



Sustainable Agriculture Technologies

Course Descriptions

AGR 110 Agricultural Economics

This course provides an introduction to basic economic principles in agriculture. Topics include supply and demand, the role of agriculture in the economy, economic systems, and micro- and macroeconomics. Upon completion, students should be able to explain economic systems, interpret supply and demand curves, and complete cost and revenue production schedules.

AGR 111 Basic Farm Maintenance

This course covers fundamentals of maintenance and repair of farm facilities and equipment. Topics include safe use of hand tools and farm machinery, carpentry, concrete, painting, wiring, welding, plumbing, and calculating costs and materials needed. Upon completion, students should be able to answer theoretical questions on topics covered and assist with maintenance and repair of farm facilities and equipment.

AGR 121 Biological Pest Management

This course will emphasize the building and maintaining of healthy soil, plant and insect biological cycles as the key to pest and disease management. Course content includes study of major pests and diseases, including structure, life cycle, and favored hosts; and biological and least toxic methods of chemical control. Upon completion, students will be able to identify and recommend methods of prevention and control of selected insects and diseases.

AGR 139 Introduction to Sustainable Agriculture

This course will provide students with a clear perspective on the principles, history and practices of sustainable agriculture in our local and global communities. Students will be introduced to the economic, environmental and social impacts of agriculture. Upon completion, students will be able to identify the principles of sustainable agriculture as they relate to basic production practices.

AGR 160 Plant Science

This course introduces the basic principles of botany that pertain to agricultural production. Emphasis is placed on the anatomy and physiology of flowering plants. Upon completion, students should be able to identify and explain plant systems.

AGR 170 Soil Science

This course covers the basic principles of soil management and fertilization. Topics include liming, fertilization, soil management, biological properties of soil (including beneficial microorganisms), sustainable land care practices and the impact on soils, and plant nutrients. Upon completion, students should be able to analyze, evaluate, and properly amend soils/media according to sustainable practices.

AGR 212 Farm Business Management

This course introduces budgeting, farm analysis, production costs, business organizations, and general management principles. Topics include enterprise budgets, partial budgets, whole farm budgets, income analysis, and business organizations. Upon completion, students should be able to prepare and analyze a farm budget.

AGR 214 Agricultural Marketing

This course covers basic marketing principles for agricultural products. Topics include buying, selling, processing, standardizing, grading, storing, and marketing of agricultural commodities. Upon completion, students should be able to construct a marketing plan for an agricultural product.

AGR 220 Agricultural Mechanization

This course is a study of farm machinery and agricultural equipment. Topics include selection and operation of tractors, materials handling equipment, tillage and harvesting equipment, and irrigation systems. Upon completion, students should be able to identify equipment parts and explain the basic principles of machinery operation and management.

AGR 221 Farm Structures

This course covers basic agricultural buildings and structures. Topics include building materials, cost estimating, basic blueprint reading, and job planning. Upon completion, students should be able to complete a cost estimate for constructing an agricultural structure.

AGR 265 Organic Crop Production: Spring

This course includes a study of spring organic crop production practices, including vegetables, cut flowers, and culinary and medicinal herbs. Topics include variety selection, production methods, and record keeping procedures for certification. Upon completion, students will be able to demonstrate a knowledge of organic crop production appropriate for the spring season.



AGR 266 Organic Crop Production: Fall

This course includes a study of fall organic crop production practices, including vegetables, cut flowers, and culinary and medicinal herbs. Topics include variety selection, production methods, and record keeping procedures for certification. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a knowledge of organic crop production appropriate for the fall season.

AGR 267 Permaculture

This course introduces the design of sustainable human habitats as part of a sustainable system, with emphasis placed on living systems of the temperate region. Topics include fundamentals of permaculture system design for farms, including gardens, fields, water, animals, buildings, economics, and society. Upon completion, students should be able to design a functional holistic farm system.

AGR 268 Advanced Organic Crop Production

This course provides students with structured practical experience in managing the complexities of organic crop production. Emphasis is placed on crop management skills and decision making associated with production-related operations such as cover crop management, irrigation, and post-harvest physiology. Upon completion, students should be able to create and implement a crop management plan and demonstrate competency in the selection and efficient use of equipment.

ANS 110 Animal Science

This course introduces the livestock industry. Topics include nutrition, reproduction, production practices, diseases, meat processing, sustainable livestock production, and marketing. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of livestock production practices and the economic impact of livestock locally, regionally, state-wide, and internationally.

ANS 111 Sustainable Livestock Management

This course covers the integration of livestock as part of a sustainable farming system, with emphasis on small-scale production for niche markets and pasture. The course will cover appropriate breed selection, nutrition and living requirements for livestock such as goats, hogs, sheep, poultry, and bees. Upon completion, students will recognize appropriate breeds for their farm needs and demonstrate knowledge of small scale livestock production.

HOR 112 Landscape Design I

This course covers landscape principles and practices for residential and commercial sites. Emphasis is placed on drafting, site analysis, and common elements of good design, plant material selection, and proper plant utilization (encouraged use of native plants and discouraged use of invasive species). Upon completion, students should be able to read plans and draft a landscape design according to sustainable practices.

HOR 130 Greenhouse Design

This course covers greenhouse facilities planning and equipment selection. Topics include types of greenhouses, location factors, materials, glazing selection, calculation of heating/cooling requirements, lighting, benches, and energy conservation. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate knowledge of material selection, facilities planning, equipment need selection, and appropriate calculations.

HOR 156 Introduction to Ecological Landscaping

This course introduces the environmental, social, economic and regulatory aspects of ecological landscaping and land stewardship practices. Topics include the shift to functioning landscapes, ecosystem services, and natural communities with strong emphasis on emerging career opportunities. Upon completion, students should be able to identify the principles of landscaping centered on positive ecological outcomes.

HOR 168 Plant Propagation

This course is a study of sexual and asexual reproduction of plants. Emphasis is placed on seed propagation, grafting, stem and root propagation, micro-propagation, and other propagation techniques. Upon completion, students should be able to successfully propagate ornamental plants.

LSG 121 Fall Gardening Lab

This course provides basic hands-on experience in fall gardening techniques. Emphasis is placed on pruning, irrigation, planting, fertilizing, pest control, equipment operation, and turf maintenance. Upon completion, students should be able to perform various techniques essential to maintaining the fall landscape.