CROP SCIENCE LAB SYLLABUS | AGN 110L

CLASS INFORMATION
Labroom: Ag Building Room 110
Lab Time: 3:00—4:50 PM Tuesday

CONTACT INFORMATION
Michael Maurer, Ph.D.
- Office: Agriculture Building 119
- Email: use D2L
- Office Hours: MW 9:00 am–11:00 am, TR 1:00–3:00 pm, or by appointment.

LAB DESCRIPTION
Basic principles of plant growth as they relate to the production of major horticultural and agronomic crops.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
After completing this course, you will have further hands on experience to...
1. Cultivate plants in a variety of environments at various scales.
2. Understand the biology and application of crop life cycles
3. Recognize and manipulate the factors that influence plant growth.
4. Distinguish between crops and understand models of classification.
5. Manage the growth and health of the crop.
6. Store and market plants and produce.
7. Appreciate the significance of agriculture and horticulture in life.

LAB REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Laboratory</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 Lab Quizzes × 15 pts</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crop Paper</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual 4 Pack Tray &amp; Journal</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable 3-inch-pot Tray &amp; Journal</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basil 3-inch-pot Tray &amp; Journal</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lettuce 3-inch-pot Tray &amp; Journal</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed Germination Lab</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab Final</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>600</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: To calculate your final grade for class AND lab, your grades will be lumped together and then divided by the total number of points for both class and lab.

Grading Scale (rounded to the nearest point)

\[
\begin{align*}
A & = 90–100 \\
B & = 80–89 \\
C & = 70–79 \\
D & = 60–69 \\
F & = 0–59
\end{align*}
\]
LAB POLICIES

CONTACT YOUR LAB INSTRUCTOR FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR LAB

Attendance:
- You are EXPECTED to attend all lab sessions.
- If you miss lab, YOU are responsible for getting the notes.
- Missing a lab with no excuse will result in half a letter grade drop.
- Any late assignments will result in 20% drop in grade for that assignment.
- If you leave the lab before you are finished with your activity for the day, you will get a 0 on that day’s quiz.

Lab Weather:
- We will have lab regardless of weather unless the university enacts its hazardous weather policy. Make sure you come dressed appropriately! We have planted in the rain!

Absences:
- I will follow the university’s policies on excused versus unexcused absences. You may have special circumstances during a test, assignment, etc.
- All special requests must be made in person to YOUR appropriate lab instructor.
- Please follow up with an email reminder so that we have a record of the request.
- If you know you will miss lab, you may come to another lab with that lab instructor’s permission.

Make-Up Assignments/Quizzes:
- There will be no make-up assignments for missed quizzes or assignments unless you notify me before the quiz/test and explain why you can’t be there with proper documentation for your absence (teacher note, etc.).
- If you have an unforeseen circumstance, you must provide documentation that excuses your absence (doctor’s note, death certificate, police report, etc.).
- In either case the quiz must be taken or arrangements made to take the quiz no later than the week the initial quiz is scheduled.
- Failure to follow this procedure will result in a 0 (zero) grade for any quiz. It is your responsibility to make arrangements to take a make-up quiz.

Lab Environment: In order to maintain a positive learning environment in both lecture and laboratory, it is important that you respect your classmates, the instructor, and yourself at all times. As a student, you have the right to an atmosphere that is conducive to learning. You also have the responsibility to ensure that a positive environment is maintained for your peers. Therefore, please refrain from:
- making fun of or insulting another person based on sex, race, orientation, religion, etc.
- excessive, distracting use of cell phones or other electronic devices AND use of headphones
- tobacco products (which will NOT be tolerated in lab since they carry tobacco mosaic virus, a harmful pathogen to plants)
- speaking in a disruptive manner or distractively entering the classroom late
- carrying on extraneous conversations with each other when I am speaking
- any other activity that may disrupt the class

If you need to take an emergency call, you may step away.
Distracting behavior is grounds for dismal from that day’s lab. Being disrespectful to ANY of the lab instructors is also grounds for dismissal.

**Academic Integrity:** Scholarly activity and performance is marked by honesty, fairness, and hard work. A great student doesn’t take credit for someone else’s work or take advantage of others. Violation of these principles is deemed academic dishonesty and will be handled according to the procedures outlined by SFA. Your signature on any quiz or assignment indicates "I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this test or assignment."

**CHEATING WILL RESULT IN AN F FOR THE CLASS AND LAB. PERIOD.**

**UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

**Student Academic Dishonesty Policy (4.1)**
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/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf)

**Course Grades Policy (5.5)**
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. Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/5.5_course-grades.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/5.5_course-grades.pdf)

**Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Policy (6.1)**
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/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/)

**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.

**Acceptable Student Behavior**
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy 10.4). Unacceptable or disruptive 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. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed. Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct_10.4.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct_10.4.pdf)
**F–1 Visa Holders**

There are important federal regulations pertaining to distance education activity for F-1 Visa holders. All students with an F-1 Visa should follow the instructions at the following link to make sure they are in compliance.

http://www.oit.sfasu.edu/disted/facsup/f1visa.html

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**Tentative Lab Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Lab No.</th>
<th>Lab Topic</th>
<th>Quiz</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26-Aug</td>
<td>27-Aug</td>
<td>28-Aug</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Scientific Method / Seed Sowing</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-Sep</td>
<td>3-Sep</td>
<td>4-Sep</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Seeds Part 2 / Scientific Writing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-Sep</td>
<td>10-Sep</td>
<td>11-Sep</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Site Analysis and Soils / SEED REPORT DUE</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-Sep</td>
<td>17-Sep</td>
<td>18-Sep</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Propagation &amp; Breeding</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-Sep</td>
<td>24-Sep</td>
<td>25-Sep</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Morphology / PAPER DUE</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-Sep</td>
<td>1-Oct</td>
<td>2-Oct</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Factors of Plant Growth</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-Oct</td>
<td>8-Oct</td>
<td>9-Oct</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Fertilizer Calculations</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-Oct</td>
<td>22-Oct</td>
<td>23-Oct</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Plant ID Walk</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28-Oct</td>
<td>29-Oct</td>
<td>30-Oct</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ag Chemicals</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Nov</td>
<td>5-Nov</td>
<td>6-Nov</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Presentations 1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Nov</td>
<td>12-Nov</td>
<td>13-Nov</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Presentations 2, PLANT JOURNALS DUE</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-Nov</td>
<td>19-Nov</td>
<td>20-Nov</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-Nov</td>
<td>26-Nov</td>
<td>27-Nov</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-Dec</td>
<td>3-Dec</td>
<td>4-Dec</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>LAB PRACTICAL</td>
<td>—</td>
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