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Office Hours: Mondays, 9 – 10 am  
Thursdays, 3 – 4 pm  
Other times by appointment.  

Course Objectives: The objective of this course is to have you gain a thorough understanding of the extent, applicability, and flexibility of United States food laws and regulations, and their relationships to the safety of the US food supply. Over the six-week duration of the class, we will focus on the structure of the federal government, how laws and regulations are enacted and enforced, detailed examination of selected food regulation topics, and how the food safety decision-making process works within the framework of the associated federal laws and regulations.  

There is no required textbook for this class. All of the course materials are available from the course Blackboard site in the form of video lessons and readings. You should move through each of the lesson topics in order, according to the schedule outlined in the course syllabus. You are responsible for learning the course materials from these online video lessons and supplemental readings.  

There will be two exams for this class. The mid-term exam will be scheduled for Thursday, October 12th. The final exam will be scheduled for Thursday, December 7th. These exams will be completed online and consist of a combination of multiple choice questions and some essay questions.  

There will also be 10 online quizzes over the course of the semester. These will need to be completed in order, and by midnight of the dates indicated on this syllabus. The quizzes will consist of either 10 short answer questions (multiple choice, true/false, matching), or a short essay question.  

Finally, all students will need to write a relatively short (2-3 page, typewritten, double-spaced) paper on the topic of GMO food labeling. Details at the end of this syllabus. The paper is due by Friday, November 17th (the Friday before Thanksgiving break).
Grading:

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<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
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<td>Regulation paper</td>
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<td>Mid-term exam</td>
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<td>Final exam</td>
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Course Syllabus – Lesson Topics

NOTE: Although this is an online class, lecture topics will only be made available on Blackboard at the end of the deadline for the previous topics’ quiz. For example, the video lesson on the topic of “Overview of the Food Drug, and Cosmetic Act will be made available on Blackboard on Sept. 11th.

History of U.S. Food Regulation.

The Three Branches of Government.

The Legislative Process.

**Quiz #1 (Due Monday, Sept. 11th)**

U.S. Food Regulatory Agencies.

Use of Government Documents.

**Quiz #2 (Due Monday, Sept. 11th)**


**Quiz #3 (Due Monday, Sept. 18th)**

Major amendments to the FD&C Act

FDA Enforcement of the FD&C Act.

**Quiz #4 (Due Monday, Sept. 25th)**

Overview of The Food Safety Modernization Act

Regulation of Food Sanitation.

Regulation of Meat and Poultry.

**Quiz #5 (Due Tuesday, Oct 10th)**
Regulation of Imports and Exports.

Food Standards.

   **Quiz #6  (Due Monday, Oct 23rd)**

Regulation of GMO’s

Food Irradiation

   **Quiz #7  (Due Monday, Oct 30th)**

Regulation of pesticides in foods

Regulation of Nutrition Labeling and Dietary Supplements.

   **Quiz #8  (Due Monday, Nov 6th)**

Regulation of Food Advertising.

Product Liability.

   **Quiz #9  (Due Friday, Nov 17th)**

Overview of FDA’s “Redbook”

*Toxicological Principles for the Safety Assessment of Food Ingredients*

   **Quiz #10  (Due Dec 4th)**

Toxicological Testing Methods.

Application of Risk Assessment in Food Regulation

**Important Dates:**

   Mid-term exam (online) – Thursday, October 12th

   GMO Labeling Regulation Paper due – Friday, November 17th

   Final exam (online) – Thursday, December 7th
Written Paper Assignment - GMO Food Labeling:

Read the assigned GMO Labeling reading assignments on Blackboard. Prepare a 2-3 page response to the following points:

- After reviewing the Vermont Draft Rule, do you think it was a good rule and why?
- After reviewing the National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard Act, do you think it is a good law?
- What do you see as the strengths and weaknesses of the Vermont versus the federal law?
- Do you think required labeling of GM foods helps consumers make “informed decisions”?
- Can you describe and discuss an example (real or hypothetical) when a food labeling requirement may make it more difficult for a consumer to make an informed decision?