

SYLLABUS for 350
University of Wisconsin – Madison

1. General Information

Course Title: World Hunger and Malnutrition
Course Subject/Number: Ag and Applied Economics 350, Nutritional Sciences 350,
Agronomy 350, CALS Interdisc 350
Class Meetings: Monday and Wednesday, 1:20-2:10pm
Class Location: 1125 Biochem
Credit Hours: 3 Credits
Course URL: <https://canvas.wisc.edu/courses/182737>

Instructor contact information (** preferred contact), and office hours

Jean-Paul Chavas

**jchavas@wisc.edu

(608) 261-1944

518 Taylor Hall

Tuesday 1:00-2:00pm

Taiya Bach

**trbach@wisc.edu

(608) 265-2064

407 Nutritional Sciences

Monday 3:00-4:00pm

2. Instructional Information

Learning Objectives: The purpose of this course is to provide a broad and coherent understanding of issues and incidence of malnutrition in the world. We explore the biology and physiology of human nutrition and examine the socio-economic factors that affect food consumption and human nutrition in different countries. We analyze the policies used to alleviate hunger and malnutrition around the world. Upon completion of the course, students should have gained extensive knowledge about the nutritional and physical impact of malnutrition on children and adults. Students should have gained an understanding of the complex ways that malnutrition is explained through food supply and demand, weather and drought, food policies, international trade, and prices.

Required Materials:

Main Text for the Course

Howard Leathers and Phillips Foster. *The World Food Problem, Fifth Edition*,
Boulder: Lynn Reinner Publishers, Inc, 2017.

Paper copy ISBN: 978-1-62637-451-5

E-book ISBN: 978-1-62637-656-4.

Text Website:

https://rienner.com/title/The_World_Food_Problem_Toward_Understanding_and_Ending_Undernutrition_in_the_Developing_World_5th_edition

Top Hat Requirement:

All students must have a Top Hat account and have a device (smartphones, tablets, laptops with internet access, etc.) that can use Top Hat. Top Hat will be used to submit answers to

questions in class and in discussion sections. In addition to its use as a learning tool, Attendance and Quizzes will be handled through Top Hat.

You can visit the Top Hat Overview (<https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide>) within the Top Hat Success Center which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the system.

An email invitation will be sent to you by email, but if don't receive this email, you can register by simply visiting the website: <https://learnuw.wisc.edu/toolbox/tophat.html>

The Course Code for Top Hat is: **340137**

Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491.

Requirement for the Third Assignment

Howard G. Buffett. *40 Chances: Finding Hope in a Hungry World*. Simon & Schuster, 2014.
ISBN: 978-1-45168-787-3

Additional Readings will be assigned during the class. See Course URL (<https://canvas.wisc.edu/courses/182737>) for updates and announcements.

Course Requirements and Grading

- Attendance in classes and discussion sections is required. The grading will rely on exams, assignments, quizzes and attendance.
- **Three exams** (no final exam): 75 percent of the final grade. Each exam will cover material discussed in class and in discussion sections. The exams are given in 1125 Biochem during the class period. The exam dates are:
 - **February 19**
 - **March 30**
 - **April 29**
- **Assignments:** 15 percent of the final grade (15 percent for assignments). All assignments are to be submitted on the due date using Canvas. Late assignments will receive a 5 percent deduction per day.
There are **three** assignments (each accounting for 5 percent of the final grade):
 - Assignment 1:** "Defining and Measuring Malnutrition in the World"
Assignment due on **February 14**.
 - Assignment 2:** African hunger and malnutrition as reported in an African newspaper.
Assignment due on **March 6**.
 - Assignment 3:** An evaluation of the book "*Finding Hope in a Hungry World*".
Assignment due on **April 17**.
- **Quizzes:** 5 percent of the final grade. Announced and unannounced quizzes will be given in the discussion sections. Some quizzes could be a check on attendance while others might involve several multiple-choice type questions. Make-up quizzes will not be permitted. All quizzes will be taken via Top Hat. Thus, you need to bring an internet-ready device to every

class and discussion section.

