

# INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURE (INTAG)

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## INTAG 100: Introduction to International Agriculture

3 Credits

Ag in developing countries; contemporary crucial issues in global agriculture; emphasizing hunger and food security. INTAG 100 Introduction to International Agriculture (3) (GS;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This class focuses on agriculture in developing countries and frames this focus with a discussion of contemporary crucial issues facing agriculture on a global scale, emphasizing global hunger and food security. The primary goal of the course is to inform students about international agriculture, challenging them to think critically and independently about agricultural issues and development and to generate global citizens who are more aware and conversant on important contemporary challenges in the global food, agriculture, and natural resource systems. The specific objects of this course are for students to: 1) Articulate major contemporary challenges related to agrifood systems across economic, social, environmental, and political sectors; 2) Critically assess the benefits and pitfalls of different approaches to addressing global challenges in agrifood systems; 3) Understand and apply current conceptual and theoretical frameworks in agricultural development; and 4) Empower students to make more informed decisions as consumers and global citizens. This class will primarily focus on agriculture in developing countries and frame this focus within a discussion of contemporary crucial issues facing food, agriculture and natural resources on a global scale. Specific emphasis will be placed on debates concerning global hunger and food security. Several examples from around the world will be included. Class will take a variety of formats, including formal lectures, guest speakers, videos, lab and site visits, student presentations and class discussion time. The course is a foundation course of the International Agriculture minor. Evaluation consists of group presentations, exams, and reading quizzes. The course is offered both fall and spring semesters.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
International Cultures (IL)

General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think  
GenEd Learning Objective: Global Learning  
GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking

## INTAG 199: Foreign Studies

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

International Cultures (IL)

## INTAG 296: Independent Studies

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Creative projects, including research and design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.

## INTAG 297: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

## INTAG 298: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

## INTAG 299: Foreign Studies

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

International Cultures (IL)

## INTAG 300: Agricultural Production and Farming Systems in the Tropics

3 Credits

This course focuses on contemporary issues in tropical agriculture and the production of crops, livestock and forestry within tropical agroecosystems.

International Cultures (IL)

## INTAG 397: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

## INTAG 398: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

## INTAG 399: Foreign Studies

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

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International Cultures (IL)

## INTAG 460: International Food Production

1 Credits/Maximum of 3

FDSC 460 / INTAG 460 is designed to give food science undergraduate and graduate students an appreciation of how food is produced and processed abroad. Students participate in a number of production facility tours, interact with local food scientists and food technologists, and gain valuable international experience. A major point of emphasis for the course is comparing and contrasting food production norms in the U.S. and the host country or region. The course consists of pre-trip lectures and meetings and culminates in a faculty-guided embedded study tour. Prior to the travel component of the course, students work in small groups to research a specific food product that is of economic and cultural importance to the country or region of interest, then write

reports to be presented in-country before a tour of the related product's production facility. The course integrates and builds upon core concepts in food chemistry and food microbiology; as such, FDSC 460 / INTAG 460 is targeted towards upper-level food science undergraduate students, as well as food science graduate students.

**Prerequisites:** FDSC 200, Permission of program  
International Cultures (IL)

INTAG 470A: Comparing Agricultural and Food Systems in the US and France: Lecture

2.5 Credits

This course is designed to explore key similarities and differences in the food and agricultural systems of the United States and France. It introduces students to a number of overarching food and agricultural topics that pertain to both countries, and students explore and analyze these key issues from both countries perspective. These overarching topics include the structure of agricultural and environmental policies, the use agricultural land for biofuel production, organic agriculture, food safety, attitudes and policies surrounding the use of genetically modified crops, the role of large agribusiness firms, attitudes towards diet and health, and several others important topics. Students conduct background reading on these topics, hear lectures – sometimes from guest presenters – that frame the topics from both the U.S. and France's perspective, and write reports on specific crops or foods that expose key similarities and differences between the two food systems. Finally, students pick one crop or food for an oral presentation that contains background information on how that crop fits into the two food systems, U.S. and France, and analyzes the key issues that relate to the overarching topics already identified. This course has two components that must be taken in partnership: 470A (FOOD SYS US/FRANCE I) and 470B (FOOD SYS US/FRANCE II). The first is a classroom - based course, and meets regularly during the semester. The second is a two - week component that takes place after the end of the semester. In this second component, after traveling to France, students hear presentations from the French perspective on the overarching topics identified earlier and also explore the topics first hand via field trips to farms, wholesale markets, retail markets, and other places relevant to the French food system. This component is organized by a host university, AgroParisTech. For these two weeks, students live in dorms within the city of Paris. Knowledge of French is not required.

