



# The University of Georgia®

University Council  
Athens, Georgia 30602

February 9, 2011

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Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal for a new Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture will be an agenda item for the February 16, 2011, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

David E. Shipley, Chair  
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost Jere W. Morehead  
Dr. Laura D. Jolly

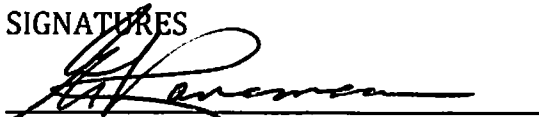
# INTERDISCIPLINARY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM PROPOSAL

## Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture

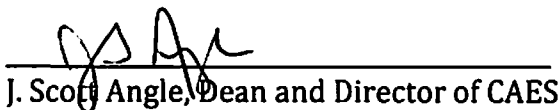
### I. Basic Information

1. Institution: University of Georgia  
Date: September 1, 2010
2. School/College: College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences
3. Department/Division: Office of Global Programs
4. Level: Graduate
5. Proposed start date for program: Spring 2011
6. See attached for abstract of the program (Page 2)
7. See attached letter from the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Dean J. Scott Angle, whose support is vital to the success of the program.

SIGNATURES



Edward T. Kanemasu, Assistant Dean and Director of Global Programs



J. Scott Angle, Dean and Director of CAES

## **ABSTRACT**

### **Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture**

**“The idea of a local community has already become something of the past. Today we all live in a globally interconnected and interdependent community....Education, the traditionally local social institution, thus faces a number of significant challenges in preparing children to live in the global society” (Zhao, 2009, p. 110). The purpose of this certificate is to further internationalize the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES) curriculum and provide the opportunity for graduate students to participate in international agriculture activities while pursuing their degrees. The Office of Global Programs has received increasing numbers of inquiries from graduate students regarding participation in the existing Certificate in International Agriculture Program which is currently open to undergraduates only. The new interdisciplinary program will enhance graduate degree programs with international coursework, foreign language study, and hands-on internship and/or research experience abroad.**

**“Agriculture is a field of endeavor that draws on many disciplines. It is also inextricably linked to the environment, and is nested in a high-value, knowledge-based economy, where technology, tastes and markets are in constant flux. These unique characteristics make it a complex and dynamic field” (Thomas, Faulkner, & Gray, 2009, para. 23). This complex and dynamic field, specifically, the United States economy and its agricultural and natural resources sectors, is being challenged as never before to operate in globally competitive and responsible ways. Free-trade agreements have sped the process of globalization, and international trade contributes significantly to the Georgia and the United States economy. Enterprises focused in agriculture depend on university graduates who have an informed world view in order for their business to remain competitive. Through programs such as the International Agriculture Certificate, the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES) is able to better prepare our students upon graduation to be competitive in the global job market and to work responsibly in the global economy.**

**This certificate is designed to complement graduate degree programs, specifically, within the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. However, recognizing the certificate’s benefit for students in other colleges, the interdisciplinary curriculum of the Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture will allow students from the Schools of Ecology, Forest and Natural Resources, Public Health, and College of Arts and Sciences to participate with limited additional coursework.**

**The certificate requirements will mirror those of the current undergraduate program and will include 2 semesters of foreign language study, 9 hours of graduate-level internationally relevant coursework, ALDR(AFST)(LACS) 6710 “International Agriculture Development”, and a minimum 2-month internship or research placement abroad, AESC 6910 (Currently in CAPA System for approval).**

The program will be administered by the Office of Global Programs, whose Director will serve as the Director of the certificate. The Assistant Director of Global Programs will handle day-to-day operations of the program. The CAES Office of Academic Affairs will assist in the recruitment, matriculation, and student completion of the certificate.

Applicants to the Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture must meet Graduate School admissions requirements and follow Graduate School policies and procedures for degree or non-degree candidates. Only students with a good academic standing and making satisfactory progress in their academic career will be admitted and retained in the certificate program. Admission to the certificate program does not guarantee admission to any University of Georgia degree programs.

Existing library holdings are adequate and no additional computer, instructional or laboratory equipment nor research support resources will be needed for the program. Likewise, no additional physical facilities will be required. Due to the existing certificate program operated by the Office of Global Programs, minimal expense (limited to creation of marketing materials) is expected in the creation of the new program. However, efforts will be made to develop scholarship funds to reduce the cost to be incurred by students while completing the international internship/research requirement.

