

Spring 2010

J234: Africa, Women, and Agriculture: The Global Food Crisis

TH: 9:00-11 AM & 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM, School of Journalism Library, North Gate Hall

Professor and Dean Neil Henry

Instructors - David Tuller and Cassandra Herrman

Academic Coordinator - Martha Saavedra

Building on the foundations laid in the fall, this continuation course emphasizes developing a critical approach to the diversity, complexities, dynamics, contradictions and details of agricultural production and contemporary food crises facing at least parts of sub-Saharan Africa. With the addition of some field experience, we will continue our preparations to critically and knowledgeably report on agricultural issues, innovations, controversies and stories from and/or affecting the continent. The emphasis remains on small holders and women, while a range of farming systems, institutions and global connections will be considered. We will focus on topics emerging from the previous semester and from participants' work, hence topics and timing may shift during the course of the semester. As before, guest speakers from UC Berkeley and the larger community will share their research and perspectives.

We will continue with an interdisciplinary approach, examining scholarly literature, official reports and grey literature in light of journalistic practices. Participants suggestions for shared reading are encouraged.

Martha Saavedra's Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM and by appointment in the Center for African Studies in 356 Stephens. E-mail: martha@berkeley.edu

Course Materials: All materials will be available electronically and posted to the course bSpace site: <http://bit.ly/J234Spring2010>

Grading

Map Quiz	Just for the fun of it to see what we now know.
20%	Weekly posting in bSpace Forum – “What are the burning questions and journalistic challenges that emerge from the material for the week?” Must post to bSpace by Wednesday noon.
10%	In-class summary presentation of participant weekly posting (each student does once)
30%	Participation – this includes suggesting topics and readings found in explorations
40%	Journalistic product(s)

ACADEMIC SESSION SCHEDULE *(Topics, order and readings subject to change)*

Week 1: 21 January

Returning Observations, Semester Overview, Planning and Reorganizing

Week 2: 28 January

Guest Lecture: Markus Goldstein, Office of the Director, Africa Region Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, The World Bank

Everyone reads these:

Goldstein, Markus, and Christopher Udry. "The Profits of Power: Land Rights and Agricultural Investment in Ghana." *Journal of Political Economy* 116, no. 6 (2008): 981-1022.
<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/595561>.

Goldstein, Markus, and Christopher Udry. "Addressing Unequal Economic Opportunities: A case study of land tenure in Ghana" *Development Outreach*, World Bank Institute, September 2005.

Read one from below and comment on:

Nava Ashraf, Xavier Giné, and Dean Karlan, "Finding Missing Markets (and a Disturbing Epilogue): Evidence from an Export Crop Adoption and Marketing Intervention in Kenya," *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, American Agricultural Economics Association, vol. 91(4), pages 973-990, November 2009. (January 2008 working paper)

Esther Duflo, Michael Kremer, and Jonathan Robinson, *Nudging Farmers to Use Fertilizer: Theory and Experimental Evidence from Kenya*, 26 June 2009

Xavier Giné and Dean Yang, "Insurance, credit, and technology adoption: Field experimental evidence from Malawi", *Journal of Development Economics*, Volume 89, Issue 1, May 2009, Pages 1-11. (April 2008 working paper)

Klaus Deininger, Daniel Ayalew Ali, Tekie Alemu, *Impacts of Land Certification on Tenure Security, Investment, and Land Markets: Evidence from Ethiopia*, Policy Research Working Paper 4764, The World Bank, Development Research Group, Sustainable Rural and Urban Development Team, October 2008

Dercon, S., D. O. Gilligan, and J. Hoddinott. *The Impact of Agricultural Extension and Roads on Poverty and Consumption Growth in Fifteen Ethiopian Villages*. IFPRI Discussion Paper 00840, December 2008

Week 3: 4 February

BioFuels, mostly, some Carbon Trading

Visit by David Zilberman, Professor, Agricultural and Resource Economics,
<http://www.professorzilberman.com/>.

- Bulte, E. H., L. Lipper, et al. (2008). "Payments for ecosystem services and poverty reduction: concepts, issues, and empirical perspectives." *Environment and Development Economics* 13(03): 245-254. (Also on bSpace:
- [Biofuel policy must evaluate environmental, food security and energy goals to maximize net benefits](#) (on David Zilberman's website, and on bSpace).

