Welcome. Welcome to Agricultural Economics 340 for the spring semester 2018. It’s a course about how to use economics to understand the issues and policy choices in attaining economic development. Be prepared to understand better the choices we and other countries make to develop our economies.

Course Goal. Here’s what we’re aiming at:

After taking AGEC 340, you will be able to apply knowledge of economics to analyze countries’ economic policy and development choices including that of the US. and apply this to understanding events and national choices.

In this class, you are responsible for learning the basics. I have tried to make the lecture notes a detailed synthesis. In class I will simplify the material but use these lectures as the basis of the material to learn and supplement them with Norton, Alwang and Masters (NAM), Economics of Agricultural Development. I will indicate the relevant chapters as we go through the course. As we go the economics concepts will become more complicated especially the exchange rates. But this is critical as the development concerns passed from closed to open economies.

Class Website. Announcements, resources, assignments and quizzes are available on the class website on Blackboard Learn. The Blackboard Learn log-in address is mycourses.purdue.edu. There’s also a link to Blackboard on the Purdue homepage at www.purdue.edu. Everyone registered for the course should see a link to AGEC 340 on their “My Blackboard” page.


Announcements. The class webpage on Blackboard has an Announcements section. You should check it frequently for information about upcoming exams, office hours, and other course information.

Office Hours. John H. Sanders and our TA Amanda Fuller will hold office hours each week. Usually Prof. Sanders will be Wednesday 9 to 10:30 and Friday 2 to 330 pm. Amanda Fuller will hold hers Thursday 3-4:30 and Friday 10 to 11:30. But check the announcement page on the Blackboard website for times each week. Our schedules can change. If these times don’t work for you, contact either of us through email or in person, and we’ll find a time that works.

Boilercast. Boilercast is a system for recording lectures and the powerpoint slides that go with them. I’ll be recording all the lectures with Boilercast, and there will be a link to the recordings on the website.
iclicker  We’ll be using iclickers in this class. **You’ll need to bring your clcker to class each day to use it.** If you don’t have one they should be available at the bookstore. Please get one before the next class. Participation adds to your grade; you can accumulate up to 40 points from clicker questions. More than 60 questions will be asked during the semester, so you’ll have lots of chances to get your 40 points.

**Modules.** The course is organized into four modules.

**Grades.** You can see your assignment grades on the My Grades page of the class website. Total grades are added up at the end of each module. By the end of the semester grades are based on 540 points.

**In-Class Exams.** There will be three in-class exams during the semester, in our classroom at our class time. There will be a final exam during exam week. The in-class exams will be 25 multiple choice questions worth four points each, for 100 points total. The in-class exams will cover Modules 1, 2 and 3. The final exam will be 50 multiple choice questions worth four points each, for 200 points total. The final exam will be comprehensive, with 25 questions about Module 4, and 25 about the first 3 Modules.

**Makeup and Late Policy.** If you will miss an exam, contact me before to schedule an alternate time. It is important to do this as soon as possible, because I post the answers to the exams on the website after the exam dates. If you will miss a group project meeting, let me know in advance and we’ll work out an alternative.

**Academic Integrity.** That means, “don’t cheat.” Purdue has a guide for students on integrity at [www.purdue.edu/purdue/about/integrity_statement.html](http://www.purdue.edu/purdue/about/integrity_statement.html). We’ll be proctoring the exams to prevent cheating. On the in class quizzes you can interact briefly before submitting.

**Campus Emergencies.** If there is a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages may be changed. Information about any changes will be posted on the Announcements page of the class website.

We take these emergencies seriously at Purdue. To report an emergency, call 911. To obtain updates regarding an ongoing emergency, sign up for Purdue Alert text messages, at [www.purdue.edu/ea](http://www.purdue.edu/ea). There are nearly 300 Emergency Telephones outdoors across campus and in parking garages that connect directly to the Purdue police. If you feel threatened or need help, push the button and you will be connected immediately.

If we hear a fire alarm “go out”. We will suspend class, evacuate the classroom, and proceed outdoors. For a tornado warning, “go down”. We will suspend class and proceed to the nearest stairwell to shelter in Witherill’s basement corridors. If we are notified during class of a Shelter in Place requirement for a hazardous materials release, or a civil disturbance, including a shooting or other use of weapons, “seal up”. We will suspend class and shelter in the lecture hall, locking the door and turning off the lights. You can review the Emergency Preparedness website for additional information, at [www.purdue.edu/ehps/emergency_preparedness](http://www.purdue.edu/ehps/emergency_preparedness).

*More specific dates and lecture topics to follow.*

Lecture 1: Jan 9. Introduction

Module 1. 1. Free Trade and Industrialization; Import Substitution 1950s-1981; Brazilian Miracle

Lecture 2: Jan 11 The Greek Crisis

Lecture 3: Jan 16. World Economy in 21st Century. Chapter 3 in NAM

Lecture 4: Jan 18. Developing the Low Income Countries  Reading Chapter 16 in NAM
Lecture 5. Jan 23. Two Stages and the Brazilian Miracle

Lecture 6. Jan 25. Current Account and the Brazilian Debt Crisis

Lecture 7. Jan 30. Revision of Economic Concepts

**First Module Exam Feb 1.**

Module 2. Agriculture, Mali. Colombia, Migration.

Module 3. Debt Crises; the NICs; Policy Emphasis; Russia v. China Dismantling Communism

Module 4. 21st Century: Poverty Reduction; Indian Growth Future Prospects