

Foods & Nutrition 3320A Global Policies & Food Safety
Brescia University College, UWO

Fall 2013

‘... Canada’s food safety system – then, as now – is recognized as one of the best in the world. Yet, a mere four years later, Canadians found themselves asking how this could have happened again.’

Independent Review of XL Foods Inc. Beef Recall 2012

Course Director: Dr. Paul Barker
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Classes: Mon. 10:30-11:30 & Wed. 9:30-11:30, Room 302
Office Hours: Mon. & Wed., 11:30-12:30 or by appointment

Course Description

Examine issues of food safety in the global context and the influence of local, national, and international economic and political policies with emphasis on food laws, trade policies, import-export agreements, agriculture, and other issues. Country case studies highlight current issues and changes in the policies of the regions.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to do the following:

- Describe the operation of the emerging global food safety system and assess its level of effectiveness as well as the conflicts which arise between members of the system.
- Analyze the major food safety issues and demonstrate how government might address these issues.
- Outline and critique the food safety policies and efforts of governments in various countries through an examination of responses to food safety crises.
- Appreciate the importance – and challenge – of food safety to a globalizing world and understand that the provision of safe food requires interlocking relations between governments, food producers, food processors, retailers, and people in their homes.

Course Materials

Readings will be made available through the class. The course will have a Sakai site on which various materials and items will be placed.

Evaluation

Quizzes*	10%
Mid Term (Oct. 23)	20%
Group Project# (Nov. 18, 20)	20%
Participation@	10%
Final exam (Dec. exam period)	40%

* Four quizzes on assigned readings.

Students are assigned to a group and required to write together IN CLASS a five page paper on a selected matter in food safety.

@ Participation based on random attendance-taking and contribution to class discussion.

Weekly Outline

Week 1

Sept. 9, 11: Course Overview & Introduction

Week 2

Sept. 16, 18: Basics: Food Hazards, Politics, Economics and Globalization

Reading 1:Sizer et al., *Nutrition: Concepts and Controversies*, 2nd ed.^t Cdn. Ed. (Toronto: Nelson, 2012), pp. 453-59

Reading 2: Conference Board of Canada, *Improving Food Safety in Canada: Toward a More Risk-Responsive System*, February 2012, ch. 2

Reading 3: R. Tindal, *A Citizen's Guide to Government*, 3rd ed. (Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson, 2007), pp. 21-32

Reading 4: Canadian Food Inspection Agency, *CFLA at a Glance*

Week 3

Sept 23, 25:

Reading 5: J. Frieden et al., *World Politics* 2nd ed (New York: Norton, 2013), 268-78 & 306-07
Prisoner's Dilemma Tournament (and the prisoner's dilemma)

Week 4

Sept. 30, Oct. 2: Global Food Safety

Read Reading 6: P. Oosterveer, *Global Governance of Food Production and Consumption* (Northampton: Edward Elgar, 2007), pp.1-9

Reading 7: G. Skogstad, *Internationalization & Canadian Agriculture: Policy & Governing Paradigms* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008), pp. 179-94

Week 5

Oct. 7, 9: World Trade Organization + Food Safety

Read Reading 8: *The WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary & Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement)*

Reading 9: *The WTO Sanitary & Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement: Why You Need to Know ... at ...*

Reading: 10: *North American Free Trade Agreement*, section 7

Reading 11: UN, *World Trade Organization: 3.10 Technical Barriers to Trade*

Week 6

Oct. 16: WTO (cont'd)

Reading 12: Dispute Settlement Readings – *Implementation – Dispute Settlement*

Reading 13: Surya Subedi, “The WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism as a New Technique for Settling Disputes in International Law,” in D. French et al., eds., *International Law and Dispute Settlement: New Problems and Techniques* (Oregon: Hart Publishing, 2010).

Reading 14: WTO, *DS 292*

Week 7

Oct. 21

Reading 15: S. Henson & J. Caswell, “Food safety regulation: an overview of contemporary issues,” *Food Policy* 24 (1999)

Oct. 23: TEST

Week 8

Oct. 28, 30 Food Safety Issues

Reading 16: S. Hartley & G. Skogstad, “Regulating genetically modified crops and foods in Canada and the United Kingdom: Democratizing risk regulation,” *Canadian Public Administration* 48:3 (Fall 2005)

Reading 17: L. Unnevehr and H. Jensen, "The Economic Implications of Using HACCP as a Food Safety Regulatory Standard," *Food Policy* 24 (1999)

Reading 18: Deepanadna Herath and Spencer Henson, "Does Canada Need Mandatory HACCP? Evidence from the Ontario Food Processing Sector," *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics* 54 (2006)

Week 9

Nov. 4, 6: Food Safety & Canada

Reading 19: Canada, *Report of the Independent Investigator into the 2008 Listeriosis Outbreak*, July 2009, ch. 4

Reading 20: Conference Board of Canada, *Improving Food Safety in Canada: Toward a More Risk-Responsive System*, February 2012, chs. 3-4

Week 10

Nov. 11, 13: Food Safety, Canada & Case Study

Read Reading 21: Canada, *Report of the Independent Investigator into the 2008 Listeriosis Outbreak*, July 2009, chs. 2-3, 5-7

Week 11

Nov. 18, 20: Group Report

Reading 22: *Independent Review of XL Foods Inc. Beef Recall 2012*

Week 12

Nov. 25, 27: Food Safety & United States & EU

Reading 23: Renee Johnson, *The Federal Food Safety System: A Primer*, November 26, 2012 (Congressional Research Service)

Reading 24: G. Becker, *Food Safety: Foodborne Illness & Selected Recalls of FDA-Regulated Foods*, April 2010 (Congressional Research Service)

Read Reading 25: J. Rourke, *International Politics on the World Stage*, 11th ed. (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2007), 202-208,

Reading 26: Alberto Alemanno, "Food Safety and the Single European Market," in C. Ansell & D. Vogel, *What's the Beef? The Contested Governance of European Food Safety* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2006)

Week 13

Dec. 2, 4: China & Absence of Food Safety System?

Read: Reading 27: W. Tam & D. Yang, "Food Safety & the Development of Regulatory Institutions in China," *Asian Perspective* 29:4 (2005)

Reading 28: L. Bai et al., "Food safety assurance systems in China," *Food Control* 18 (2007)

Reading 29: C. Xiu and K.K. Klein, "Melamine in milk products in China: Examining the factors that led to the deliberate use of the contaminant," *Food Policy* 30 (2010)

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation must be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> . If it is not possible to have an SMC completed by the attending physician/nurse practitioner, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is not adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. All documentation is to be submitted to an Academic Advisor.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full statement of University policy regarding extensions of deadlines or makeup exams can be found at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2013/pg117.html>

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult

an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar.

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar_services/index.html . The Western Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about