Couple these readings with Mark Schapiro's piece in Harper's Magazine, February 2010: *Conning the climate: Inside the carbon-trading shell game*.
<http://www.harpers.org/archive/2010/02/0082826> and on bSpace.

Please comment on the readings by Wednesday, Noon.

For Further reading see (on bSpace)

- Holt-Gimenez, E., and A. Shattuck. The Agrofuels Transition: Restructuring Places and Spaces in the Global Food System. *Bulletin of Science, Technology & Society* 29, no. 3 (2009): 180.
- Zilberman, D., L. Lipper, et al. (2008). "When could payments for environmental services benefit the poor?" *Environment and Development Economics* 13(03): 255-278.

For the workshop portion of the class, Dan Fahey, graduate student in Environmental Science Policy and Management will visit to discuss his experience working with 60 Minutes on their recent Congo story. Please also watch the 60 Minutes piece on mining in the Congo if you haven't already:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=5827013n&tag=cbsnewsMainColumnArea.2>

It's the first segment. Dan's blog posting about issues with the episode is here:

<http://africanarguments.org/2009/12/three-problems-with-60-minutes/>

Week 4: 11 February

Conflict, agriculture and food security

Patrick Vinck, is an agricultural engineer who specializes in rural development, Vinck holds a Ph.D. in International Development. He has worked and conducted research in Iraq, Rwanda, Northern Uganda, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan, and other areas affected by armed conflict. He directs the [The Initiative for Vulnerable Populations](#) at the Human Rights Center here at Berkeley.

The academic reading for the week are (on bSpace)

- White, Philip. 2005. War and Food Security in Eritrea and Ethiopia, 1998-2000. *Disasters* 29, no. s1: S92-S113. <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/118655349/abstract>

Other articles and reports of interest are on bSpace:

- Sperling, L. 2001. The effect of the civil war on Rwandas bean seed systems and unusual bean diversity. *Biodiversity and Conservation* 10, no. 6: 989-1010.
<http://www.springerlink.com/content/v2582q2853054003/>
- Richards, R., and G. Ruivenkamp. 1997. *Seeds and survival: crop genetic resources in war and reconstruction in Africa*. International Plant Genetic Resources Institute, Rome, Italy.
http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNACH802.pdf

For the news piece, examine coverage of the recently ended AU summit. The new AU president, Bingu wa Mutharika, of Malawi has set food security as the number one priority, followed by transport infrastructure and energy. See:

- <http://www1.voanews.com/english/news/africa/New-AU-Chief-Sets-Political-Stability-Food-Security-as-Priorities--83369842.html>
- <http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jopsKSJkP5z8WZznPMOc5u3zvq4Q>
- http://www.portalangop.co.ao/motix/en_us/noticias/politica/2010/1/5/14th-African-Union-Summit-ends,0e6bd65a-0914-4987-98cb-e272633927a3.html
- <http://news.google.com/news/more?pz=1&cf=all&ned=us&cf=all&ncl=dNX6UOTRVSF7dzM--OIYaUYVQyuFM>
- <http://news.google.com/news/more?pz=1&cf=all&ned=us&cf=all&ncl=dwFPIMRRH-X7I2MtAEgrkgJx98b-M>

You can also scan coverage over a period of time:

Here is a google archives search on "Agriculture africa conflict"

- http://news.google.com/archivesearch?q=agriculture+africa+conflict&scoring=a&hl=en&ned=us&sa=N&sugg=d&as_ldate=2000&as_hdate=2009&lnav=hist7

And another for "Food africa conflict"

- <http://news.google.com/archivesearch?pz=1&cf=all&ned=us&hl=en&q=food+africa+conflict&cf=all>

Beyond that, recommended links are:

The World Food Program's Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis

<http://www.wfp.org/food-security/reports/CFSVA>

Eldis's page on food security <http://www.eldis.org/go/topics/resource-guides/food-security>

IFPRI <http://www.ifpri.org/>

Week 5: 18 February

Urban Agriculture

Guest Lecturer: Nathan McClintock, Geography, UC Berkeley

http://geography.berkeley.edu/people/person_detail.php?person=144

Required Readings (on bSpace):

- Drechsel, P., C. Quansah, and F. Penning De Vries. 1999. Urban and peri-urban agriculture in West Africa: characteristics, challenges, and need for action. In *Urban agriculture in West Africa: contributing to food security and urban sanitation*. Ottawa: International Development Research Centre and TCARC/CTCAR.
- Mougeot, L. 1994. African City Farming from World Perspective. In *Cities feeding people: an examination of urban agriculture in East Africa*. Ottawa: International Development Research Centre.

