**Agriscience Department**

**Smith Station Freshman Center**

**Fundamentals of Agriscience**

**Course Syllabus**

**Course Description**

Fundamentals of Agriscience is a one- credit introductory course that provides students with a general overview of Animal Science, Plant Science, Environmental Science, Industrial Agricultural Technologies, and General Agriculture, the five pathways within the Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources cluster. Students are involved in classroom and/or laboratory activities in each of the five pathway areas. Emphases of Fundamentals of Agriscience include introduction to agriculture, technology, The National FFA, leadership, forestry, soils, wildlife, plants, aquaculture, animals, woodworking, welding, small engines, electricity, and plumbing.

NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research) is a non-profit education foundation created to develop standardized construction and maintenance curricula and assessments with portable, industry- recognized credentials. This credential is recognized by construction industries all over the world. These credentials include transcripts, certificates and wallet cards that are tacked through NCCER’s National Registry.

This course expands students’ critical- thinking skill, use the scientific method, integration of technology, development of leadership skills, and application of knowledge and skills related to practical questions and problems. A safe field and laboratory investigations will be used in instruction to the maximum extent possible to illustrate scientific concepts and principles and to support inquiry instruction.

This course emphasizes SAEP and FFA opportunities that develop students’ potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success.

**Instructional Philosophy**

Programs on vocational Agriculture/Agribusiness have been in existence for more than 70 years and have contributed extensively to the prosperity of today’s society. New emphasis is being places on the integration of academics, especially in math and science. Today, Agriscience Education is a comprehensive program providing students appropriate classroom/laboratory instruction, supervised experiences, and personal development through FFA. These components are integrated so they complement each other. Programs reflecting this new emphasis have two major missions or purposes: 1) To provide knowledge and skills needed to enter and advance in agricultural careers and /or post-secondary training, and 2) Help students obtain important knowledge that is needed for them to function as informed citizens as we enter the 21st century.

**Course Goals**

Students will:

1. Develop an understanding of the importance of agriculture in our society.
2. Develop an understanding of how technology enhances the Agriscience industry.
3. Develop an understanding of business management skills pertaining to agriculture.
4. Develop an understanding of how agriculture affects the environment.
5. Develop an understanding of the importance of soil.
6. Develop an understanding of the importance of plants in our society.
7. Develop an understanding of the importance of animals in our society.
8. Develop basic knowledge in forest and wildlife management skills.
9. Develop basic pest management skills.
10. Develop AgriEngineering skills in safety, electricity, woodworking, welding, small engines, and plumbing.

**Course Outline**

1. Orientation/ Leadership Development(FFA &SAE)
2. History of Agriscience
3. Natural Resources
4. Plant Resources
5. Crop Science
6. Pest Management
7. Animal Science
8. Communications and Management in Agriscience
9. Agri-Engineering
10. National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER)

Course Fee: $20.00

**Materials needed for Agriscience**

1. 3 ring notebook (at least 1 inch) with a pocket and paper.
2. At least 1 #2 pencil or blue or black pen each day
3. Ten tabs dividers

**Grading System**

Students will have numerous grades during the course. There will be test grades, daily grades, quiz grades, lab grades, projects grades, and grades for written assignments. ***There will be a 50 points penalty each day for all late assignments. Please have assignment ready and neat on due date.***

\*\* Students will complete a Supervised Agricultural Experience Project that is worth 600 points. It is important to note that failure to complete this project will result in a low grade in the class.

**9 weeks grading**

Test 50%

Quizzes/Lab projects 30%

Daily grades 20%

Semester Exam 10%