## **II. CRITERIA FOR GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURE**

### **1. Purpose and Educational Objectives**

In recent years a renewed interest in international education, specifically in United States universities, has taken place. This renewed interest is based on the strengthened and ever-increasing process of globalization and its demand for increased levels of interactions and relationships among nations and countries. "These changes have drawn attention to the need for educating students to live and work in a new global environment. In this evolving global environment, the challenge facing educators from all cultures is preparing students to function in the existing and anticipated global state of affairs" (Thomas, Gunden, & Faulkner, 2009, para. 2). To help aid in the solution of this problem, the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Office of Global Programs is proposing a Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture, based on the current undergraduate certificate of the same nature. This certificate program is composed of 23-semester credit hours and will be delivered through a combination of foreign language, a core course, international orientation electives and an international internship for a minimum duration of two months.

The student educational objectives include:

- Identifying a specific country or region of the world as it pertains to agriculture.
- Gaining a working knowledge of the language specific to the identified region or country.
- Developing an understanding of the environmental, social, political, and cultural issues related to the identified part of the world.

- Understanding and creating individual cross-cultural competency. This includes both the ability to use the language and an understanding of the culture. Cross-cultural competency (Zhao, 2009) is also a necessary ability for all global citizens in their professional lives, as they will need to work together with individuals from different cultural backgrounds.
- Gaining global competency. Global competency can be defined “as the knowledge and skills that help people understand the flat world in which they live, the skill to integrate across disciplinary domains to comprehend global affairs and events and to create possibilities to address them. Global competencies are also the attitudinal and ethical dispositions that make it possible to interact peacefully, respectfully, and productively with fellow human beings from diverse geographies” (Zhao, 2009, p. 165).
- Applying graduate degree programs to understand the special problems and prospects of international agriculture and trade.

*It should be noted that the above objectives are ideal and generalized in that they pertain to all students that might enter this certificate program. Upon admittance to the certificate program the student will further define more specific educational objectives with the Director of Global Programs.*

The broad educational objectives include:

- Focusing international activities in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.
- Drawing more interest among students and faculty within the College and the University towards international agriculture activities.
- Serving as a medium for recruiting more entering students to choose the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.
- Contributing to the globalization of students and faculty at the University.
- Supplementing internationalized curriculum within the University.

## 2. Demonstrated Need for the Program

“Globalization is a process that embodies change...thus globalization refers to processes that evolve as people and their institutions pursue their daily tasks in the furtherance of their particular goals, reaching beyond their borders to participate in similar behaviors or become more engaged in more wide-ranging and coherent processes and organizations or systems” (Thomas, Gunden, & Faulkner, 2009, para. 5). To maintain its standard of excellence the University and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences must evolve with this process as well. This evolution will embed a much-needed set of characteristics and skills within graduating students that will allow them to enter work and ultimately succeed in the globalization of agriculture and associated emerging fields.

The Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture will challenge students to manage change, growth, and internationalization within the increasingly more fluid barriers and

parameters of the office workplace. "As barriers disappear and boundaries expand under the influence of globalizing forces, people become exposed to new norms, ideas, ways of thinking, and doing things" (Thomas, Gunden, & Faulkner, 2009, para. 7).

#### Semester/Year of Program Initiation

Since the majority of the courses that will constitute the certificate program are already available (barring the creation of a graduate level internship course) the Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture is on track to enroll its first students in January 2011 (Spring Semester 2011). This program will follow the traditional academic pace, and will be fully implemented by Spring Semester 2011 with the possibility of awarding the first certificate during Fall Semester 2012. Based on current interest, the program expects 2-3 students to apply for admission to the certificate program within its first semester. It is expected in subsequent semesters applications for enrollment will increase to approximately 5 CAES students. This should ensure an optimal enrollment of 5-10 students per year.

#### Semester/Year Full Implementation of Program

We anticipate the Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture to be fully implemented and active by Spring Semester 2011.

#### Semester/Year First Certificate Will Be Awarded

Most students currently enrolled in graduate programs within the College of Agricultural and Environmental might already possess up to 9 hours of credit that will apply to the certificate, so it is possible to award the first certificate during Fall Semester 2012.