- **Class Participation:** 5 percent of the final grade (based on quizzes/attendance during the discussion section and ACTIVE participation in the discussion section).
- **Grading Scheme:** A: 92-100; AB: 85-92; B: 78-85; BC: 71-78; C: 64-71; D: 57-64

3. Course Organization

- **Introduction: The Incidence of Human Malnutrition in the World**
- **The Biology and Physiology of Malnutrition**
 - Leathers and Foster (L&F), Chapter: 3, 4, 5
 - Additional reading: See Canvas
 - Topics:
 - Types of malnutrition: What happens to the malnourished body?
 - Protein-energy malnutrition
 - Micronutrient malnutrition
 - Effects of malnutrition on health at different stages of the life cycle
 - Refeeding
 - The nutrition transition and chronic disease
 - **Exam 1 on February 19**
- **Socio-Economics of Malnutrition**
 - L&F, Chapters: 2, 6-15
 - Additional reading: See Canvas
 - Topics:
 - Famines
 - Malnutrition status
 - Food supply and demand
 - Population growth
 - Regional differences
 - Income distribution
 - Technology and food supply
 - Malnutrition, health and productivity
 - **Exam 2 on March 30**
- **Alleviating Hunger and Malnutrition: Policy Options**
 - L&F, Chapters: 16-23
 - Additional reading: See Canvas
 - Topics:
 - Malnutrition as a motivation for policy intervention
 - Income redistribution
 - Population policy
 - Pricing policy
 - Food distribution
 - Regional differences

- Prospects for the twenty-first century
- **Exam 3 on April 29**

How 3 credits are earned: the class is organized based on an expected time investment of 45 hours of work per credit hour. One credit is the learning that takes place in at least 45 hours of learning activities, which include time in lectures or class meetings, in person or online, labs, exams, presentations, tutorials, reading, writing, studying, preparation for any of these activities, and any other learning activities.

4. Teaching Assistants and Office Hours

Each student signed up for a specific discussion section. TA contact information (**preferred contact) is provided below.

Joshua Deutschmann

315 Taylor Hall

**Email: jdeutschmann@wisc.edu

Office hour: Wednesday 2:30-3:30pm

Ziqi Qiao

317 Taylor Hall

**Email: zqiao7@wisc.edu

Office hour: Monday 10:00-11:00am

Marin Skidmore

302 Taylor Hall

**Email: mskidmore@wisc.edu

Office hour: Wednesday noon-1:00pm

5. Other information

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious offense. All sources and assistance used in preparing your papers must be precisely and explicitly acknowledged. Ignorance of what constitutes plagiarism or academic misconduct is not a defense. It is your responsibility to be sure. The web creates special risks. Cutting and pasting even a few words from a web page or paraphrasing material without a reference constitutes plagiarism. If you are not sure how to refer to something you find on the internet, you can always give the URL. It is generally better to quote than to paraphrase from material on the web, because in the absence of page numbers it can be hard to find passages that are paraphrased rather than quoted. For more information on writing and source citation, the following may be helpful
<http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/Documentation.html>

Academic Integrity: By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UW-Madison's community of scholars in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest academic integrity standards. Academic misconduct comprises the integrity of the university. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, and helping others commit these acts are examples of academic misconduct,

which can result in disciplinary action. This includes but is not limited to failure on the assignment/course, disciplinary probation, or suspension. Substantial or repeated cases of misconduct will be forwarded to the Office of Student Conduct & Community Standards for additional review. If you have any questions about what constitutes academic misconduct, please read the following information <http://students.wisc.edu/doso/acadintegrity.html> or come talk with one of the instructors.

Accommodations for students with disabilities: “The University of Wisconsin-Madison supports the right of all enrolled students to a full and equal educational opportunity. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Wisconsin State Statute (36.12), and UW-Madison policy (Faculty Document 1071) require that students with disabilities be reasonably accommodated in instruction and campus life. Reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities is a shared faculty and student responsibility. Students are expected to inform faculty [me] of their need for instructional accommodations by the end of the third week of the semester, or as soon as possible after a disability has been incurred or recognized. Faculty [I], will work either directly with the student [you] or in coordination with the McBurney Center to identify and provide reasonable instructional accommodations. Disability information, including instructional accommodations as part of a student's educational record, is confidential and protected under FERPA.
<http://mcburney.wisc.edu/facstaffother/faculty/syllabus.php>