

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: AGRI 1407
Revised: 08/18/2025

Department: Science

Discipline: Agriculture

Course Number: AGRI 1407

Course Title: Agronomy

Available Formats: Fully Face-to-Face, Online, Dual-Credit

Campus: Levelland

Course Description: Principles and practices in the development, production, and management of field crops including growth and development, climate, plant requirements, pest management, and production methods. Semester Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Lab Hours: 0

Note: This course satisfies a 030 Life and Physical Sciences Core Curriculum requirement.

Credit: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 1

Textbook:

Humberto Blanco. (2023). Cover Crops and Soil Ecosystem Services. ACSESS

Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Teamwork**—to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- **Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Explain basic agronomic concepts and practices.
2. Describe tillage, planting, and harvesting methods.
3. Explain the basic concepts of cropping systems, crop rotation, and cover crops.
4. Describe and develop systems to address wind and water erosion.
5. Develop cropping plans and systems based on global economic trends.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: Assessments at the end of each unit will provide evidence of a student's understanding of the course material. Assessments contain multiple types of questions that will assess a student's retention of key concepts and critical thinking skills.

Course Evaluation:

Exams: 400

Lab Assignments: 150

A – 550-495 Points

B – 494-440 Points

C – 439-385 Points

D – 384-330 Points

F – Less than 329 Points

Labs: Labs may be held in the field throughout the semester. Students may be required to provide travel to and from lab sites.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all classes to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus. After 4 unexcused absences, students will be warned of excessive absences. After 6 unexcused absences, students will be dropped from the course with an "X". When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period as determined by the instructor. *Late assignments will only be accepted with prior approval from the instructor.* Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting. **For online and dual credit students, attendance will be taken through the introduction video. If a student does not make an introduction video prior to the census date, the student will be dropped from the course.** Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy. It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

Instructors will create an attendance policy that is consistent with the “Class Attendance” policies stated in the *SPC General Catalog*:
http://catalog.southplainscollege.edu/content.php?catoid=60&navoid=2086#Class_Attendance

Dropping a Course: Students may drop courses through Texan Connect, the Admissions and Records Office, or Advising and Testing Center through the late registration period.

After late registration has closed, a student must complete the online Student Initiated Drop Request to drop a course.

Students may also drop courses in person at any campus location by completing a Student Initiated Drop Form. Complete a Student Initiated Drop Form and return the signed form to the Levelland Admissions and Records Office, the Student Support Center at the Lubbock Downtown Center, the Lubbock Career and Technical Center, or Plainview Center. You must have a picture ID to complete the drop.

A mark of “W” will be given for student-initiated drops that occur prior to and through the last day to drop as indicated in the online Academic Calendar found here:
<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/academiccalendar/index.php>.

Syllabus Statements: For information about Artificial Intelligence, Disabilities, Non-Discrimination, Intellectual Exchange, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team, Campus Concealed Carry, and COVID-19, please use this link: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.

Plagiarism and Cheating: Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy may result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F or X for the course, if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Submitting work that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student or an online term paper site.
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.
5. Violating the Artificial Intelligence policy, as outlined in the syllabus. For more information on AI, please reference this in the syllabus statements:
<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;

2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

AI Submissions and Procedure

I have an ethical responsibility to ensure that all students receive credit for only work that they have originally and ethically produced. Any evidence of AI through detection ratings or faculty review will be subject to further investigation.

It is your responsibility as a student to demonstrate that your work is original in order to avoid penalties or plagiarism violations. I encourage all students to keep a comprehensive draft history and track changes in Microsoft Word as a precaution. This is the easiest way to prove authorship and protect your academic integrity in the age of AI.

In many cases, work containing evidence of AI assistance will require a Zoom conference for an interview and proctored writing sample. These conferences will be recorded and reviewed by at least one other faculty member, and a determination will be made as to whether there is satisfactory evidence of authorship to earn credit.