



AGRI 150: AGRICULTURE ORIENTATION

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE INFORMATION

AGRI 150: Agriculture Orientation (10888), 2 credits, ONLINE, 1st 8 weeks – 8/24/20-10/16/2020

Course Description: Seminar class that will discuss opportunities and issues in agriculture.

INSTRUCTOR

Emily Casner

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Phone: 701-774-4278

Office: 105B Stevens Hall

Office Hours: By Appointment

TEXTBOOK & MATERIALS

Deeply Rooted: Unconventional Farmers in the Age of Agribusiness, Lisa M. Hamilton - ISBN: 9781582435862

Agriculture: A Very Short Introduction, Paul Brassley & Richard Soffe – ISBN: 9780198725961

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

INSTITUTIONAL OUTCOMES

- 1.) Students will demonstrate effective communication skills.
- 2.) Students will use reasoning skills to analyze and solve problems.
- 3.) Students will demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and value systems.
- 4.) Students will apply health-related knowledge to promote physical and mental well-being

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- 1.) Demonstrate effective oral and written communication.
- 2.) Demonstrate problem solving strategies within the agriculture industry.
- 3.) Identify agricultural needs within society.
- 4.) Identify how agriculture affects personal and community health.

COURSE OUTCOMES

- 1.) Overview all areas of agriculture, and further develop placement within this.
- 2.) Create agricultural resumes and cover letters.
- 3.) Learn how to apply for opportunities in agriculture, including internships and jobs.
- 4.) Identify possible problems in the future of agriculture, and address how this will affect the industry.

ASSESSMENT TASKS (FOR COURSE OUTCOMES)

- 1.) Complete readings, questions, and problems demonstrating mastery of both concepts and process skills.
- 2.) Complete examinations demonstrating mastery of both concepts and process skills.

PROCESS SKILLS

- Overview of the broad agricultural fields
- Diversified study in all agriculture disciplines
- Complete an agriculture-based resume and cover letter
- Understand how the agricultural industry differs from localized industries
- Identify current events in agriculture
- Create a better understanding for student placement within agriculture
- Advance student skill sets to enter the agriculture workforce

CONCEPTS & ISSUES

- Introductory agriculture
- Contemporary issues in agriculture
- Agricultural internship and career opportunities
- Agricultural writing within the industry
- Exploratory agriculture studies
- Agricultural business standards

ASSESSMENT PORTFOLIO

Each degree seeking student is required to maintain an assessment portfolio on Blackboard for his/her time at Williston State College. For this class you should include your syllabus, evidence of completing learning outcomes, and a reflection paper of what you learned in this class.

GRADING SYSTEM

Required Assignments	Points	Percentage (%)
Tests (1): Final	150	20%
Quizzes (5)	20 x 5 = 100	13%
Current Events Report (4)	50 x 4 = 200	27%
Assignment (1)	50	7%
Discussion Post (8)	12.5 x 8 = 100	13%
Final Project	150	20%
Total Points	750	100%

GRADING BASIS

Letter	Percent
A	=>90
B	=>80
C	=>70
D	=>60
F	<60

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION

- All assignments/discussion posts are to be turned in on Blackboard by the due date.
- **All assignments are due one week after assigned. For each business day assignments are late, 20% will be deducted until the grades reaches 0%.**
- More detailed guidance and rubrics will be provided for each of the assignments.
 - Online Discussion Board
 - A weekly discussion post will be due every Sunday.
 - Current Event Report
 - These reports will analyze local, regional, national and global current events impacting the agriculture industry. The report must be 400- 500 words and written following the “Current Event Formatting” guidelines located in the course Blackboard.

- Quizzes
 - Quizzes will be given based on the weekly textbook reading with the exception of the first and final weeks of the course. Quizzes will open on Monday at noon and must be submitted by Sunday at 11:59 p.m.
- Assignments
 - Agriculture Career Exploration
 - Students will explore careers in agriculture and create a resume corresponding to a preferred job description.
 - Final Project
 - Students will create a professional portfolio including a cover letter and resume. In addition, students will compose a summary of future career aspirations.
- Final Exam
 - **Failure to complete the final exam will result in an “F” for a final grade in the course.**
 - **Tests must be completed by the due date, or a “0%” will be given. Arrangements must be made TWO DAYS prior to when the test/quiz is given in order to make up test/quiz beforehand. You will not be allowed to take the test after the due date – NO EXCEPTIONS.**
 - **Taking tests with other classmates is unacceptable and considered cheating. If students’ test times overlap a “0%” will be given with no option to retake.**

ASSESSABILITY STATEMENT

Williston State College is committed to providing equal access to students. If you have a disability which may impact your performance, attendance, or grades in this course that requires accommodations, you must first register with the WSC Accessibility Support Office. Please note that classroom accommodations cannot be provided until your instructors receive an Accommodations Form, signed by you and the Accessibility Support Office.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Last day to drop: 8-27-2020**
- **Last day to withdraw (with W): 10-2-2020**
- For important dates concerning holidays, last date to withdraw from class, etc., please visit the WSC catalog available on the website: www.willistonstate.edu.

