Course Change Request

Date Submitted: 02/12/18 2:51 pm

Viewing: SCSC 421 : International Agricultural Research Centers - Mexico

Last edit: 03/05/18 12:58 pm
Changes proposed by: leann.hague

Catalog Pages referencing this course
Department of Soil and Crop Sciences
SCSC - Soil and Crop Sciences (SCSC)

Programs referencing this course
BS-PSSC-CRP: Plant and Environmental Soil Science - BS, Crops Emphasis
BS-PSSC-SWR: Plant and Environmental Soil Science - BS, Soil and Water Emphasis

Contact(s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LeAnn Hague</td>
<td><a href="mailto:leann.hague@tamu.edu">leann.hague@tamu.edu</a></td>
<td>9798456148</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rationale for Course

The proposed changes are part of a routine curriculum review.

Catalog course description

International agricultural research; CIMMYT interaction; modern and underdeveloped tropical agricultural systems; introduction to Mexican culture; critical evaluation of complex and international agricultural issues and research programs.

Prerequisites and Restrictions

Junior or senior classification and approval of instructor.

Should catalog prerequisites / concurrent enrollment be enforced?

No

Crosslistings

No

Stacked

No

https://nextcatalog.tamu.edu/courseleaf/approve/
Semester 3  | Contact Hour(s) (per week): Lecture: 3  | Lab: 0  | Other: 0  | Total: 3
Credit Hour(s)  | 0111020005  | Letter Grade(G)  | Lecture
Repeatability for credit?  | Yes
CIP/Fund Code  | Default Grade Mode
Method of instruction
Will sections of this course be taught as non-traditional? (i.e., parts of term, distance education)
Learning Outcomes  | Meets traditional face-to-face learning outcomes.
Describe how learning outcomes are met or provide justification why they are not met.
Pre-project planning and review. Students meet daily to discuss activities. Completion of pre-departure homework, mid-program exam, report and presentation. Participation in all meetings and scheduled activities. Activities are planned and designed to enforce learning objectives.
Hours  | Meets traditional face-to-face hours.
Describe how hours are met or provide justification why they are not met.
Students meet with faculty and participate in activities each day. Activities are designed to meet learning objectives and provide direct instruction and learning on course objectives. Instructor is available throughout trip and after to answer questions and help students process the information and experiences of the trip. A mid-trip exam provides feedback on experiences and learning objective progress. After the trip students complete a report and presentation analyzing their trip experiences. The instructor is available to evaluate and assist with reports and presentations.
Will this course be taught as a distance education course?  | No
Is 100% of this course going to be taught in Texas?  | No
Will classroom space be needed for this course?  | No
This will be a required course or an elective course for the following programs:
Required (select program):
Elective (select program):
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(BS-PSSC-CRP) Plant and Environmental Soil Science - BS, Crops Emphasis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(BS-PSSC-SWR) Plant and Environmental Soil Science - BS, Soil and Water Emphasis</td>
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<tr>
<td>(BS-TGSC) Turfgrass Science - BS</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Has/will this course be(en) submitted for core curriculum consideration?  | No
Has/will this course be(en) submitted for Writing or
Communication consideration?

Has/will this course be(en) submitted for ICD consideration?  Yes  No

Course Syllabus

Syllabus: Upload syllabus

Upload syllabus  Syllabus Mexico Study Abroad 2018.pdf

Letters of support or other documentation  No

Additional information

Reviewer Comments  Sandra Williams (sandra-williams) (03/09/18 3:35 pm): UCC approved March 9 via e-vote.
SCSC 421
International Agricultural Research Centers – Mexico
Fall 2018

Course Description: International agricultural research; CIMMYT interaction; modern and underdeveloped tropical agricultural systems; introduction to Mexican culture; critical evaluation of complex and international agricultural issues and research programs.

Instructors:
Dr. Steve Hague
Mobile (979) 255-1818
e-mail: shague@tamu.edu

Prerequisites:
Junior or senior classification, permission of instructor, and enrollment in good standing at Texas A&M University.

Itinerary Mexico Study Abroad 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Lodging</th>
<th>Class Hours/Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 27</td>
<td>Pre-departure meeting</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 (F)</td>
<td>Travel to Mexico City from IAH; orientation of the city</td>
<td>Mexico City</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 (S)</td>
<td>Archaeology Museum/Chapultapatec</td>
<td>Mexico City</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 (S)</td>
<td>Zocalo/Ballet Foklorico</td>
<td>Mexico City</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 (M)</td>
<td>CIMMYT (Toluca)</td>
<td>CIMMYT</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 (T)</td>
<td>CIMMYT (El Batan)</td>
<td>CIMMYT</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 (W)</td>
<td>CIMMYT (El Batan) and Teotihuacan Pyramids</td>
<td>CIMMYT</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 (R)</td>
<td>Travel to Merida; orientation of the city</td>
<td>Merida</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 (F)</td>
<td>Merida city tour and local farm tour</td>
<td>Merida</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 (S)</td>
<td>Celestun biosphere and beach</td>
<td>Merida</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 (S)</td>
<td>Hobilin Ranch</td>
<td>Hobilin ranch</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 (M)</td>
<td>Hobilin Ranch</td>
<td>Hobilin ranch</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 (T)</td>
<td>Cenotes and farm tour</td>
<td>Merida</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 (W)</td>
<td>Uxmal</td>
<td>Merida</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 (R)</td>
<td>Travel to Houston</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 03</td>
<td>Seminar presentation</td>
<td>-</td>
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Total= 72

