**Basic Agriculture Technology Syllabus**

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**Course description**

This course is designed as the foundational course for all Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Pathways. The course introduces the major areas of scientific agricultural production and research; presents problem solving lessons and introductory skills and knowledge in agricultural science and agri-related technologies. Classroom and laboratory activities are supplemented through supervised agricultural experiences and leadership programs and activities. This course is the prerequisite for all AFNR pathways and is intended for students in grades 8-10.

**Units of Instruction**

Employability Introduction to Soil Science Introduction to Agriscience

Introduction to FFA Introduction to Plant Science Introduction to Agriculture Mechanics

SAE and careers Introduction to Forestry and Wildlife Introduction to Food Science

Safety Introduction to Environmental Science

Introduction to Agriculture Introduction to Animal Science

**Materials Required**

* Black or blue ink pens
* Pencils
* Paper
* School provided laptop

**Grading**

65% Progressive Assessments (Classwork, Quizzes, Leadership Points)

35% Summative Assessments (Tests, Labs, Projects, Presentations)

A (90-100) B (80-90) C (70-79) F (69 and lower)

**Leadership Development (FFA)**

Here at RCA we are fortunate enough to have our FFA dues partially covered. In order to participate in FFA events dues of $10 must be paid. The FFA provides many leadership activities including monthly meetings, chapter activities, Career Development Events (CDE), and various field trips. Chapter shirts will also be available at an additional cost.

Each student will be required to earn at least 100 Leadership Points per semester. Points can be awarded by participating in the following chapter activities. A minimum of 100 points and a maximum of 150 points may be earned each semester. All points must be approved by the instructor.

Examples of ways to earn points are as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attending Chapter Meetings | 5 points per meeting |
| Attendance of State or National Convention | 10 points per conference |
| Participating at an Area or State SAE | 25 points per CDE |
| Earn a FFA Degree  | 20 points (for the semester degree was given) |
| Reciting the FFA Creed (in one standing) | 10 points |
| FFA Fundraisers | Awarded based on the activity |
| Other Work for the Chapter | 5 points per hour |
| Community Service  | Points will be rewarded accordingly |

**Labs**

Students are required to wear appropriate lab attire. This means no open toed shoes and clothes that can get dirty. If a lab requires the possibility of getting dirty students will be notified in advance. Failure to dress appropriately means you cannot participate. This will result in a zero for the lab activity.

**Attendance Policy and Makeup Work**

Students are encouraged to attend all classes but, life makes that impossible from time to time. students will be allowed to make up their work only if a Request for Late Work Submission is completed. Students have five school days from the original due date to complete the plan on a late work submission request and submit the late work. All excused absences will be able to complete makeup work without completing a late work form.

**Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)**

 The SAE program allows students to gain real world experience in the activities of the agriculture industry while building skills in organization, record keeping, decision-making and analysis. The program is designed by the individual student and is completed outside of regular class time with assistance from the agricultural instructor along with other adult mentors. The SAE is part of the grade earned by the student. Information regarding the completion of the SAE will be passed out shortly.

**Students With Disabilities**

Rockdale County Schools, in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act of 1990, will make every reasonable accommodation for students with special learning needs, including hearing impaired and visually impaired students and students with diagnosed learning disabilities, as well as other classifications of disability specified in the Act.

**Student Non-Discrimination Policy**

The Rockdale County Schools, in compliance Rockdale County Board of Education (“Board”) desires that all students receive the benefit of an adequate education. With this view in mind, the Board prohibits unlawful discrimination against students because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability, or other protected group status or activity (e.g. opposition to prohibited discrimination or participation in the statutory complaint process) in its programs and activities or employment in its programs or activities. In keeping with this commitment, the Board will not tolerate harassment, discrimination, or other unlawful treatment of its students. As set forth herein, the Board designates the following employee of Rockdale County Public Schools (“District”) to handle inquiries regarding the District's non-discrimination policies.

**Parent Portal**

<https://www.rockdaleschools.org/departments/technology/administrative_technology/infinite_campus_parent_portal>

Please remember to join the Parent Portal.

**My signature on the below indicates that I have read this syllabus.**

Student’s Printed Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Contact Information: Cell: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lab Safety Contract

This needs to be signed by your parent(s) and returned by the third class meeting.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Hour\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You must have this contract completed before you can engage in any lab activity.

1. I will conduct myself in an appropriate manner in the lab. I will not engage in horseplay,

shoving, hitting, squirting others with wash bottles, running, throwing any object, or play practical

jokes.

2. I will follow all written and verbal instructions. If I do not understand any instruction, I will ask

the instructor. I will not engage in any unauthorized experiments.

3. I will not eat food, chew gum, or drink beverages in the lab. I will not ingest any chemical from

the lab.

4. When I first enter the science room or lab, I will not touch any chemicals, equipment, or

materials until instructed to do so.

5. I will know the locations and operation of safety features in the science room and lab. This

includes the emergency exits, fire extinguisher, fire blanket, eye wash, first aid kit, and goggles

6. I will not work in the laboratory alone, leave my lab station unattended, or disturb other lab

groups unnecessarily.

7. I will consult with my physician about any medical condition (i.e. – contacts, allergies,

pregnancy, or asthma) that can pose a hazard and will notify the instructor of any restriction.

8. I will put on lab goggles upon starting the lab and wear them the entire time I am working on

the lab (including clean-up) or until the instructor indicates.

9. I will wear appropriate clothing to the lab. Loose and baggy clothes, dangling jewelry are not

allowed when conducting labs. I will wear an apron or lab coat if it is necessary. I will tie back my

hair if it is long.

10. I will wash my hands with soap and water after working in the lab. I will not touch my face, rub

my eyes, or insert/remove contacts until my hands are washed.

11. I will report any accident or injury to the instructor immediately.

12. I will not remove any chemical or material from the laboratory.

13. I will clean up my lab station to its original condition, and dispose of any waste according to

the instructor. The sink will be free from all debris.

15. I understand that I will be charged for any broken equipment or damage resulting from my

negligence.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(student) have read and agree to follow all of these

safety rules in this contract. If I fail to adhere to any of them, I may be asked to leave the lab

without opportunity for make-up and may be punished according to the student code of conduct. I

will cooperate to the fullest extent with my instructor and fellow students to create and maintain a

safe lab environment. I am aware that any violation can lead to unsafe lab conditions and can

harm others and me.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(student signature) (date)

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(parent/guardian) have read this document with my

student and understand the importance of a safe lab environment and accept the consequences

of failing to comply with this contract.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(parent/guardian signature) (date)