Course Syllabus

Course Title: **Integrated Nutrition, Health, Environment, and Agricultural Systems 11:193:255**

Instructor: Luanne J. Hughes, MS, RDN Department of Family & Community Health Sciences of Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Rachel J. Tansey, MA, Department of Family & Community Health Sciences of Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Catalogue Description: This course examines the role of food, food access, and sustainability in creating food secure communities. Students will explore local food systems, sustainability, and specific food-related topics that impact agriculture, health, health equity, food access, and community. We will examine critical issues, successful programs, and challenges to improving food systems and health equity.

Justification: Throughout the United States, there is increasing concern about where our food comes from, how it is produced, and how its production affects food access, health equity, and our communities. Innovative programs are building stronger connections between people and food at the local levels. The need to understand food systems and their link to the health system has never been greater.

Course Materials:

Peer-reviewed journal articles and web sites on the following topics:

- Social Determinants of Health
- Food Access/Food Security
- The Farm Bill
- Local Food Systems
- Sustainability

Learning Objectives:

Students will:

- Understand how food systems reflect our values and contribute to our economy, community, environment, food access, and health equity.
- Identify programs and policies that create access to healthy food and locally grown food.
- Discuss critical issues, successful programs, and challenges to improving food system, food access, and health equity.
- Identify opportunities to link agricultural and health systems.

Assessment:

Students will be evaluated by demonstrating that they have met course objectives. This will be accomplished with: 1) discussion assignments where students will be able to collaborate with other students to improve understanding and overcome stumbling blocks; 2) written assignments which students will complete independently; and 3) a course summative project, where students will develop and present a project that links the agricultural and health systems as a mechanism to support health equity and agricultural viability/sustainability.

These assignments will entail: 1) narrative responses demonstrating understanding; and 2) interpretative responses demonstrating discerning, pragmatic insights and observations about the agricultural and health systems.

Assignment	Number	Points per	Total Points	Percent
Discussion (Collaborative labs)	3	50	150	15%
Written papers/projects	3	100	300	30%
Written Paper	1	250	250	25%
Final project	1	300	300	30%
Total			1000	100%

Grading:

The following grading schema will be used, unless the instructor feels it necessary to use a modified table.

Grade	Interpretation	Points earned
A	Outstanding	900–1000
B+		850–899
B	Good	800–849
C+		750–799
C	Satisfactory	700–749
D	Poor	600–699
F	Failing	< 600