**Prerequisite:** INTAG 100; AGBM 101; ECON 102  
Cross-listed with: AGBM 470A

INTAG 470B: Comparing Agricultural and Food Systems in the United States and France: Travel

0.5 Credits

Explore key differences and similarities in the food and agricultural systems of the United States and France. INTAG 470B / AGBM 470B Comparing Agricultural and Food Systems in the US and France: Travel (0.5) This course is designed to explore key similarities and differences in the food and agricultural systems of the United States and France. It introduces students to a number of overarching food and agricultural topics that pertain to both countries, and students explore and analyze these key issues from both countries perspective. These overarching topics include the structure of agricultural and environmental policies, the use agricultural land for biofuel production, organic agriculture, food safety, attitudes and policies surrounding the use of genetically modified crops, the role of large agribusiness firms, attitudes towards

diet and health, and several others important topics. Students conduct background reading on these topics, hear lectures – sometimes from guest presenters – that frame the topics from both the U.S. and France's perspective, and write reports on specific crops or foods that expose key similarities and differences between the two food systems. Finally, students pick one crop or food for an oral presentation that contains background information on how that crop fits into the two food systems, U.S. and France, and analyzes the key issues that relate to the overarching topics already identified. This course has two components that must be taken in partnership: 470A (FOOD SYS US/FRANCE I) and 470B (FOOD SYS US/FRANCE II). The first is a classroom - based course, and meets regularly during the semester. The second is a two - week component that takes place after the end of the semester. In this second component, after traveling to France, students hear presentations from the French perspective on the overarching topics identified earlier and also explore the topics first hand via field trips to farms, wholesale markets, retail markets, and other places relevant to the French food system. This component is organized by a host university, AgroParisTech. For these two weeks, students live in dorms within the city of Paris. Knowledge of French is not required.

**Prerequisite:** INTAG470A or AG BM470A  
Cross-listed with: AGBM 470B

INTAG 490: Senior Seminar in International Agriculture

3 Credits

Seminar discussions on contemporary topics in global agriculture; capstone course for INTAG minor. INTAG 490 Senior Seminar in International Agriculture (3) This course is designed to meet the need for a capstone course within the International Agriculture (INTAG) minor. The course provides a range of experiential learning techniques including intensive reading and in-class discussion, practical experience through a group trip to the nation's capital, and application of the international experiences encountered through the INTAG program. Included is course content designed to provide a holistic integration of the four main INTAG study areas (Socioeconomic and Communication Systems, Animal and Plant Sciences, Natural Resources and the Environment, and Food, Health, and Nutrition). Students will learn about the current state of international agriculture through recent articles and analyses and respond in-class discussions and through written response papers. The second half of the course involves site visits to major international development organizations in Washington, D.C. (US government, international agricultural research organizations, and various NGOs) and participation in the form of an INTAG senior seminar series open to the public. This seminar series allows students to present and discuss their past (or intended) international agriculture experiences while a student at Penn State, and share with both those in the class and those outside of the class options, opinions about and critical issues in international agriculture. This seminar series will be an important tool in promoting the INTAG minor. The students will then synthesize the knowledge they have obtained both from the course and their international agriculture experiences to complete final reports which outline their understanding of the current state of international agriculture. This course is ultimately designed to facilitate the development of students to be global citizens in the agricultural arena. The course is geared towards students in their junior or senior years. Evaluation consists of class participation (20%), student-led presentation of materials (15%), response papers to readings and D.C. trip (30%); presentation at INTAG seminar series (15%) and the completion of a final paper on their understanding of the current state of international agriculture (20%). The course is offered once every

academic year in the Spring semester. The course is a core requirement for the International Agriculture minor. INTAG 100 is a prerequisite.

**Prerequisite:** INTAG100

INTAG 495: Internship in International Agriculture

1-13 Credits

Observation of and participation in the operation and management of a University-approved international agricultural firm or international agricultural development agency.

**Prerequisite:** Prior approval of proposed internship plan  
Full-Time Equivalent Course

INTAG 496: Independent Studies

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Creative projects, including research and design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.

INTAG 497: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

INTAG 498: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

INTAG 499: Foreign Studies

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

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International Cultures (IL)