

## Agricultural Issues in Society - Winter 2007



### What is this class about?

This class will offer you an opportunity to explore, contemplate, and discuss important issues in agricultural production. We will begin the class by looking at the history of Agricultural development and how public policy issues may be evaluated. Using this framework your instructors will lead the class in examining a number of issues related to food safety, biotechnology, and animal production. During the semester, students will be asked to give a brief introduction speech, write a letter to a public official, evaluate issues in class and attend a public meeting. The remainder of the course will be largely 'student-centered', meaning that small groups of students will conduct research into agricultural issues in which they have interest. The results of this research will then be summarized as formal presentations which will be given to the entire class.

### Class Meets:

MWF 9:05-10:00, Theatre 105

### Required Text:

Contemporary Issues in Animal Agriculture, Peter Cheeke, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Pearson Prentice Hall 2004.

### Instructor:

Beth LaShell, 730 BH, lashell\_b@fortlewis.edu, 247-7189

Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Thursday, Friday: 7:30-9:00 am

### **Objectives of Thematic Studies II Technology Classes**

- To examine the historical relationship between technological development and social change
- To explore and understand some of the scientific underpinnings of the technology studied
- To analyze the technology in terms of risks, benefits, and ethical issues
- To understand ways of being responsible citizens in a technological world
- To understand the dynamic relationship of science and technology

## Syllabus - Page 2

Your final grade in the class will be based on the components listed below.	
Component	Maximum Points
Introduction Speech	20
Letter to Public official	50
Public Meeting Report	25
Worksheets & Web assignments	125
Midterm Exam	100
Student Discussions	50
Group Presentation(s)	
Topic Outline & References	25
In class presentation	75
Final Exam	100
Participation/Discussion Leadership	100
Writing assignments (In class/AgriNews)	100
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>770</b>
Tentative Grading Scale: A:94-100% B: 85-93% C:75-84% D:65 -74%	

Special Needs: "Students with disabilities have equal access and equal opportunity in this course. If you require reasonable accommodations to fully participate in course activities or meet course requirements, you must register with Disability Services, 280 Noble Hall, 247-7459. If you qualify for services, bring your letter of accommodation to me as soon as possible."

Academic Honor Code: Documented dishonesty or inappropriate actions in this class will result in a 0 grade for the assignment in question and may be reported to the vice-president for academic affairs for further action.