CIMMYT – the international wheat and maize improvement program of the CGIAR system. Located at El Batan in the Valley of Mexico near Mexico City. Students will tour the facilities including the seed bank, genomic labs, baking labs, greenhouses, and field plots. They will hear about how CIMMYT is addressing the FAO’s Three Challenge Programs: Water and Food, HarvestPlus, and Generation.
Teotihuacan Pyramids – Students will visit an ancient city established in 100 B.C. by the Teotihuacan civilization. The largest pyramid is rated as the third largest in the world and designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

CIMMYT at Toluca – This station is CIMMYT’s highest altitude wheat and maize breeding location on the western side of Mexico City. Programs of emphasis include local extension projects to encourage conservation tillage and adoption of hybrid maize varieties.

Zocalo – This is the city center of Mexico City. Surrounding buildings include several historic Federal Buildings, the Cathedral of Mexico and the Templo Mejor of the Aztecs.

National Anthropology Museum – This museum is the most visited museum in Mexico. It covers all major civilizations throughout Mexican history with major exhibits for the Toltec, Mayan, and Aztec cultures.

Chapultepec - Located near the National Anthropology Museum, this building sits atop a steep hill in Mexico City. It has served as a Presidential Palace, a military academy, and was famously conquered by the American Army during the Mexican American War.

Ballet Foklorico – Performances are held at the Palace de Artes near the city center in Mexico City. Dances in the ballet depict rural lifestyles and cultures of Mexico.

Merida city tour – walking tour of the colonial city including art galleries and history museums.

Yucatan farm tours – most farmers in Yucatan are small stakeholders who rely upon low-energy input technology. Students will have the opportunity to see how Yucatanese farmers approach challenges with ingenuity.

Cenotes – these unique geological features are collapsed pits in the limestone that appear throughout Yucatan. They have been an important source of fresh water and was culturally important to the Mayan.

Uxmal – this is a partially restored ancient Mayan city.

Hobinil Ranch- this is a working ranch owned and managed by the University of Yucatan. The ranch has rustic cabins in which the students can sleep overnight. They will eat local food, go horseback riding and explore the local flora and fauna.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Describe the functions of a CGIAR center and CIMMYT in particular.
2. Explain the how’s and why’s of germplasm conservation.
3. Develop conservation practices for under-developed countries.
4. Give reasons for capacity building in developing countries.
5. Relate the value of hybrid vigor and germplasm improvement towards productivity in growing conditions with intense biotic and abiotic stress environments.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between food production and civilization.
Assignments:

1.) **Pre-departure homework** – students will be given a short homework assignment designed to encourage independent thought and research into the cultural and historical aspects of the tour stops. Make-ups will be offered pending a university excused absence.

2.) **Mid-Program Exam** - a short exam will be given at the end of the first week and prior to arrival at Santa Clara. The exam will be a mix of recall information of people and places that were visited as well as the importance of each. It will be used to develop working groups for the development project proposals. Make-ups will be offered pending a university excused absence.

3.) **Reports** – groups will be assigned to develop presentations on topics related to the trip. The groups will present their findings and experiences at either the SCSC departmental seminar or other similar function.

4.) **Participation** – attendance to all meetings. Students are expected to pay attention and represent Texas A&M in a positive manner. Students are expected to fully participate in the project planning and review session. Failure to attend meetings will be excused if a university excused absence is provided.

For each class meeting, students will be given a grade based on the following rubric for participation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Avg.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attentiveness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Questions</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>General etiquette</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Punctuality</td>
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<tr>
<td>Behavior/Dress</td>
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Average total points (participation grade) = [Calculation]

*Grading scale:* 0 – unacceptable; 1-poor; 2-weak; 3-needs improvement; 4-acceptable; 5-credible; 6-good; 7-commendable; 8-excellent; 9-superior; 10-perfect.

**Grading:**

- Pre-departure homework – 20%
- Exam – 20%
- Project Presentation- 40%
- Participation - 20%

**Grading Scale**

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- less than 60% = F
**Attendance Policy:**
The University views class attendance as the responsibility of an individual student. Attendance is essential to complete the course successfully. University rules related to excused and unexcused absences are located on-line at [http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07](http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07). No make-up work will be allowed except in the case of university excused absences.

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy:**

*The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information, visit [http://disability.tamu.edu](http://disability.tamu.edu).*

**Academic Integrity Statement and Policy**

*“An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do.”* For additional information, please visit [http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu](http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu).