**Auburn University**

**Syllabus**

1. Course Number: CTCT 7970/6

Course Title: Special Topics in Agricultural Education: Critical Thinking

Credit Hours: 3 semester hours (Lecture 3).

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

2. Term: Fall 2017 (Syllabus Prepared Aug 2017)

**Day/Time:** Class Hours: TBD

Lab Hours: na

**Instructor:** James Lindner, Ph.D.

Professor

Office Address: Faculty Office: 5058 Haley

Contact Information: Office Phone: 334.844.4446

Email: [jrl0039@auburn.edu](mailto:jrl0039@auburn.edu)

Office Hours: Wednesday 10:00a-Noon and by appointment

3. Text and Major Resources:

All publications for this course are available on the course homesite.

http://www.globaleducationlab.org/education.shtml

This course will require the use of Canvas. Canvas can be accessed from the Auburn University website through AU Access.

**4. Course Description:**

Theories and application of critical thinking related scientific and technologically based concepts and processes required for personal decision making, participating in civic and cultural affairs, and economic productivity.

**5. Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Define critical thinking in the context of food security, safety, and production;
2. Analyze components of critical thinking;
3. Integrate strategies for the teaching of thinking to course content;
4. Apply constructivism in developing a lesson related to food security or climate change;
5. Develop and understanding of the components of scenario development;
6. Enhance their instruction by evaluating and using purposively selected digital media;
7. Identify approaches to teaching contentious issues; and
8. Discuss strategies used to integrate global perspectives in your classes.

**6. Course Content:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Session#** | **Course Topic** | **Readings** | **Assignment** |
| Aug 23 | Introductions and Course Expectations | Syllabus |  |
| Module 1  Aug 30 | What is Critical Thinking | Assigned online | Quiz 1 |
| Module 2  Sep 6 | Teaching for Critical Thinking | Assigned online | Quiz 2 |
| Sep 13 |  |  | Discussion 1 |
| Module 3  Sep 20 | Instructional Design | Assigned online | Quiz 3 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Module 4  Sep 27 | Scenario Development | Assigned online | Quiz 4 |
| Oct 4 |  |  | Discussion 2 |
| Module 5  Oct 11 | Using Digital Media to Enhance Instruction | Assigned online | Quiz 5 |
| Oct 18 |  |  | Discussion 3 |
| Module 6  Oct 25 | Teaching Contentious Subjects | Assigned online | Quiz 6 |
| Nov 1 |  |  | Discussion 4 |
| Module 7  Nov 8 | Global Food Security and Hunger Basics | Assigned online | Quiz 7 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Module 8  Nov 15 | Teaching Globally-Relevant Topics | Assigned online | Quiz 8 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Module 9  Nov 29 | Synthesis | Assigned online | Discussion 5 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Module 10  Dec 6 | Final Project |  | Case Study |
|  |  |  |  |
| Final  Dec 13 |  |  | Exam |

**7. Assignments/Projects:**

1. Participate in all class discussions and exercises.
2. Complete all reading assignments.
3. Complete all quizzes and Exams
4. Complete Case Study Scenario Development (Using the Template Provided)
5. Title
6. Learning Objectives
7. Overview
8. Critical Forces and Drivers
9. High Impact/High Uncertainty Forces
10. New Threats or Opportunities
11. Future Scenario
12. Scenario Response
13. Scenario Summary
14. References

**Rubrics and Grading Scale:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Graded Activity** | **Points for each activity** | **Total points available** |
| Discussions (5) | 30 | 150 |
| Quizzes (8) | 75 | 600 |
| Case Study (1) | 150 | 150 |
| Final Exam (1) | 100 | 100 |
|  | Total Points Available | 1,000 |

The following grading scale will be used:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 90 - 100 % | A |
| 80% - 89.9% | B |
| 70% - 79.9% | C |
| 60% - 69.9% | D |
| Below 60% | F |

**8. Class Policy Statements:**

Participation: Students are expected to participate in all class discussions and participate in all exercises. Assignments are due on announced dates. Unexcused late assignments are unacceptable. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor if assignment deadlines are not met. Students are responsible for initiating arrangements for missed work. Students must satisfy all course objectives to pass the course.

Professionalism: As faculty, staff, and students interact in professional settings, they are expected to demonstrate professional behaviors as defined in the College’s conceptual framework. These professional commitments or dispositions are listed below:

* Engage in responsible and ethical professional practices
* Contribute to collaborative learning communities
* Demonstrate a commitment to diversity
* Model and nurture intellectual vitality

**Excused Absences**:  Students are granted excused absences from class for the following reasons:  Illness of the student or serious illness of a member of the student’s immediate family, the death of a member of the student’s immediate family, trips for student organizations sponsored by an academic unit, trips for University classes, trips for participation in intercollegiate athletic events, subpoena for a court appearance, and religious holidays.  Students who wish to have an excused absence from this class for any other reason must contact the instructor in advance of the absence to request permission.  The instructor will weigh the merits of the request and render a decision. When feasible, the student must notify the instructor prior to the occurrence of any excused absences, but in no case shall such notification occur more than one week after the absence.  Appropriate documentation for all excused absences is required.  Please see the [*Student Policy eHandbook*](http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/) for more information on excused absences (http://www.auburn.edu/student\_info/student\_policies/).

**Make-Up Policy:**Arrangement to make up missed major examination (e.g. hour exams, mid-term exams) due to properly authorized excused absences must be initiated by the student within one week from the end of the period of the excused absences.  Except in unusual circumstances, such as continued absence of the student or the advent of University holidays, a make-up exam will take place within two weeks from the time that the student initiates arrangements for it. Except in extraordinary circumstances, no make-up exams will be arranged during the last three days before the final exam period begins.  The format of the make-up exam will be (as specified by instructor).

Course contingency: If normal class and/or lab activities are disrupted due to illness, emergency, or crisis situation, the syllabus and other course plans and assignments may be modified to allow completion of the course. If this occurs, and addendum to your syllabus and/or course assignments will replace the original materials.

**9. Academic Honesty Statement:**

All portions of the Auburn University student academic honesty code (Title XII) found in the [*Student Policy eHandbook*](http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/)will apply to this class.  All academic honesty violations or alleged violations of the SGA Code of Laws will be reported to the Office of the Provost, which will then refer the case to the Academic Honesty Committee.

**10. Students with Disabilities Statement:**

“Students who need accommodations are asked to electronically submit their approved accommodations through AU Access and to arrange a meeting during office hours the first week of classes, or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately. If you have a conflict with my office hours, an alternate time can be arranged. To set up this meeting, please contact me by e-mail. If you have not established accommodations through the Office of Accessibility, but need accommodations, make an appointment with the Office of Accessibility, 1228 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT).”

**11. Justification for Graduate Credit:**

CTCT 7970 (Special Topics in Agricultural Education: Critical Thinking) builds upon previous experiences with theories of teaching and learning. The course is taught at an advanced level and requires extensive student participation and self-direction. Students will be required to review, interpret, and analyze a vast amount of literature related to critical thinking. Grading in the course is based on students’ synthesis of a vast amount of technical literature and governmental reports and preparation of technical reports.