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

Take advantage of academic resources available to you at Williston State College:

- **Communication Lab:** Supplemental instruction is provided to assist students who are either having difficulty or desiring extra help with specific subjects. The Communication Lab assists with composition, writing, communication, and public speaking. The Communication Lab is located in Stevens Hall 120. Students should make appointments at wsc.writinglab@willistonstate.edu.
- **Math Lab:** Supplemental instruction is provided to assist students who are either having difficulty or desiring extra help with specific subjects. The Math Lab assists with all math needs. The Math Lab is located in Stevens Hall room 213.

- **Learning Commons:** It's not just the Library anymore. In addition to the normal library functions (book checkout, research assistance, etc.), the Learning Commons serves a number of other functions. Get help with Blackboard and other Distance Ed questions. The “technology counter” provides an opportunity to play with some of the latest technology. Computers and printers available. If you have questions, call (701-774-4226). To contact the Office of Extended Learning please email wsc.extendedlearning@willistonstate.edu.
- **SmarThinking:** Web based program that offers live tutoring services in a variety of subject areas at no cost to the student. With SmarThinking you can access live tutors, ask a question and come back the next day for a response, and/or submit writing pieces to be reviewed. If you have further questions or need assistance in using this great tool, please stop in the Learning Commons in Stevens Hall or contact Katie Peterson at 701-774-4594.

STUDENT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Integrity of the academic process requires that credit be given where credit is due. Accordingly, it is a breach of academic integrity to present as one's own work the ideas, representation, or works of another, or to permit another to present one's work without customary and proper acknowledgement of authorship. Students are expected to conduct themselves at all times within permissible limits of assistance as stated by faculty.

Students will be held responsible for any breaches of academic integrity. More common breaches of academic integrity include but are not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitation, or aiding academic dishonesty; theft of instructional materials or tests; unauthorized access or otherwise manipulating laboratory equipment or computer programs without proper authorization; alteration of grades or permanent files; misuse of research data in reporting results; use of personal relationships to gain grades or academic favors; or otherwise attempting to obtain grades or credit through fraudulent means. These breaches of academic integrity are also viewed as misconduct and are treated accordingly.

Students who violate the Student Academic Integrity guidelines may face scholastic or disciplinary consequences. The instructor may reflect the incident of academic dishonesty through the assignment of the student's grade in the course. If the student has a grievance related to this action, that grievance would be directed to the Chair of the department in which the course is housed.

Breach of academic integrity may result in failure of the assignment, exam, and/or class.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- You are expected to read the relevant materials and participate in class discussions in a timely manner.
- You are expected to respect your fellow students and the instructor in online and on campus discussions.
- It is your responsibility to ask questions when you are uncertain about assignments or course materials.
- If you have questions concerning grades, you should contact the Instructor immediately. You are responsible for checking Blackboard in a timely fashion to ensure that the grade recorded is your correct grade.
- It is your responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible if you are encountering any issues that would hinder your performance in this class.
- You are responsible for earning your grade (with the instructor making every effort to help you learn the material).
- If you are concerned about your grade, you should speak to the Instructor **NO LATER** than mid-term. No consideration will be given to request to adjust your grade at the end of the semester unless there is an error in calculations.

GRIEVANCE POLICY

Occasionally, students are dissatisfied with some dimension of the course. In such cases, students should first schedule a meeting with the instructor. If the student and instructor cannot reach a satisfactory resolution, the student should schedule a meeting with the Chair of the Department. (See page 10 of the Student Code of Conduct.)

TITLE IX

Survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, and sexual harassment: please be aware that as an instructor, I am legally obligated to report all instances of sexual assault, domestic violence, and sexual harassment involving students. If you would like to speak to someone confidentially, please contact the WSC Counselor at (701)774-4212 (they are NOT mandated to report such instances).

FINAL EXAMS/ACTIVITIES

Students are required to take the final examination or engage in the final activity on the date and at the time presented as part of the course syllabus. Exceptions may be made only in emergency situations and in the case of scheduling conflicts with college sponsored events by promptly submitting a written request detailing the circumstances to the instructor of the course. **Your meeting time for your final is: due Week 8 - online format.**

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE OF THE COURSE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Week	Chapter	Assignment/Lab/Test
1	Read INTRODUCTION	Discussion post – Introduce Yourself Assignment #1 - Career Exploration
2	Read TEXAS 1-3 1 - Soils	Discussion post Ch 1-3 Current Event Report #1 Quiz- #1- Soils
3	Read TEXAS 4-7 1 – Crops and Farming 3, 4 – Inputs and Products	Discussion post 4-7 Current Event Report #2 Quiz #2 - Crops and Farming
4	Read NEW MEXICO 1-4 2 – Ranching and Livestock	Discussion post 1-4 Current Event Report #3 Quiz #3- Ranching and Livestock
5	Read NEW MEXICO 5-8 5 – Agriculture as a Business	Discussion post 5-8 Current Event Report #4 Quiz #4- Agribusiness
6	Read NORTH DAKOTA 1-4 6 - The Future of Agriculture - Current Events in Ag	Discussion post 1-4 Quiz #5- Current Events
7	Read NORTH DAKOTA 5-7 Final Project/Portfolio	Discussion post 5-7 Portfolio Complete – Cover Letter, Resume, Future Goals
8	REVIEW	FINAL