

**ARE 495: US FOOD POLICY**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**SUMMER 2019**

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Dr. Kathryn Boys  
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**COURSE INFORMATION**

Meeting Dates: Daily  
Meeting Location: Online

**Course Description:**

This course will provide students a theoretical basis and empirical tools to examine U.S. federal, state, and local food policies. Applications covered will explore contemporary food policy issues such nutrition assistance programs; regulations governing food safety, food transport and food trade; alternatives to the conventional food system (i.e. local foods, urban farming); health and nutritional labeling and claims; and the quickly evolving policy and legal environment affecting food adulteration, food fraud, and national food defense.

*Prerequisite:* EC 201: Introductory Microeconomics (or equivalent substitute; Required)  
EC 301: Intermediate Macroeconomics (Recommended).

**COURSE MATERIALS AND LEARNING RESOURCES**

Course Text: Wilde, P. 2018. *Food Policy in the United States: An Introduction. Second Edition.* Earthscan/Routledge. New York, NY.

Other readings as assigned.

**STUDENT ASSESSMENT**

The final grade weight and a brief of the assessed items are as follows:

<b>Course Component</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Weight in Final Grade</b>
Assignments	1. Special Topic Presentation (10%) 2. "Track" Assignment (10%)	20%
Term Paper: Policy Brief	Dates vary; see supplementary handout.	20%
Exams	There will be two (2) exams: Exam 1: 20% Exam 2 (Final Exam): 20%	40%
Participation in Online Discussions, Professionalism & Peer Evaluation	Includes contributions to online discussions and peer reviews.	20%

## **PARTICIPATION IN ONLINE DISCUSSIONS, PROFESSIONALISM & PEER EVALUATION**

Participation is essential to gaining the most from this course. For this reason, students are expected to contribute to daily class discussions and to provide feedback to their peers in a respectful and professional manner. Participation is more valued for comments that demonstrate depth of understanding of the topic, originality (not merely re-phrasing of what has been previously stated), and/or offer other relevant perspectives.

<b>Participation Characteristics</b>	<b>Quality of Participation</b>
<i>Quality</i> – provided useful insight thought that incorporated the course material and relevant observations. Questions to others and follow-up answers to questions were excellent and demonstrated competence in the topic.	
<i>Quantity</i> – showed good judgment in the number and length of comments.	High
<i>Timing</i> – participated during the scheduled class time and project meeting times (as established by the student groups).	
<i>Added Value</i> – provided new material or critical insight or demonstrated reflective through when necessary.	
Participation was good, but input was insufficient in two or three of the above areas	Average
Participation was not acceptable or insufficient and/or comments lacked in more than three of the above areas.	Low

In addition to verbal participation, throughout the semester you will also be periodically required to evaluate presentations and papers of your peers.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

“Attendance” will not be taken but each student is responsible for all assignments and information addressed in online lectures, readings, and assignments. Borderline situations regarding final course grades will depend heavily on online participation and engagement.

### **GRADING POLICY**

Considerable care is taken to provide fair and useful feedback to students on all assignments. If you disagree with a grade on an exam, presentation or other assignment, written justification shall be submitted to the instructor within one week of the received grade. Assigned grades will not be reconsidered after this time.

Based on students’ final averages, appropriate grades will be set (including +, -). Grades will be assigned according to NCSU’s definition of grading scales and points available here:

<http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/academicpoliciesandprocedures/courses/grading/>

### **LATE AND MISSED ASSIGNMENTS**

All work is due at the time indicated on the assignment syllabus or discussed in class. The ability to meet course deadlines is a reflection of professionalism. Unless otherwise indicated, all assignments are to be submitted on or before 11:55pm on their date due. Assignments and exercises submitted after this time will be considered late. ***Any late assignment will be penalized 5% of the total assignment value per day (including weekends). Missed tests cannot be made up unless the absence is excused due to a documented problem (i.e. medical matter).***

### **ACCOMMODATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

If you need adaptations or accommodations because of a disability (learning disability, attention deficit disorder, psychological, physical, etc.), if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.

Students with disabilities, including learning disabilities, who is to request accommodations in class must register with capital disability services for students early in the semester at:

Student Health Services Building, 2815 Cates Avenue, Suite 2221

Phone: 919.515.7653 Email: [disability@ncsu.edu](mailto:disability@ncsu.edu) Web Site: <http://dso.dasa.ncsu.edu/>

### **RIGHT TO SYLLABUS CHANGE**

The above schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances and/or to ensure better student learning.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND MISCONDUCT**

Although you must complete and turn in your own work, you are encouraged to work with others in completing and preparing assignments outside of class, as well as some activities during class time. Such collaboration is authorized in this class. Tests are the principal exception.

Be aware that it is my expressed expectation that materials submitted for evaluation as part of your class grade means that you have neither given nor received unauthorized aid. This expectation is reflected in the NC State Honor Pledge. Violations of Academic Integrity will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct; the consequences of misconduct can be serious. The Code of Student Conduct is available at: <http://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-11-35-01>

The course professor reserves the right to set any rule during class, presentations, or exams to pursue fairness for everyone involved. Individual student grades may be adversely affected for problems that continue after fair warning has been given.

**REFERENCING (IMPORTANT):**

For all assignments (including presentations) full, complete, and accurate in-text citations and reference lists are required. You may use any referencing style you like (e.g. APA, MLA etc.) so long as references are consistent in their formatting, and complete.

If you don't already have a favorite referencing style, I encourage you to consider the Chicago Manual of Style. This referencing approach is commonly used by applied economics. If you opt to use this approach, use the Chicago Manual of Style "Author-Date" format for all common publication types. Details can be found here:

[http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/16/ch15/ch15\\_sec009.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/16/ch15/ch15_sec009.html)

Additional referencing guidelines for less common publication types are available through the American Economics Association here: [https://www.aeaweb.org/sample\\_references.pdf](https://www.aeaweb.org/sample_references.pdf)