SPECIAL PROBLEMS
AGR 475
Spring 2018

Name: Dr. Michael Maurer
Email: use D2L email
Phone: (936) 468-1729
Office: Agriculture Bldg. Rm. 119
Office Hours: MW 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., TR 8:00 to 10:50 a.m., or by appointment.
Department: Agriculture
Class meeting time and place: TBA.

Course Description:
Advanced individual instruction. Student will conduct a literature and research project on pinching sunflowers. Specific area to address will be branching response to pinching.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, the students will be able to:
  - Basic understanding of pinching sunflowers

Text and Materials:
Research articles

Course Requirements:
Written literature review. The literature review must be written in ASHS format with citation and references. Any reference used on the literature review needs to have a hard copy of the article (reference).

Course Calendar:
Final project report May 4, 2018

Grading Policy:
Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

- A = 90 - 100%
- B = 80 - 89.9%
- C = 70 - 79.9%
- D = 60 - 69.9%
- F < 59.9%

Classroom Behavior:
Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment which is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have an opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from eating in class, making offensive remarks, reading
newspapers, sleeping or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in, minimally, a request to leave the classroom.

Disruptive, distracting, or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom.

**Responsible Use of Technology:**
It is expected that all students will only use cell phones, PDAs, laptop computers, MP3 players and other technology outside of class time or when appropriate in class. Answering a cell phone, texting, listening to music or using a laptop computer for matters unrelated to the course may be grounds for dismissal from class or other penalties.

**Class Attendance**
Regular and punctual attendance is expected for all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which a student is registered. If a student has excessive absences, the instructor reserves the right not to give individual tutoring, special consideration regarding make-up work, or other help the student needs because of missing class. Attendance will also play a crucial role in decisions concerning borderline final grades.

**Excused Absences**
Students may be excused from attendance for certain reasons, among these are absences related to health, family emergencies, and student participation in certain university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance whenever possible for excusable absences.

Students are responsible for providing timely documentation satisfactory to the instructor for each absence. Students with acceptable excuses may be permitted to make up work for absences to a maximum of three weeks of a semester when the nature of the work missed permits. Whether excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or
invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

Integrity and professionalism are expected at this level of education. Unauthorized collaboration on assignments or projects, as well as dishonesty on exams and quizzes will not be tolerated. Suspected cases of cheating or plagiarism in class and labs as well as grade disputes and appeals will be handled according to the academic regulations of the University. If it is determined cheating occurred, the student will be dismissed and fail the course.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.