



COURSE NAME: AGV 420 Agricultural Issues

INTRODUCTION/COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will explore the current issues that affect agriculture from the perspective of the producer and consumer in a society with little direct connection to food production. The course will review today's most pressing issues: the environment, the national debt, international trade and world health and how it relates to global society change.

ESSENTIAL LEARNING OUTCOMES

Determine the key agricultural issues.

1. Identify the key issues impacting agriculture today.
2. Prioritize the issues from a societal perspective.

Implement a research process to validate the key agricultural issues.

1. Determine the type of research to be conducted to identify issues.
2. Design an assessment instrument to validate key issues.

Analyze information to effectively communicate both sides of an agricultural issue.

1. Evaluate the assessed data to determine parameters for future discussion.
2. Summarize data using appropriate communication tools for delivery.

Conduct a review of the identified issues through round table discussions.

1. Create effective discussions of issues through role play interaction.
2. Establish procedures for role play position of pro vs. con on issues.

Form independent decisions utilizing a process of conflict resolution.

1. Identify the type of conflict resolution styles.
2. Incorporate the use of an interest-based relational approach to conflict resolution.

Develop process to improve self confidence through communication.

1. Utilize a recognized personality assessment to determine individual strengths and weaknesses.
2. Incorporate strategies to affect communication styles based on personality assessment.



Develop an individual communication model to discuss agricultural issues in public forums.

1. Establish a procedure for determining the relevant sides of the issue within a group presentation.
2. Identify protocols for handling adversarial issues and/or people.

Design an opinion or editorial article for a publication on a position impacting agriculture

1. Utilize an appropriate communication media to convey opinion.
2. Develop an effective article through clarification points.

SUPPLIES/TEXTBOOK

- Writing Utensil
- Computer charged with school laptop case

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Tardies: I count as tardy anyone not in the classroom at the time the bell rings. This includes students who did not bring their materials to class. Tardy is defined as students arriving within the first 10 minutes of class. Students who arrive after 10 minutes of class or arrive later than $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1st period are considered absent unexcused, not tardy. If you need to use the restroom before class starts, please drop your materials off at your desk and let me know.

General Rules: Come to class prepared, Be Nice to one another, Bring a good attitude, Hold off on side conversations, No food, and Clean up after yourself.

GRADING SCALE

[Board Policy 505.5R]: Academic marks are recorded as letter grades, denoting the following quality of work:

"A" is the grade of distinction and represents work of superior quality

"B" represents work of excellent quality

"C" represents work of average quality

"D" represents work regarded as passable, according to the minimum requirements of the course in effort and quality

"F" denotes failure to successfully complete the course and no academic credit is received.



All classes that students are enrolled in are figured into the GPA.

All classes (except for AP) will use the same grading scale. The grading scale is as follows:

A+ = 99-100% ↑	A = 93-98%	A- = 90-92%
B+ = 87-89%	B = 83-86%	B- = 80-82%
C+ = 77-79%	C = 73-76%	C- = 70-72%
D+ = 67-69%	D = 63-66%	D- = 60-62% F = 59% ↓

*AP courses will be weighted and use the following grading scale:

A = 4.5	A- = 4.17	B+ = 3.83
B = 3.5	B- = 3.17	C+ = 2.83
C = 2.5	C- = 2.17	D+ = 1.83
D = 1.5	D- = 1.17	

GRADING

REMINDER: We use semester grading building wide. What this will look like, is that the semester will be worth 85% and the semester test will be worth 15%. Each department will have the autonomy to split up the 85% how they see fit on weighting of assessments, daily work, labs, etc.

Grade Post Dates

Semester 1: September 24, October 24, November 25, and January 10

Semester 2: February 13, March 26, April 29, and May 30

LATE WORK

Late work will be accepted up until the end of the essential learning outcome summative assessment (end of unit), and then no late work will be accepted for credit. There will be no penalty for late work until the essential learning outcome summative has been completed, indicating the end of the unit.

When a student is absent from school (whether the absence is excused or unexcused) he/she will be required to make up all work that was missed during the absence. Students shall receive full credit earned for school work made up due to absences and are expected to do so in a timely manner in order to not fall behind. Similar to the late work policy, students will have until the essential learning outcome summative (end of unit) to turn in the work with no grade penalty.