#### Annual Number of Graduates Expected

The Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture estimates that it will graduate on average 5 students per academic year for the first 5-7 years.

### 3. Sustainability

It is anticipated that at least 5 graduate students in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences will enroll in the Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture each academic year. Concurrently, a similar number of students are expected to complete the certificate program each academic year.

The Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture has been developed to meet the needs of graduate students pursuing a degree related to international agriculture, or graduate students interested in international agriculture. As such, our program will recruit potential students and enroll those students based on their 1) current standing with the Graduate School and/or 2) their interest in the certificate program. Therefore, minority enrollment in the program will be proportionate to 1) minority employment in the international agricultural industry and 2) minority student enrollment in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

The Office of Global Programs has received an increasing number of requests each year from graduate students who are interested in participating in the Certificate in International Agriculture. Students from other disciplines and colleges have also expressed interest in completing a Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture. These additional students provide an even broader market for the program of study.

#### 4. Design and Curriculum

##### Detailed Curriculum

##### *Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture (23 semester hours)*

##### Foreign Language (8 credit hours)

Completion or exemption through the second semester level of one language is required of all certificate participants. Intensive language course taken while abroad can satisfy the second semester level course if applicable. It is expected that all certificate students reach a minimum level of conversation language skills.

##### ALDR/AFST/LACS 6710 (3 credit hours)

“International Agriculture Development” Course: This course provides an analysis of international development programs, stressing the developing world's perspective. Topics studied will include issues affecting international cooperation, agricultural development and sustainability, technology transfer, and extension education.

##### Internship (3 credit hours)

Student will be registered in AESC 6910 (International Agriculture Internship) while completing their internship abroad for a minimum duration of two months. Internships will be developed individually for the certificate students based on their language ability and educational/career goals. Internship hosts will be institutes/organizations with whom the CAES has active collaboration programs. An example internship would be a research placement at CITA in Zaragoza, Spain. Past internships have included placements at:

- BOKU in Vienna, Austria
- CATIE in Turrialba, Costa Rica
- Kagoshima University in Kagoshima, Japan

##### International Orientation Electives (9 credit hours)

Courses may be chosen from the list of possible courses below from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and/or other Certificate approved courses (within or outside of the College). Each course's syllabus has been reviewed by the current Assistant Director for the Office of Global Programs and has been deemed germane to this certificate. Any course, as outlined by its syllabus, which is linked to international agriculture, has been approved for elective credits for this certificate. Students may petition further classes to the Assistant Director that they trust also follow the aforementioned criteria. All additional courses must be presented to and be approved by the Assistant Director before they can be used towards this certificate.

## **International Agriculture Graduate Certificate Relevant Courses**

### **Ag Economics**

AAEC(ENVM) 4710/6710 - Rural Economic Development and Growth

AAEC(HACE) 4910/6910 - International Agribusiness Marketing and Management  
(International Agribusiness Marketing and Management Study Abroad)

AAEC 6960 - International Agricultural Trade

### **Agricultural and Environmental Sciences**

(AESC)EETH 4190/6190 - Agricultural Ethics

### **Agricultural Leadership**

ALDR 4540/6540 - Leadership Ethics and Culture

ALDR 4600/6600 - Issues in Contemporary Agriculture

ALDR(AFST)(LACS) 4710/6710 - International Agricultural Development

ALDR 8030 - Diffusion of Innovations

### **Crop and Soil Science**

CRSS(HORT) 4400/6400 - Agro-Ecology

CRSS(HORT) 4400L/6400L - Agro-Ecology Laboratory

RSS(ANTH)(ECOL)(GEOG)(HORT) 4930/6930 - Agroecology of Tropical America

CRSS(ANTH)(ECOL)(GEOG)(HORT) 4931/6931 - Agroecology of Tropical America Field  
Trip

(CRSS)WILD 5330/7330-5330L/7330L - Wildlife Management in Agricultural Ecosystems

