COURSE SYLLABUS

Techniques in Vocational Agricultural Instruction - AGRI 420
SPRING 2013

COURSE NUMBER, TITLE AND UNITS
Course number:  AGRI 420
Course title:  Techniques in Vocational Agricultural Instruction
Course units:  2 units

FACULTY
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CATALOG DESCRIPTION
Orientation to classroom situations, Development of plans for teaching, including daily lessons and unit plans, utilization of source information, and resources. Class demonstration in teaching procedures, analysis and evaluation.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES
Prospective teachers will investigate the following questions:
• How do I prepare for a year as a classroom instructor?
• How do I manage an agricultural classroom?
• What do I need to know about teaching and learning to craft lesson plans that reach all students in my classroom?
• How can I design lessons that propel student learning?
• What resources are available as I design curriculum?
• What are teaching strategies and techniques that work?
• How do I assess student learning?

TEXTS AND REFERENCES
EXPANDED DESCRIPTION OF CONTENT AND METHOD
Each student will:
A. Actively participate in weekly sessions designed to engage the students in meaningful informative lectures and experiential activities that establishes a solid theoretical and practical foundation of teaching and learning.
B. Demonstrate their competency in lesson design and facilitation.
C. Utilize a variety of teaching strategies in lesson design.
D. Establish a classroom management plan.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Students will be able to:
1. Implement a discipline plan in a classroom situation.
2. Develop class materials
3. Design a classroom environment conducive to student learning.
4. Create a classroom leadership plan complete with a welcome message, class rules, policies and procedures.
5. Design learning segments that utilize personal strengths and talents.
6. Design effective learning segments for high school students.
7. Apply current teaching and learning research to lesson design and facilitation.
8. Compile a resource complete with information on teaching and learning, teaching strategies, classroom leadership, and other helpful materials.

REQUIRED READING
The readings for this class are assigned to provide the student with information that will enrich their level of understanding about teaching, learning, lesson design and classroom management. Readings will also provide students with practical teaching and classroom management skills. Readings will also serve as a basis for in-class discussions of the topics specified on the attached topic outline

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION
Regular attendance is required. In class, students will participate in cooperative groups, engage in classroom management focused activities, and contribute to class discussion. Coming to class prepared and responding to assigned readings will demonstrate participation. Students are responsible for all work done in class. If a student must miss a class, a message prior to the missed session is expected. If the absence is excused, the student will need to arrange an alternative assignment with the instructor to make up the work missed in class. This assignment will be figured into your overall course grade.

COMMUNICATIONS
All communications associated with this course will occur via e-mail. Students should check their e-mail frequently for updates and announcements.
**COURSE GRADING AND EVALUATION**

Evaluation will be based on completion of the assignments, assessments and in-class participation. General expectations for success in AGRI 420 include submitting all assignments on time, fully engaging in class discussions, and writing in which thoroughness of thought and content are demonstrated. Correct grammar, syntax, spelling, word usage, neatness, punctuation, and sentence formation are expected. A writing assignment rubric for grading is attached as a reference.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Contribution</td>
<td>150 points (10 pts./day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lesson Plan</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lesson Facilitation</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructors Handbook</td>
<td>300 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>FFA Convention Lesson Plan</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>FFA Convention Workshop Facilitation</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project?</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>850 POINTS</strong></td>
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**Extra Credit Opportunities (25 points each)**

Regional Officer Candidate Training – February 2, 2013
State Officer Candidate Training – April 5 – 6
Teacher Shadow Day and reflection (TBA)
Idea Share (10 points/idea up to 50 points)

**Late assignments are not accepted**, except with prior approval from the instructor.