For further reading, see:

- McClintock, Nathan. 2010. Why farm the city? Theorizing urban agriculture through a lens of metabolic rift. *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society* forthcoming special issue on Re-Regionalizing the Food System? <http://cjres.oxfordjournals.org>.
- http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/cjres/foodissue.html

Week 6: 25 February

Pastoralism and Livestock, and Trade Policy

Guest Lecturer: J. Michael Halderman, consultant on rural development, the environment, trade and conflict. Doctorate in Political Science from UC Berkeley. Extensive experience in East Africa and the European Union.

Required Readings: *still to be determined, but possibly as follows:*

- Michael Halderman, 2004. The Political Economy of Pro-Poor Livestock Policy-Making in Ethiopia. Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Initiative (PPLPI) Working Paper No. 19. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization.
<http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/pplpi/docarc/wp19.pdf>
- Halderman, M., and M. Nelson. 2004. EU Policy-Making: Reform of the CAP and EU Trade in Beef & Dairy with Developing Countries. *Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Initiative Working Paper* 18. <http://www.fao.org/Ag/AGInfo/programmes/en/pplpi/docarc/abst18.html>
- Michael Halderman. 1984. "Stopped in Their Tracks: East African Pastoralists," *Cultural Survival Quarterly*, VIII, no. 1, pp. 39-45.
<http://www.culturalsurvival.org/publications/cultural-survival-quarterly/michael/east-african-pastoralists>

See the FAO's Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Initiative:

<http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/pplpi/home.html>

Week 7: 4 March

Land grabs or foreign investment?

- Cotula, L., S. Vermeulen, R. Leonard, and J. Keeley. *Land grab or development opportunity? Agricultural investment and international land deals in Africa*. IIED/FAO/IFAD, London, UK, 2009.
<http://www.fao.org/docrep/011/ak241e/ak241e00.htm>.
- Michael Kugelman and Susan L. Levenstein. *Land Grab? The Race for the World's Farmland*. Asia Program, Wilson Center.
http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1462&fuseaction=topics.publications&group_id=587120.
- Jessica Silver-Greenberg, "Land Rush in Africa" *Business Week*, 25 November 2009
http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/09_49/b4158038757158.htm
- Calvin Burgess, Dominion Farms CEO, Rebuttal to Business Week article
<http://www.dominion-farms.com/response.pdf>

Week 8: 11 March

Water

Reading TBD

Week 9: 18 March

Impacts of International Trade Regimes

- Maertens, Miet, and Johan F.M. Swinnen. "Trade, Standards, and Poverty: Evidence from Senegal." *World Development* 37, no. 1 (January 2009): 161-178.
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6VC6-4SYDB0X-1/2/48d9ac67ab6945d21bf87987580875b6>.
- Eduardo Zepeda, Mohamed Chemingui, Hedi Bchir, Stephen Karingi, Christopher Onyango, Bernadette Wanjala "The Impact of the Doha Round on Kenya" - Carnegie Endowment for International Peace." (November 2009)
<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=24087>.
- Selection of news stories about Doha Round.

or

Climate Change, Mitigation, Adaptation, Forests and Consequences for Agriculture

Spring Break: 25 March

Week 10: 1 April

China in Africa

- Brautigam, D. A. and T. Xiaoyang (2009). "China's Engagement in African Agriculture: "Down to the Countryside"." *The China Quarterly* **199**(-1): 686-706.
- Selection of news stories about China, Africa and agriculture.

Week 11: 8 April

Climate Change, Energy, Carbon Credits

Possible Visit from Dan Kammen, ERG or Susan Jenkins or colleague from EBI?

- Holt-Gimenez, E., and A. Shattuck. "The Agrofuels Transition: Restructuring Places and Spaces in the Global Food System." *Bulletin of Science, Technology & Society* 29, no. 3 (2009): 180.
- Selection of news stories

Week 12: 15 April

Visit commercial farm???

Week 13: 22 April

Revisit Gender Question

Week 14: 29 April

Revisit Smallholder Question

Week 15: 6 May

Summary and Reflections