Course Name: **Sustainability, the Environment and Globalization in the Developing World**

Course Numbers: **AGR 399**
Credit Hours: **3** undergraduate

**Course Overview & Objectives:** The course will be designed to help students identify the unique challenges faced by a developing country as the country’s economy expands. The course will focus on strategies that are employed to ensure that growth is sustainable, the potential conflicts that arise between economic growth and the environment, and the effect that economic expansion and globalization has on culture and society. Students will also have an opportunity to learn about current agricultural practices in regards to production of soybeans, corn, wheat and meat products. They will learn about the similarities and differences in how these crops are cultivated in Brazil vs. Missouri.

*Apply soon; program is limited to 15 students.*

**Program Fee:** $2,500
Total program cost is $3,000. All accepted participants will receive a $500 Agriculture Study Away scholarship; cost to the participant will be $2,500.

**Program Fee Includes:** Round-trip airfare, in-country land transportation, lodging, some admission to tourism activities, meals, Study Away student fee and basic medical insurance.

**Program Fee Excludes:** Passport, visa fee, ground transportation in Springfield, incidentals/ misc personal expenses, and MSU tuition for 3 hours of undergraduate credit ($612). Both Missouri residents and non-residents pay the MO resident per-credit-hour tuition rate, per University policy.

**Applications are due by February 28, 2014. A nonrefundable deposit of $450 will be billed to your student account.** Please see Application & Payment Procedures for MSU and Visiting Students on reverse.

**Scholarship Eligibility & Financial Aid**
All accepted students will receive a $500 Agriculture Study Away scholarship. Additionally, students who receive financial aid may apply aid to this program. Contact the Office of Financial Aid at 836-5262 for more information.

**Interested in going?** Contact the Program Director, **Christine Sudbrock**, Instructor School of Agriculture
(417) 837-2506
Bond 105
CSudbrock@MissouriState.edu

**Informational Meetings:**
February 4, 11 a.m. Karls Hall 225
February 5, 2 p.m. Karls Hall 225
February 6, 4 p.m. Karls Hall 225

**Application Due:**
February 28, 2014

**Pre-Travel Meetings:**
March 3-7, 2014
March 17-21, 2014
April 7-11, 2014
May 8-18, 2014

**Depart Springfield for Brazil:**
May 18, 2014

**Depart Brazil for Springfield:**
May 28, 2014

**Post-Travel Meetings:**
June 2-6, 2014
Course Schedule

PRE TRAVEL MEETINGS
Pre-travel preparedness and instruction.

March 3-7, 2014: Initial Meeting time. This will be a session to get to know the other participants and to start discussing material to be covered over the course of the project, as well as course expectations, etc.

March 10-14, 2014: This meeting will start to set up the material, the context of the material and some of the expected problems that we will be experiencing while in Brazil.

April 7-11, 2014: Panel Question and Answer with individuals originating from Brazil in the Springfield area. We will also have a Skype call with the participants that will be coming to Missouri from Brazil before our trip. This will give the students an opportunity to develop some context for the culture they are going to be experiencing.

May 8-18, 2014: Wrap up any last minute details before departure and present pre-departure paper to the group. Several planned activities with the students visiting from Brazil.

STUDY TOUR
Itinerary is tentative and subject to change. We will spend each morning (approximately four hours) at Unicesumar attending lectures by the University’s professors. Short day trips to area businesses, agricultural areas, and research facilities will supplement the lectures in the afternoon. Two days have been set aside for local tourist attractions in the area. Professor Naama Mendes Jr. at Unicesumar is coordinating lecture and site visits in Brazil.

Course Credit & Requirements

Students will be graded on a reflection journal kept throughout the process of the trip, including pre- and post-meetings and while in Brazil. The journals will include some previously set discussion questions for them to consider as well as their own feelings and perceptions.

There will be two papers due for this course of approximately 2 pages and 5 pages. The first paper will cover a topic of interest that the student must have independently researched prior to departure. Their findings will be presented to the rest of the group at the last pre-departure meeting. All of the topics will be selected by the student and approved by the instructor to ensure that a variety of relevant topics are covered. The student will be graded based on the quality of the paper, the ability of the information to prepare the rest of the group for a topic they will experience in Brazil, and the presentation given to the class.

The second paper will be over the same topic, but will be based on their actual experience in Brazil concerning that topic. The student will be graded based on the quality of the paper and the demonstrated level of understanding of the topic.

The students will also be required to keep a journal from the first class meeting to the debriefing. The journal will include self-reflection on personal experiences as well as pre-determined discussion questions. The journal will be graded on the level of thought put into the entries as well as daily logs from the trip.

In addition, the group will meet every night of the trip to discuss the day’s lectures, site visits and experiences. The students will be graded on their participation in these discussions and their participation in the lectures, site visits and experiences.

Finally, students will be required to attend a minimum of five activities with the group from Brazil while they are at Missouri State.

Required text: None required.

Application & Payment Procedures

Missouri State University students and others who are approved by a Program Director may apply. Instructions are included on the program application.

MSU Students: A non-refundable deposit of $450 will be billed to your University account upon application (deadline Feb. 28, 2014). You will receive a second billing on March 7, 2014 and a final billing on April 4, 2014, for the balance of the program fee ($2,560). MSU course tuition will be billed to your University account and is due according to the university payment plan.

Visiting Students: A non-refundable deposit of $450 (check or money order) must accompany your application (deadline Feb. 28, 2014). A check or money order for the balance of the program fee ($2,560) and MSU course tuition will be due by April 18, 2014.

IN ORDER TO ENSURE PARTICIPATION IN THIS STUDY AWAY PROGRAM, THE ENTIRE AMOUNT OF THE PROGRAM FEE MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 2, 2014. PAYMENT CAN BE MADE ONLINE OR AT THE BURSAR’S OFFICE.

Estimated program fees are based on rates in effect on the publication date of this flyer and may be subject to change. Program participants agree to a potential increase of up to 10% if rates increase before or during travel.

Cancellation & Refund Policies

- Students who withdraw prior to April 4, 2014 will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $450 deposit and any non-refundable purchases made on his/her behalf.

- If a student is forced to withdraw after April 4, 2014 for a bona fide medical reason, s/he will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $450 deposit and expenses. A certificate of incapacitating illness or injury from a licensed physician is required.

- Students withdrawing voluntarily after April 4, 2014, or withdrawing due to medical reasons not protected under the fees refund policy, receive no refund.

- Once the program has started, no refunds will be issued under any circumstances.

- All notifications of withdrawal must be made in writing and sent to the Program Director and Director of Study Away Programs at the Study Away Office, Jim D. Morris Center, Suite 403. Expenses will be determined upon the date Study Away receives the notification. Non-payment of fees does not guarantee automatic withdrawal.