Course: Agricultural and rural development

Lecturer: Prof. Dr Ir Gerrit Meester

Aims:

The aim of the course is to offer the students insight into agriculture and rural development in Europe as well as into the principles and evolution of EU’s Common Agricultural Policy. Attention will be paid to:

- The structure of agriculture in the EU and its position in the European (rural) economy.
- The original market and price policies as developed in the 1960’s, 70’s and 80’s.
- The reasons why it is changed into forms of direct since the 1990’s.
- The current state of affairs after Agenda 2000, the Midterm Review 2003 and the Sugar Reform 2006.
- Current issues like the Health Check 2008 reform proposals.
- The links between the Common Agricultural Policy, the WTO and the EU budget.
- The increasing interests for food safety, food quality, environment, animal welfare and rural development.

Students are expected to locate their own materials for their essays and presentations. The selection below is intended to be indicative of the type of materials easily available to you, and may give you ideas of the scope of the subject and possibly also for essay topics. EU Documents will be given in class.

(Chapters in) Textbooks


A. Greer, Agricultural Policy in Europe, Manchester, 2005.


Selected Articles


A. Matthews, "The Road from Doha to Hong Kong in the WTO agricultural negotiations: a developing country perspective" European Review of Agricultural Economics, 32, 3 (2005) 561-574.


OECD, Agricultural Policy in OEDC Countries: A positive reform agenda, OECD, 2002.Paris,


Course Outline (details to be announced later):

Session 1: Background, principles and historical development of the Common Agricultural Policy

Session 2: Current CAP Issues

Session 3: Aspects of Enlargements

Session 4: Agriculture and WTO: CAP and Rusal Development

Session 5: Theoretical Aspects of Agricultural Policy

Session 6: EU Sugar Reform 2006

Session 7-12: Student presentations