	Within the Department, who should be contacted for further information about the proposed course?				
	Name	Dr. Mark Williams, Department of Horticulture	Phone Extension	257-2638	

*NOTE: Approval of this course will constitute approval of the program change unless other program modifications are proposed.

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Signatures of Approval:

 _____ Department Chair	10/23/06 _____ Date
 _____ Dean of the College	1/15/07 _____ Date
 _____ *Undergraduate Council	Date of Notice to the Faculty 2/06/07 _____ Date
_____ *University Studies	_____ Date
_____ *Graduate Council	_____ Date
_____ *Academic Council for the Medical Center	_____ Date
_____ *Senate Council (Chair)	_____ Date of Notice to University Senate

*If applicable, as provided by the Rules of the University Senate

ACTION OTHER THAN APPROVAL

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE 490

INTEGRATION OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PRINCIPLES

Time and Place

To be determined; 2, 75 minutes lecture periods per week.

Instructor

Dr. Victoria Bhavsar: Department of Plant and Soil Science (Adjunct)
and Teaching and Academic Support Center
604 College of Nursing Building
257-8272
toría@uky.edu
Office hours by appointment

Course Description

This course provides intensive experience in critical analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data. Students will examine complex scientific and social issues surrounding sustainable agriculture, mainly by reading and discussing significant work in the field. Course materials will demand that students deeply consider substantive ethical issues and global themes. Students will generate substantial intellectual products. Ultimately, students will be asked to use many kinds of data to evaluate the “sustainability” of different world agricultural systems, and to consider the implications of their evaluations.

Many capstone classes use hands-on learning. This class does not do so because a large part of the Sustainable Agriculture curriculum is devoted to hands-on work, primarily on farms. This class is intended to be a serious intellectual exercise, requiring and encouraging patient work of the mind. However, there will be no “made up” assignments or contemplation of contrived scenarios; all material considered will be actual and consequential.

Learning Objectives

Foundational knowledge

Students will hear what the most advanced thinkers in the field have to say about agriculture from environmental, economic, and social perspectives. Students will not be expected to memorize any particular piece of information, but will know the main concepts and concerns that shape current debates in agriculture.

Learning to learn

Students will be able to use powerful databases and will cultivate relationships with other professionals such as reference librarians. Students will know the primary publications in sustainable agriculture. Students will practice refining too-broad questions to researchable questions.

Application or skills

Students will be able to approach research papers and other primary sources with confidence that they can read the paper and know how to proceed, including seeking extra information if they don't understand something. Students will practice critical analysis of data. Students will practice formal writing and presentation skills.

Human dimension

Students will read multiple sides of debates in sustainable agriculture, and will be asked to consider the importance of others' values and ideas. Students will study agriculture in other parts of the world and identify common values and needs among regions.

Integration

Students will be asked to bring knowledge from their previous coursework and experiences to bear on the issues in this class. Students will be asked to identify sources for their information and comments, recognizing that their experiences have provided valuable information but that more information is available and needed, and that more ways of seeing the world exist.

Potential Readings

(subject to change based on previous coursework and availability of new materials in a given semester)

Selected articles from a variety of natural science and social science agricultural journals, including international (non-European, American)

Biological Approaches to Sustainable Soil Systems

Environment (Jules Pretty, ed.)

Agri-culture: Reconnecting People, Land, and Nature (Jules Pretty)

World Agriculture: An FAO Perspective (FAO)

Agroecosystems analysis (Diane Rickerl and Chuck Francis, ed.)

Potential Topics – Environment, Economics, Society

- International entities involved in agricultural research, policy, or advocacy (Society)
- American agriculture's relationship with international systems (Economics and society)
- Agricultural systems in tropical, temperate, arid, prairie, montane, and tundra biomes (Environment)
- Urban agriculture (Economics and society)
- Women's and children's role in agricultural production (Society)
- Contribution of small and large farms to world food and fiber production (Environment and economics)
- Major current advances in food production technology, and their implications (e.g. high-yielding grain varieties, new pesticides) (Environment, economics, and society)
- Major current barriers to food production and their implications (e.g., high cost of nitrogen, increasing desertification, lack of production expertise) (Environment, economics, and society)

Grading

Course reading and participation in classroom discussion – 30%	90-100%	A
Multiple short class presentations – 15%	80-89%	B
Major class presentation – 20%	70-79%	C
Multiple short writing assignments – 15%	60-69%	D
Major writing assignment – 20%	Below 69%	E

Attendance

Because active participation counts in the grade, attendance is required. Students may be absent 2 times during the semester with no questions asked, but further unexcused absences will impact grades. Excused absences are described in the student code of conduct at <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.htm>, Section 5.2.4.2. **If students cannot attend class regularly, they should consider dropping the course**

Plagiarism

Part II of *Student Rights and Responsibilities* (<http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html>) states that all academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about a question of plagiarism involving their work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission.

When students submit work purporting to be their own, but which in any way borrows ideas, organization, wording or anything else from another source without appropriate acknowledgment of the fact, the students are guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else's work, whether it be published article, chapter of a book, a paper from a friend or some file, or whatever. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work which a student submits as his/her own, whoever that other person may be. Students may discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor, but when the actual work is done, it must be done by the student, and the student alone.

When a student's assignment involves research in outside sources or information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where and how he/she has employed them. If the words of someone else are used, the student must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin. Making simple changes while leaving the organization, content and phraseology intact is plagiaristic. However, nothing in these Rules shall apply to those ideas which are so generally and freely circulated as to be a part of the public domain. (Section 6.3.1).

The minimum penalty for an academic offense, such as cheating or plagiarism, is an 0 on the assignment. Repeated offenses will result in more serious penalties.

Special Consideration

Accommodation will be provided for documented physical or learning disabilities. If students have other special situations that will affect their participation or work, they should see the instructor.

Application for Cross-listing