

Agriscience Honors Syllabus

2016-2017

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**Course Description:** *Agriscience* is an introductory laboratory science course that prepares students for biology, subsequent science and agriculture courses, and postsecondary study. This course helps students understand the important role that agricultural science and technology serves in the 21st century. In addition, it serves as the first course for all programs of study in the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Cluster. Standards in this course are aligned with Tennessee Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in Technical Subjects, Tennessee Common Core State Standards in Mathematics, and Tennessee state standards in Anatomy and Physiology, Biology I, Biology II, Chemistry I, Chemistry II, Environmental Science, Physical Science, Physics, and Physical World Concepts, as well as the National Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Career Cluster Content Standards. This course counts as a lab science credit toward graduation and college entrance requirements.\*

**Textbook:** Herren, Ray “The Science of Agriculture: A Biological Approach, 9781401898007

**Honors Requirements:** According to TN Framework for Honors Courses and Cumberland County Board Policy, students will be required to complete extra course work to obtain Honors Agriscience credit. On the next page, you will see the extra assignments honors students are required to complete. By signing the page, you and the student are agreeing to these responsibilities of an honors student.

**Mission Statement:** It is my hope that all students who take this class leave with a better understanding and respect for all aspects of agriculture. I encourage all students to keep an open mind and understanding. I will do my best to maintain a safe learning environment that engages all learners. Lastly, I hope for all my students to look back and say they had fun while learning.

**Class Procedures**

1. **Student Notebook and Supplies**— Students will provide at least a 1 ½” binder for this class. The student will provide paper to go in the binder, a pencil, and highlighter to use everyday. The following items must be kept in the folder.
   1. **All notes given for the test**
   2. **Bell ring assignments**
   3. **All Graded work**
   4. **All handouts given**
   5. **All previous notes and handouts**

The binder will stay in the classroom unless the student has homework or a test to study for. This procedure is intended to instill academic responsibility so, that they may be a better student after taking this class.

1. **Classroom/Lab Behavior**—I set high expectations for my students while they are in my classroom. Students having simple manners and showing respect for everyone will prevent almost all behavior problems. This policy will be stressed to all students from day one and students will be asked to follow these simple rules:
   1. ***Be respectful of peers and teachers***
   2. ***No cursing or derogatory language***
   3. ***Be safe and do not endanger peers***
   4. ***Be prepared for class/lab***
   5. ***Follow all rules in the student handbook***
2. **Open door policy**—Students that are in need of someone to talk to for any reason may come to me to speak. The conversation will be kept private as long as the conversation does not imply anyone is in danger. I understand that in high school issues arise where the student may not think they can talk to anyone. My door is always open.
3. **Classroom discussions** —I encourage student feedback and discussion of the material. To aid in an orderly discussion I will require students to raise their hand and wait to be called before asking a question or making a comment. Excessive shouting out answers will result in the discipline procedure. Students are expected to participate in discussion and group work. Group work grades will depend on participation.
4. **Late/ Missing Assignments-** If student is present on the day the assignment was given,each day an assignment is late is 10 points off.If the student is absent, it is the student’s responsibility to look in the missing work folder to find any work missing. Assignments will not be accepted after 5 days. Unexcused absences result in a 0.
5. **Academic integrity**—Students who are caught cheating or using the work of another student will immediately be given a zero for that work and it will be reported to the administration.

**7. Discipline Procedures**

1. **1st offence**— I will have private conversation with student during or after class issuing him/her a verbal warning. Once we have agreed on why the student is in trouble and on how to correct future behavior; the student will sign a verbal warning form, which will be kept on file in my office. The student will also write a reflection paper on his behavior.
2. **2nd offence**—Student will receive a referral that will be sent to the office. Also, I will be in contact with a parent or guardian to discuss the offence. Once a referral has gone to the office the principal will decide punishment from there. See Student Handbook for more information on discipline.
3. **3rd offence**—Parents or guardian will be contacted and if needed a conference will be set up for student, parents, and myself. Referral will be written and sent to office. See Student Handbook for discipline information.

**Semester Unit Layout\*\*\***(subject to change)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Unit 1: The Circles of Agriculture Education** | **Unit 7: Fundamentals of Genetics and Heredity** |
| **Unit 2: Communicating Today/ Careers** | **Unit 8: Fundamentals of Plant and Soil Science** |
| **Unit 3: The Science of Agriculture/ Safety** | **Unit 9: Reproductive Systems** |
| **Unit 4: Biology in Agriculture/ Fundamentals of Cell Biology** | **Unit 10: Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology** |
| **Unit 5: Plant Science** | **Unit 11: Chemistry of Animal Digestion/Reproductive Systems** |
| **Unit 6: Fundamentals of Genetics and Heredity** | **Unit 12: Principles of Power and Energy** |

**Honors Assignments:**

**Agriscience Fair Project and Research Paper-**Each student willconduct a scientific research project pertaining to the agriculture and food science industries and present their findings to a panel of judges with a display and a report. This will be worth two test grades.

**Grading Policy**

**Unit Tests/Quiz 40%**

**Daily Grade 40%**

**Term Exams 20%**

**Additional Information**

Students enrolled in an agriculture class have the option of joining the National FFA Organization. The dues for the organization are $15. It is strongly encouraged that students join, where they will participate in an abundance of activities and educational field trips during and after school. FFA builds the foundation of premier leadership, personal growth, and career success for all of its members. For more information on FFA, you may visit http://www.ffa.org or contact me.

**Contact Info**

If a parent wishes to speak to me directly please email me [tdavis@ccschools.k12tn.netmes](mailto:tdavis@ccschools.k12tn.netmes)

at the school or call the school 931-484-6194.

**Required signed forms**

Parents and students are required to sign this page of syllabus. Parents are also encouraged to sign up for text message reminders for tests, quizzes, field trips are other major assignments due. Attached are the directions on how to sign up for those text messages.

**RETURN THIS PAGE ONLY**

**CLASSROOM RULES AND SAFETY AGREEMENT**

**Classroom/Lab Behavior**—I set high expectations for my students while they are in my classroom. Students having simple manners and showing respect for everyone will almost always curb behavior problems. This policy will be stressed to all students from day one and students will be asked to follow these simple rules:

* 1. **Be respectful of peers and teachers**
  2. **No cursing or derogatory language**
  3. **Be safe and do not endanger peers**
  4. **Be prepared for class/lab**
  5. **Follow all rules in the CCHS Student Handbook**

This section is to verify that the student and parent have read the syllabus and agrees to the classroom rules, honors student’s responsibilities, and safety agreement.

**I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(student name) agree to the rules, honor student’s responsibilities, and safety agreement and pledge to act in a safe manner and not endanger myself or any other.**

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_