*North Sand Mountain High School*



Agriscience Education

Class Syllabus

for

Agriscience

Instructor – Mr. Moore

**NSM Agriscience Department**

Classes offered through the NSM Agriscience Department are designed to incorporate classroom, shop, and outdoor learning opportunities. Additionally, the Agriscience Department performs duties to assist in maintaining the school’s property. Individual, group, and/or class assignments or projects will be given during the course of the year. The overall Agriscience Education mission is to prepare students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber, and natural resources systems.

Course Description:

Agriscience is a course that provides students with a general overview of the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources cluster, which contains five pathways—Power, Structure, and Technical Systems; Environmental and Natural Resources Systems; Animal Systems; Plant Systems; and Agribusiness Systems. Students are involved in classroom and laboratory activities in each of the five pathway areas. Topics included in this course include career opportunities, safety, technology applications, agribusiness leadership, environmental science, soil science, plant science, forestry, animal science, aquaculture, wildlife science, pest management, woodworking, metalworking, small engines, electrical wiring, and plumbing.

Supervised Agricultural Experience: (SAE)

Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) is the career-oriented and experience-based learning component of agricultural education. Every student enrolled in an agriculture class is required to have an active SAE project or program. The value of SAE extends beyond the classroom, preparing students for future careers and developing life skills that lead to personal success. An SAE can be a short-term project or an ongoing program with no specific end date. It can also vary in size and scope. Some SAEs are entrepreneurial, requiring students to plan and operate a business. Others are placement, whereby students work for someone else for pay and/or experience. Research SAE projects and programs involve agriscience experimentation and information analysis. Ag service learning programs focus on home or community improvement and/or development. For younger students, an SAE is often exploratory to increase agricultural literacy and career awareness through job shadowing and other interactive learning activities. One of the primary advantages of an SAE is that students can develop a project or program according to their interests and abilities. As long as the SAE is relevant to agriculture, it counts! All student SAE records must be kept using the program purchased by the Alabama Department of Education found at www.theaet.com. Computers in the AG classroom will be made available weekly for updating records for all students although home computers or smartphones may be used outside of school time.

Career Technical Student Organization (CTSO): FFA

FFA is a dynamic youth organization that is an intra-curricular component of and agriscience program. FFA offers a variety of opportunities for members to get involved through leadership conferences, scholarship opportunities, and competitive events. The FFA Mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of young people by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agriscience education. To find out more about FFA, please visit www.alabamaffa.org or www.ffa.org.

FFA Dues:

Dues for National, State, District, And Chapter are $15.00. Additional Chapter fees may be added to this amount if voted on and passed by NSM FFA members. (Membership is optional but recommended.)

Program Goals:

1. To provide education in and about agriculture from the perspective of science and technology

 2. To prepare students for employment in an agricultural career

 3. To prepare students for entry into postsecondary programs in agriscience fields

 4. To provide education about the role of agriscience in the conservation of the Earth’s natural resources

 5. To develop life and employability skills essential for successful employment

6. To develop skills needed to fulfill occupational, social, and civic responsibilities

Grading Procedures:

All grades will be based on a 100-point scale. There will be no differentiation between daily and test grades. A mid-term and a final exam will be given (if required) and will count 10% of the final grade.

Grading Scale:

A (90-100) B (80-89) C (70-79) D (60-69) F (<60)

\*\* Grades of .5 or greater will be rounded up; ex. (82.5 = 83)

Assessment Procedures:

1. Student Notebook/Records
2. Classwork/worksheets
3. Tests/Projects
4. Oral Reports
5. Written Reports
6. Shop/Work Skills
7. Student SAE

Class Procedures/ Materials Needed/ Etc.

Students will need pencils and paper *every* day. Student notebooks will be the student’s responsibility. Students will be assigned a location to store their notebooks in the classroom. Textbooks will be kept in the agriscience classroom.

Safety

Student safety is our first concern. Each student will be required to pass a basic shop safety test with 100% proficiency. The students will receive a recorded score based on their first attempt however, will be required to retake test until 100% proficiency is achieved.

Students will be furnished a pair of approved safety glasses. Safety glasses are to be worn at all times in the Ag shop and/or when using equipment/tools.

**Make up work/Class work Procedures**

1. Make up work due to absence is your responsibility. Arrange to come promptly to get or schedule make up work. It is your grade at stake!
2. You cannot receive credit for work missed due to unexcused absences.
3. Make up work needs to be made up within 5 days after your absence.
4. Missed tests will be taken after school or other teacher approved time.
5. Occasionally, due to the nature of this course, some work cannot be made up. If the absence is excused, the grade will be left blank.

Course Length:

This course is a semester course and does count for (1) credit.

Prerequisites: N/A

Class Fees/Dues:

The Class Fees are $40.00 payable at any time after the course begins (this $40.00 is mandatory and must be paid).

If the student fails to pay the fees by the deadline then the student’s name is then turned in to the office. Payment will be necessary.

**Student Clothing**

1. Closed toe shoes “MUST” be worn in the shop and outdoor labs! Bring a pair to class if you wear non-approved shoes to school.
2. A change of clothing *“meeting school dress code”* may be recommended for some projects/assignments due to the nature of the activity.
3. Not participating in activity due to inappropriate clothing is no excuse and will be reflected accordingly in the student’s grade

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Available Student Credential(s):

Alabama Hunter Safety Education Certification