### **Food Science and Technology**

FDST 4100/6100 - Governmental Regulation of Food Safety and Quality

### **Horticulture**

HORT 4890/6890 - Biodiversity and the World's Food Crops

HORT 4990/6990 - Environmental Issues in Horticulture

### **Additional Courses**

ANTH 8570 Economic Development and Health

CHFD(FDNS)(HACE)(TXM) 5711/771 - Study Tour in Family and Consumer Sciences

DMAN 8351 - Information for Management of Emergencies and Disasters

EADU 8030- International Adult Education

ECHD 6275 - Youth Development Field Studies in International Contexts

ECON 4550/6550 - International Trade: Theory and Policy

ECON 8510 - International Economics I

ECON 8520 - International Economics II

EDMS 9120 - Comparative and International Perspectives in Middle Grades Education

EFND 7010 - Comparative and International Education

FDST 4100/6100 - Governmental Regulation of Food Safety and Quality

FINA 4810/6810 - International Finance

FINA 7810 - International Financial Management

FORS 4200/6200 - 4200L/6200L - International Forest Business



**FORS(ECOL)(GEOG) 4250/6250 – International Forest Management (Sustainable Natural Resource Management Study Abroad)**  
**GEOG 4660/6660 – Urban and Regional Development**  
**HIST(AFST) 4510/6510 – History of Famine and Food Systems in Africa**  
**HPAM 8500 – Comparative Health Care Systems**  
**INTL 6000 – International Policy Formation and Implementation**  
**INTL 6200 – Pre-Seminar in International Relations**  
**INTL 8205 – Decision Making in International Relations**  
**INTL 8210 – International Organization**  
**INTL 8220 – International Law**  
**INTL 8230 – International Conflict**  
**INTL 8240 – International Political Economy**  
**INTL 8270 – Politics of Trade and Security Policy**  
**INTL 8330 – Politics of Post-Communist Political Systems**  
**INTL 8380 – Russian and East European Politics**  
**INTL 8390 – East Asian Political Systems**  
**INTL 8420 – Game Theory in International Affairs**  
**MARK 7930 – Global Marketing Strategy**  
**MGMT 7560 – International Strategic Management**  
**NRRT 5900/7900 – Tourism and Sustainable Development**  
**PADP 8240 – Nonprofit Organization in and International Perspective: INGOs and Globalization**  
**WILD 5200/7200 – International Issues in Wildlife Conservation**  
**WILD(CRSS) 5330/7330-5300L/7300L – Wildlife Management in Agricultural Ecosystems**  
**WMST 4130/6130 – Transnational Perspectives on Women and Gender**

All courses required for the Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture are intended to develop a working knowledge of a foreign language, an understanding of the interrelationships between location and business activity or economic development, and exposure to problems and current issues in international agriculture. Courses applied to this certificate should also provide a working knowledge of a foreign country or region, allow students to acquire an understanding of the environmental, social, political and cultural aspects of other countries or regions of the world, and provide comprehension of the principles of economic development and international marketing and trade.

As the program develops, other internationally-oriented courses may be introduced in other colleges and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. These courses will be considered by the Director and approved/denied inclusion in the certificate program.

All courses in the curriculum exist except the 3 hour International Internship (AESC 6910) course. This course listing will be very similar in its composition to that of the

undergraduate certificate (AESC 3910) and will be developed in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences for graduate level students and submitted through the appropriate channels (CAPA) during the current academic year.

All international internships will be coordinated and approved by the director through the Office of Global Programs. It will be up to the student to meet with a staff member from OGP and schedule/plan an internship to fulfill the requirements of their certificate.

#### **5. Faculty Resources**

The program will be administered by the Office of Global Programs, whose Director will serve as the Director of the certificate. The Assistant Director of Global Programs will handle day-to-day operations of the program. The CAES Office of Academic Affairs study abroad recruitment coordinator will assist in the recruitment, matriculation, and student completion of the certificate.

No additional faculty will need to be hired to implement the program. All current faculty and staff of the Office of Global Programs will be sufficient for the International Agriculture Graduate Certificate. The Director and Assistant Director of the Office of Global Programs will administer the certificate program which will include student advisement, maintaining records, coordinating associated internships, and authorizing and issuing certificates.

#### **6. Library, Computer and Other Instructional Resources**

Existing library holdings in international research, development, marketing and trade, languages and social customs are entirely satisfactory. Resource materials about specific countries offered through the University of Georgia Library, GALILEO, and GIL will be utilized in the program.

No additional computer, instructional or laboratory equipment or research support resources will be needed. As the majority of the courses in the program already exist, the resources scheduled for these courses will be utilized.

