

Plant Science and Biotechnology

School Year: 2022-2023

Instructor: Abbey Brown

Planning: 1st Block

Prerequisite: Basic Agriculture

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Please note: You must have received a passing grade in Basic Ag in order to be in this course.

Course Description:

Plant science is a basic component of the Agriscience Systems pathway. This course introduces students to the scientific theories, principles, and practices involved in the production and management of plants for food, feed, fiber, conservation and ornamental use. Classroom and laboratory activities are supplemented through supervised agricultural experiences and leadership programs and activities.

Student Materials:

Students need a 3-ring binder with dividers, paper and pens/pencils. Other basic school supplies will be helpful but are not required. Students will be working outside daily, so please be sure to have appropriate clothing and shoes each day.

Student Evaluations / Grading:

Grades will be weighted as follows:	
Practice Work: <i>Classwork and Assignments</i>	40%
Formal Assessments: <i>Unit Assessments, DOK 3 Tasks, FFA/Leadership Development</i>	40%
Final Exam/ SAE	20%

Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE): The SAE program allows students to gain real world experience in the activities of the agriculture industry while building skills in organization, record keeping, decision-making, and analysis. The program is designed by the individual student and is completed outside of regular class time with assistance from the agricultural instructor along with other adult mentors. The student will be provided with a set of expectations concerning minimum hours of participation in the SAE and when various phases should be completed. The SAE is part of the grade earned by the student throughout the school year and is a way for them to practice skills learned in the classroom. It will count for approximately 20 % of the final grade. Students can use their SAE to enter one of the many different proficiency areas through the National FFA Organization.

Leadership Development (FFA): Locust Grove High School is an affiliate of the National FFA Organization, therefore each student enrolled in an Agriculture class is automatically a member of the National FFA Organization. The FFA provides many leadership activities including monthly meetings, chapter socials, Career Development Events (CDE), and various field trips. Through participation in our FFA meetings and activities, students may earn the “FFA/Leadership Development” portion of their grade. This is an excellent opportunity for students to build their resume and gain skills that will help them with career success.

Make-up Policy: Upon returning from an absence it is the student's responsibility to check with the instructor to find out what assignments were missed. Any missed assignments must be made up within the same number of days that the student missed. Make-up quizzes, tests, and class work will be rescheduled to a date according to school policy.

Please be aware: LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Classroom Expectations:

- No phones may be used during class.
- Students are expected to be in the correct place at the correct time. The learning space is large, and responsible use of the lab space is important.
- Students are expected to follow the beginning of class and end of class routine.
- Students are expected to use appropriate language and refrain from the use of tobacco products.
- No food or drinks are allowed in the classroom or lab space.
- Students must have appropriate clothing and shoes in order to work outside and in the greenhouse on any given day.

Cheating Policy:

A grade of zero will be given for the task and disciplinary action will be taken.

Social Media:

Various forms of social media will be used to keep FFA members and our community informed of our FFA events and activities. Pictures may be posted on these social media sites, unless you specifically request for them not to be used. **Please contact Mrs. Brown via email immediately if you do not wish for your child's picture to be used on social media.**

Syllabus Confirmation

I have read the course syllabus and understand the policies and expectations.

*This course syllabus will be posted online and students will email a link to their own parent/guardian as a way of confirming the details included in this document. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Brown via email. Otherwise, I will consider it confirmed. Thank you!