

SYLLABUS - WORLD HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION - SPRING, 2006

Agronomy, Agricultural and Applied Economics, Nutritional Sciences, CALS Interdisc 350

Class meetings: 270 Soils, Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 – 10:45

Instructors: Kenneth Shapiro

kshapiro@cals.wisc.edu

262-1271

240 Agriculture Hall

Julie Thurlow

thurlow@nutrisci.wisc.edu

262-4914

356 Nutritional Science

Office Hours: Tu & W 1-3 and by appt.

Tu 11-1; M&W 9-10:30

Required Readings

Text:

Leathers, Howard and Phillips Foster. *The World Food Problem, Third Edition*, Boulder: Lynn Reinner Publishers, Inc, 2004. (LF)

Two Case Studies:

1. Menchu, Rigoberta. *I, Rigoberta Menchu: An Indian Woman in Guatemala*, London: Verso, 1984.
2. Ehrenreich, Barbara. *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*, New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2001.

Additional Readings as assigned: Steenbock Library and Learn@UW site

Course Requirements:

Three exams (no final) - 60 percent
Country Profile – 15 percent
Two Case Studies – 20 percent
Short papers and exercises – 5 points

Exams: Tentative schedule – **February 21; April 4; May 4** (No Final)

Country Profile – Due February 16

Each student will select one developing country to profile. The profile must be no more than 10 pages double spaced and have three parts:

1. an overview of population, food production, natural resource and environmental issues, the political situation, and poverty and hunger (3-5 pp.);
2. discussion of one or two programs to alleviate hunger and/or poverty (3-5 pp.);
3. current events (relevant to issues in the course or issues you raise in the profile) based on two newspaper articles (2 pp.). Online editions of domestic and foreign newspapers may be found through <http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/>. The two articles must be included as an appendix and are not part of the 10 page limit.

Graphs, tables, and maps must be in an appendix, not part of the 10 page limit.

To complete this assignment you will need to be sure that you are getting information from reliable sources. The Library Course Page for this class includes a section with recommended resources specifically for this assignment. To access the course page, go to [MyUW \(http://my.wisc.edu\)](http://my.wisc.edu) and select the **Academic** tab. Follow the “Library/Reserves” link under the listing for this course.

Two Case Studies – Due March 9 and April 20: A 4-5 page (double spaced) reflection on the each case study.

Class Schedule and Readings

January 17 – 19: Class overview; Introductions; Brief Cases; Human Rights

Video: Hear our Voices: The Poor on Poverty

Reading

- Singer, “Famine, Affluence, and Morality”
- FAO, “Extracts from International Instruments”
- *Economist*, “Righting Wrongs”
- World Bank, “Three Case Studies.”
- Case Study Briefs - Eight American Cases
- Runge, “The Hassans – A Portrait of Hunger”
- Mason from Zurbigg, “Rakku’s Story”

January 24 – February 16: The Biology of Malnutrition

Reading: L&F Ch. 3, 4, 5, 15 (pp. 25-73, 249-258)

February 16: * COUNTRY PROFILE DUE *****

February 21: * EXAM 1 *****

February 21: Video -- Dream of Land (Guatemala)

February 23-28: Malthus, NeoMalthusians, and Assessing What has Happened (Definitions, Measurement, Trends, Where, When, Who)

Reading: L&F Ch. 6 (pp. 75-89)

March 2–7: Population

Reading: L&F Ch. 9, 11 (pp. 129-145, 173-185)

March 9: * CASE STUDY #1 DUE (I, Rigoberta Menchu) *****

March 9 – 30: Food Production

Reading: L&F Ch 12, 13, 14, 22, 23 (pp. 187-247, 343-383);
and Genetic Engineering readings to be assigned

Video – Harvest of Fear

April 4: * EXAM 2 *****

April 4: Video – Working Poor in America

April 6-20: China, India, Africa, America

Reading

- Huang, Yiping. 1998. *Agricultural Reform in China: Getting Institutions Right*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 17 - 52
- Sachs, Jeffrey, 2004, "Doing the Sums on Africa," *The Economist*, May 24, 2004
- Young, Crawford, 2002, "After the Fall: State Rehabilitation in Uganda," pp. 445 – 461.

April 20: * CASE STUDY 2 DUE (*Nickel amd Dimed*) *****

April 25-May 2: Programs to Alleviate Malnutrition and Poverty

Reading:

- Save the Children, 2003, "Thin on the Ground," pp. 4-10, 23-36, 47-51.
- Heaver, Richard, "Thailand's National Nutrition Program," pp. 1-13, 18-19.
- World Bank, 2003, "Mexico's Progresas," *en breve*, no. 17
- L&F Ch. 17 (pp. 279-288)
- L&F Ch. 20, 21 (pp. 319-342)

May 4: * EXAM 3 *****