#### **7. Physical Facilities**

The program will be based in the Office of Global Programs located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Hoke Smith Building. No additional facilities will be required to implement the program.

#### **8. Expenses**

The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences currently provides the personnel and operating resources necessary to implement the program; therefore, no additional expenses will be required to implement the program.

#### **9. Financial Support Needed**

The CAES Office of Global Programs and the CAES Study Abroad Recruitment Coordinator are available to work with the graduate students in identifying funding opportunities for their internships. Graduate students participating in the certificate program are eligible to receive limited scholarship monies from the CAES Office of Global Programs.

#### 10. Program Administration, Retention, and Admission

Administration of the program will be handled as is the current undergraduate program. The program will be housed in the Office of Global Programs and directed by the Director of Global Programs. The Assistant Director of Global Programs will serve as a program advisor. Recruitment will be handled by the CAES Study Abroad Recruitment Coordinator who attends the UGA study abroad fair, hosts information sessions on campus, and give presentations to selected classes and student groups through the academic year.

Applicants to the Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture must meet Graduate School admissions requirements and follow Graduate School policies and procedures. Admission to the certificate program does not guarantee admission to any University of Georgia degree programs. Application to degree programs requires separate admission criteria and application process and applicants must complete all admissions requirement as established by the Graduate School and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. Additionally, applicants must submit the following certificate-specific requirements for admission:

1. Certificate application
2. Official university transcript
3. Two letter of reference from faculty members
4. Essay describing the student's desire to participate in the program.

Upon receipt of all required materials, the Office of Global Programs will contact the applicant regarding the status of their application. Graduate students must in good academic standing and making satisfactory progress toward their degree to be retained by the program. Students will be required to maintain a minimum grade point average consistent with the Graduate School requirements. Every effort will be made to support students who are concerned about their academic standing. Therefore, the admission and retention requirements are consistent with accepted standards.

#### 11. Conclusion

In response to the increasing number of requests from graduate students within the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, the Office of Global Programs has completed a number of logistical tasks to implement a new Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture. The Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture will be well suited for graduate students actively pursuing a degree who wish to become more involved and knowledgeable of the global community, more specifically, as it pertains to agriculture.

## References

- Thomas, T., Faulkner, P., & Gray, B. (2009). New skills for a New era: Ideas for Preparing Professionals for Service in Twenty First Century Agriculture. *International Journal of Applied Educational Studies*, 4 (1), pp. 34-46.
- Thomas, T., Gunden, C., & Faulkner, P. (2009). Exploratory Study of Ege University School of Agriculture Students' Opinion of Globalization and Curricula Design for Related Instruction. *International Journal of Applied Educational Studies*, 6 (1), pp. 1-15.
- Zhao, Y. (2009). *Catching up or Leading the Way: American Education in the Age of Globalization*. ASCD: Alexandria, VA.



# The University of Georgia®

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences  
*Office of the Dean and Director*



August 27, 2010

Dr. Maureen Grasso, Dean  
The Graduate School  
320 E Clayton Street, Suite 400  
Athens, GA 30602-4401

Dear Dean Grasso:

Attached is an application outlining a proposed graduate-level Certificate Program in the area of International Agriculture. The purpose of this certificate is to further internationalize the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES) curriculum and provide the opportunity for graduate students to participate in international agriculture activities while pursuing their degrees. The Office of Global Programs has received increasing numbers of inquiries from graduate students regarding participation in the existing Certificate in International Agriculture Program, which is currently open to undergraduates only. The new interdisciplinary program will enhance graduate degree programs with international coursework, foreign language study, and hands-on internship and/or research experience abroad.

This certificate is designed to complement graduate degree programs, specifically, within the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. However, recognizing the certificate's benefit for students in other colleges, the interdisciplinary curriculum of the Graduate Certificate in International Agriculture will allow students from the Schools of Ecology, Forestry and Natural Resources, Public Health, and College of Arts and Sciences to participate with limited additional coursework.

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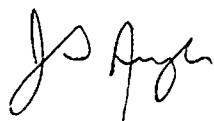
Dr. Maureen Grasso  
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In order to meet our goal of the inaugural classes in Spring 2011, I respectfully request that this program be reviewed at your next scheduled Graduate School Program Committee meeting. Thank you for your input and assistance with this request. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



J. Scott Angle

Dean and Director

JSA/alc