BIOFUELS

controversy

Food Issues

Money Issues

Scientific Issues

Environmental Issues

We will cover

Biofuel types

Ethical issues

Biochemistry

International GHG Treaty

Kyoto Protocol
The Biochemistry and Ethics Behind Current Biofuels

Lecture, 6:30PM – 8:30PM

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Class Web Page: http://tamuweb.tamu.edu/faculty/tpd8/NTU/index.htm

Course description: Biofuels have become a hot topic in science and society due to recent concerns over global climate change caused by a buildup of greenhouse gasses, high crude oil prices, and reduced crude oil deposits. Biofuels are predominantly produced from plant-based materials. Thus, the use of biofuels can reduce greenhouse gasses such as CO$_2$ from the atmosphere since plants use atmospheric CO$_2$ as a building block for the materials from which biofuels are produced. While plant based biofuels are currently being used and have great potential, there are many issues to be taken seriously, both scientifically and socially. This class will cover the biochemistry, environmental, and social issues behind current and future biofuels.

Grading: Your grade will be determined based on 3 components: class participation, a short quiz at the end of every class, and attendance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>- 50% participation</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>- 30% quizzes</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>- 20% attendance</td>
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<td>100%</td>
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Grade distribution:
A = 90 – 100% (≥ 90 pts)
B = 80 – 89%  (80 - 89 pts)
C = 70 – 79   (70 - 79 pts)
D = 60 – 69%  (60 - 69 pts)
F = 59% or less (< 59 pts)

Participation: Students are expected to participate in the discussion during presentations and ask questions. The class period should be interactive instead of simply a lecture.

Quizzes: At the end of each class period there will be a short, open note/paper, quiz. The quizzes will cover the material from the papers assigned for days class.

Attendance: Students are required to attend each class as part of their grade.