Agronomy/Economics 496: Agricultural Production, Business, and Trade in Australia
March 13-24, 2014 (Spring Break)

The course objective is to enhance students' understanding of production and competition in agricultural world markets. Students will analyze production agriculture (a typical farm or ranch), business and trade in Australia, and compare them with respect to the US. Predeparture orientation will familiarize students with the history, culture, politics, geography, sales, agriculture, economy, and trade of Australia. Class meetings will be held Wednesday 5:10-6:30 pm during the spring semester. Enrollment limit: 22 students.

What some students have said:

▶ “It is very difficult to sum up my entire experience in Australia with one simple idea. We came across a diverse group of people and industries, all with a unique message. If I had to pick two words to describe the trip, I would use ‘unique’ and ‘interesting.’”

▶ “Programs like this are an investment into my future, as well as into the future of agriculture. I really have seen great returns on my investment so far.”

▶ “Traveling with the professors was enjoyable and I feel like I got to know them better and enjoyed our conversations. The different points of view that everyone brought to our discussions were valuable.”

▶ “I would not give up this trip for anything. I will be telling stories about this experience for the rest of my life, and I hope one day to pass on the morals I learned and advice I received from the great people of Australia to my family and friends.”
Tentative Activities, March 13-24, 2014 (ISU Spring Break)

- Guided city tour of Sydney, Sidney Opera House, free day in Sidney.
- Visit to U.S. Embassy in Australia, meet with U.S. Agricultural Attache.
- Visit Sydney fish market.
- Meetings with agricultural producers and visits to winery, hog farm, sheep farm, ranch, dairy farm, grain farm, and orchard.
- Meetings with managers and tours of agricultural marketing and processing facilities: oilseed, fruits, and grains.
- Travel along the Great Ocean Road, walk on the beach and nature sightseeing.
- Visit Geelong Aboriginal Cultural Center.
- Guided city tour of Melbourne, free day in Melbourne.

Instructors:
Dr. Sergio Lence, 368E Heady Hall, shlence@iastate.edu
Dr. Thomas Loynachan, 1126 Agronomy Hall, teloynac@iastate.edu
Dr. Ebby Luvaga, 174A Heady Hall, luvaga@iastate.edu

Program fees:
$4,500 per student (airfare, buses, lodging, admission fees, city tours of Sydney and Melbourne, and some meals)

Financial support available:
- Agronomy Travel Fellowship:
  http://www.agron.iastate.edu/academic/undergraduate/scholarships.aspx
- Agriculture Study Abroad Office (18 Curtiss Hall):
  http://www.agstudyabroad.iastate.edu/funding.html
- ISU Study Abroad Center (3224 Memorial Union):
  http://www.studyabroad.iastate.edu/Financing/Finance.html

Application:
- Online at http://isuabroad.iastate.edu/
- $10 application fee payable in person at the Agriculture Study Abroad Office (18 Curtiss)
- Deadline: November 1, 2013

Informational meetings:
Tuesday, Oct. 15: 4:10-5:00 PM in 2026 Agronomy Hall
Wednesday, Oct 16: 5:10-6:00 PM in 160 Heady Hall

For more information: http://www.econ.iastate.edu/classes/econ496/lence/spring2014/