

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Introduction to Agriculture

Bill Bretzman

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description:

This orientation course provides an opportunity for students to learn how the agriculture is organized; their major components; the economic influence of agriculture and industrial technologies at state, national, and international levels; and the scope and types of job opportunities within the industries. Basic concepts in animal science, plant science, soil science, natural resources, business management, agricultural biotechnology, food science technology, and environmental science will be presented. The development of leadership, employability and computer skills will also be taught. Because FFA and Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs (SAEPs) are integral components of this course, students are required to maintain SAEPs, will participate in activities of the FFA organization, and will be FFA members.

Course Objectives:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

Explain and understand the role of agriculture.

Explain and understand agricultural history and technological advances in the industry.

Explain and understand the history and the opportunities available in the FFA Organization.

Participate in a meeting room setting using proper parliamentary procedures.

To speak in the presence of an audience, reciting the FFA Creed.

Keep necessary records of an SAE on computerized record keeping system.

Understand dairy foods and how they are produced and marketed,

To grade and evaluate eggs, chickens, poultry carcasses, and other processed poultry products.

Identify the common breeds of livestock.

Understand common livestock terminology.

Understand the livestock anatomy.

Required Class Materials:

You are required to bring to class: paper, writing utensil, 3 ring binder, flash drive or access to student storage. A simple calculator is also recommended.

Text: none

Course Outline:

1st Semester

- 2 wks – History of Agriculture
- 2 wks – Role of Agriculture in Society
- 4 wks – FFA organization
- 4 wks – Parliamentary Procedure
- 3 wks – Dairy Foods
- 3 wks – SAE

2nd Semester

- 3 wks – SAE recordkeeping
- 5 wks – Poultry industry/Animal Science
- 2 wks – Livestock Breed ID
- 3 wks – Public Speaking/ FFA Creed
- 2 wks – Livestock Terminology
- 3 wks – Livestock Anatomy

Major Assignments:

Presentation of the FFA Creed. (Jan.)

Develop an individualized Supervised Agriculture Experience. (December and continue through May)

Complete 2 FFA activities per semester.

Work a minimum of 4 hours in FFA COOP per semester.

Grading:

Skyward Name	Category	Weight
Final Exam	Assessment/Coop Participation	15%
In-Class work	Assignments/Labs/Reports/Participation/Quizzes/Tests	70%
Other-1	SAE & Recordkeeping	10%
Participation	FFA Participation	5%

Class Policies / Procedures / Expectations:

1. Students will be in their seat when the bell rings, with writing utensils, their Agriculture 3 ring binder, any assignments due that day, and any other materials needed for class that day. I expect them to stay in their assigned seat unless instructed or permission to leave their assigned seat.
2. Students will conduct themselves in a manner that allows everyone the right to a good learning environment.

3. Students shall leave materials and objects in the classroom and/or lab, teacher's desk, shop greenhouse, storage compartments, etc. alone unless instructed or given permission to use them.
4. Students will participate in classroom and/or lab instruction and activities at all times. It is not an option to not participate or attempt the activities of this course.
5. Students will be dismissed from class when all materials are returned to proper storage area and teacher verbally dismisses them.
6. Students will confer with teacher if they feel all possible tasks have been completed.
7. Students' heads will be in an upright attentive position without the support of their arms and hands.
8. Students will contact me the day they return from any absence, to update student on missed classroom/lab/greenhouse activities. *(I am usually in my room before and after school and during lunches. If you cannot find me at one of these times. My email is wbretzman@cusd4.org or phone # 939-4673)* Failure to contact me will result in this manner, may result in a late grading policy or no credit for missed assignments or tests.

Miscellaneous: FFA is an integral role of agriculture education. Students are automatically enrolled in the FFA. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in these activities.

Students must work outside of the classroom hours at the Central FFA Cooperative. Student hours will be worked during regular coop hours (Tuesday 3:30-5:30 pm and Saturday 8:00 -11:30 am). Meeting the minimum hours required/semester will be reflected as 50% of the semester exam.

Instructor Contact:

Email – wbretzman@cusd4.org

Phone: school 815-694-2321 ext. 2113

Home 815-939-4673