

## **Graduate Module**

**Title:** Food Security – Concepts, Influential Factors and Measurement

**Instructor:** Dr. Lord Abbey (E-mail: labbey@dal.ca)

**Timing:** Winter 2016 (One month in February)

### **Module Description**

Consumers' demand for adequate and good quality, nutritious and safe food is ever increasing due to the awareness of how food production and its utilization impact health and the environment. The rationale behind current trends in sustainable food production systems design is to ensure food and nutrition security without compromising the integrities of the environment and ecological systems. This module is intended for graduate students in the Faculty of Agriculture and others who are interested in food and nutrition security. Students will actively engage in discussions and presentations on current issues in local, regional and global food security. Modules will consist of definitions and analytical concepts as applied to food security; use of broad conceptual framework to explain the basic determinants, causal factors and indicators of food security; exploration of the various approaches used to measure food security; and identification of various measurement issues and solutions.

**Learning Outcomes:** At the completion of the module the learner should be able to

- 1) Define and explain the conceptual framework of food security
- 2) Identify the causal factors and indicators of food security
- 3) Assess food security using different approaches

**Format:** The module will be delivered online using Brightspace for reading, discussions and submission of assignments. There will be 15 mins presentation and 20 mins question/discussions by face-to-face meeting or on Skype.

### **Evaluation**

Reading assignment @ 35%; reflection essay @ 25%; and presentation on a given topic @ 40%.