

Discovering Agriscience – Year A

Grade 7 and 8
2017-2018 2nd Trimester
.5 Credits

Instructor: Ms. Norden

Email: snorden@afsahighschool.com

Course Description: This course is the foundation from which all other agriculture courses are based. Students will discover the importance of agriculture in everyday life, historical significance, and career opportunities. This will benefit all students, as it will focus on their potential to develop leadership skills. Students will also gain skills in basic record keeping through the introduction of the Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Program.

Each Unit that students are participating in throughout the Trimester are based on Career Development Events coordinated through the National FFA Organization. If students find a strong interest in a subject area and would be interested in competing they can see Ms. Norden for details.

Agriculture, Food And Natural Resources (AFNR) Curriculum Standards

Career Cluster Skills: CS — LifeKnowledge® and Cluster Skills

Cluster Content Standard: The student will demonstrate competence in the application of leadership, personal growth and career success skills necessary for a chosen profession while effectively contributing to society.

Specific Course Learner Outcomes:

1. Introduce students to agricultural topics and issues relevant in today's society.
2. Investigate agriculture areas of interest for students.
3. Provide a practical understanding of agriculture and its uses in horticulture, environmental, mechanical, and animal related careers.
4. Introduce students to the National FFA Organization and provide a forum for leadership development and student interaction.
5. Introduce students to the Agriculture Department, its curriculum and the faculty

Attendance/Participation

Class attendance and active participation are important to doing well in this class. A daily participation grade based upon attendance, classroom and lab activities is a part of this course (20%). If a student knows they will be absent prior to class time, it is their responsibility to inform the teacher.

Tardiness: AFSA policy states that Students who are not in their assigned area within the school building at the beginning of the school day, within the designated time (8:00 am), are tardy.

Students will be marked tardy for the first five minutes of a class. After five minutes the student will be marked absent. Unexcused tardies or absences are truancies and will be treated as such. Students who arrive late to class are expected to remain in class for the remainder of the period.

This class will have multiple hands on activities; students will be required to participate in all activities. If you have a disability of any sort that does not allow you to participate in an activity please bring this to the attention of the teacher, accommodations will be made. Accommodations will also be made for in-class activities

Assignments

Much of the work/assignments in this course will be completed during class time, therefore attendance is extremely important! If you are absent, however, you are required to complete the following:

- Obtain class notes from a classmate
- Assignments: Pick up the assignment on the day you return to school (your job, not the teachers)
- Tests/Quizzes: Must be made up before or after school, not during class time.

Expect homework about two times per week.

Make-up and Late Work: Students who are absent from class will have 2 days for each day absent to complete the assignment. Work that is turned in late will result in an automatic 20% deduction. No credit will be given for work missed due to an unexcused absence. **NO work will be accepted after 3 days, unless discussed with the instructor.**

PLAGIARISM—STUDENT CHEATING

It is the policy of the AFSA High School to help in guiding the student in recognizing, developing, and maintaining good mental and physical health, intellectual growth, and wholesome moral and spiritual character traits. Plagiarism is a dishonest scholarly act and will result in penalty primarily determined by the instructor of the course or the school director. Normally, a student will fail any assignment in which plagiarism is evident and/or other disciplinary sanctions may be imposed. Repeated acts of plagiarism may result in failure of the course. Cheating may involve: copying from another student's assignment or test; using another person's idea, expression, or words without giving credit; preparing to cheat in advance by possessing a copy of a test, using notes during a test; or talking while taking a test.

Lab Cleanup

Each person is expected to clean up after himself/herself after using the lab. If you have used a piece of equipment or a lab space, clean it and the surrounding area before moving to a new area. The lab space must be properly maintained in order to create both a viable teaching/learning arena and a safe working environment. Cleaning includes, but is not limited to, wiping down equipment, cleaning off tables and tools, closing safety valves and switches, restoring all tools in

proper cabinets and/or rooms, recycling of waste and sweeping of floors. Failure to cooperate in cleanup activities will result in a loss of participation points.

Grading

Exams, Quizzes, Assignments, Lab Exercises, Participation, and Projects all carry the same amount of weight when computing grades. Each assignment is worth their point value as it compares to the total points in the class.

The following is a breakdown of the grading system:

A+	100		
A	93-99	C	72-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	59 and below

Textbook

Official FFA Manual and Student Handbook

Videos

Course Outline:

Unit 1: Ag Communications

- Public Speaking
- Making First Impressions
- Clear and Effective communication
- Problem Solving

Unit 2: Fish and Wildlife

- Identification of Wildlife
- Protecting wildlife and natural habitat
- Managing natural resources

Unit 3: Soils

- Soil Characteristics
- Soil Development

- Soil Structure

Unit 4: Ag Mechanics

- Measuring
- Use of Manual
- Problem Solving
- Proper tool identification

Unit 5: Poultry

- Proper nutrition
- Maintaining a healthy flock
- Physical Characteristics
- Egg and chicken evaluation

Notes: This outline is subject to change. Prior notice of these changes will be given during class.

All students must complete a Supervised Agricultural Experience Project by the end of the trimester in order to pass the class, it is worth 25% of their grade.

Course Website

The course website will contain the course outline, lesson plans for the week, website links for agriculture, and SAE.

Assignment Number #1

Have syllabus signed by a parent or guardian and turn it into the basket by Friday December 8th, 2017.

I have read and understand the information in this syllabus. I agree to abide by the expectations of this course.

Parent Signature

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Student Signature

Name: _____

Signature: _____

** Students will receive homework points for signatures.