RETAKE POLICY

Students are expected to aim to perform well the first time on assessments. There are times when mastery hasn't been demonstrated due to a variety of reasons. Students choosing to retake must complete the process within one week (5 school days) of receiving back the graded assessment.

If a student wishes to retake, the student must initiate communication with the teacher, complete a retake form (*a form will be created for the building*), and schedule a time to do so. This can be completed during a study hall, a time arranged with the teacher, or before/after school with a teacher of that subject area. In order to qualify for a retake, all necessary work must be turned in prior to the original assessment (i.e. homework, study guides).

Students can retake an individual assessment only one time and are allowed four (4) retakes during the semester per class. Those students enrolled in DMACC and/or AP classes will follow the course syllabus. There will not be retakes allowed on semester exams for any class.

Note: There are some projects/assignments/assessments that may not qualify for a retake. This will be at the teacher's discretion.

W.I.N.

The purpose of W.I.N. is to provide students with an opportunity for reteaching of specific concepts/skills, retaking assessments, and providing supplemental materials for the essential learning standard(s). Teachers will request students as needed, but students may also elect to go to a specific teacher during this time. Sign-up for W.I.N. takes place every day Tuesday through Friday from the beginning of 2nd period until 9:15 a.m.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All student learning is based on the understanding that everyone is thoughtfully engaged in academic tasks and respectful of the work of others. Academic integrity applies to all aspects of teaching and learning. Class assignments and assessments are tools to help students learn; grades show to what degree students achieve learning goals. Therefore, all assignments and assessments for which students receive grades should result from the student's own effort and understanding.

Behaviors that violate Bondurant-Farrar's standards for academic integrity include but are not limited to:



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- **Plagiarizing work:** Whether the source material is from another student, the web or any other medium, students will not appropriate source material and pass it off as their own.
 - **Sharing work or unauthorized collaboration:** Students will not aid or assist other students in any way on individually assigned tasks.
 - **Cheating:** All traditional forms of cheating are also unacceptable. This includes behaviors such as capturing images of tests, communicating during exams, etc.
 - **Falsifying Information:** Students will not change a grade assigned by a teacher electronically or in the teacher's grade book.

First offense:

- Student will be asked to complete an alternative assignment/assessment potentially under adult supervision
- Appropriate disciplinary actions will be assigned, including but not limited to detention, in-school suspension, parent communication/meeting, or other additional measures

Second offense:

- Student will receive no credit for the assignment/assessment
- Appropriate and potentially more serious disciplinary actions will be assigned, including but not limited to detention, in-school suspension, parent communication/meeting, or other additional measures

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

Electronic devices such as cell phones, smart watches, headphones, and earbuds, not provided by the school, can cause disruption to the school environment and interfere with student learning. All electronic devices must be concealed during instructional time unless authorized by the classroom teacher for instructional purposes. Students are expected to refrain from using their devices for non-academic purposes. Misuse of devices include but are not limited to taking photos/video in the locker room or restroom, using a device to cheat, using a device to incite violence, using a device to bully, harass, threaten, or intimidate another person including a student or staff member, to disseminate inappropriate photos/videos or other restricted materia, etc.

Bondurant-Farrar High School assumes **NO RESPONSIBILITY** for the loss or theft of any electronic devices nor is it obligated to investigate any loss or theft. If you are concerned about loss or theft, leave the device at home.



Violation of this rule can result in the following, including but not limited to: loss of school privileges, detention, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, application of the Good Conduct Rule penalties, or in severe cases, taken before the Board for purposes of expulsion. Depending on the severity of the misuse, local law enforcement may also be contacted.

1st Offense: Verbal warning and request to conceal device

2nd Offense: Minor referral, student places phone on teacher's desk and student will retrieve it at the end of class.

3rd Offense: Major referral (Insubordination), student will be asked to retrieve at the end of the day from the office.

4th Offense: Major referral (Insubordination), parent/guardian will be asked to pick up at the end of day from the office.

Consequences for additional offenses will be determined by building administration.

ADDITIONAL INFO

I hope that you will enjoy the discussion, labs, and projects. I want you to come out of this class with a sound understanding of the agricultural industry and more interest in the field. I know each of you comes to the class with different strengths and interests, and I am looking forward to working with each of you and helping you towards your goals. I hope that this class piques your interest in agriculture and that you decide to take more agriculture classes and possibly choose a career in agriculture!