

Columbia Central High School

Agriscience Syllabus

2023-2024

“I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds.”

Instructor

Mrs. Brown
(931) 381-2222
jbrown@mauryk12.org

Time and Location

7:30 am – 3:00 pm
Room 405 of Metal Building

Agriscience Program Mission

Engaging students through hands-on learning, leadership fundamentals, and experiential opportunities by offering innovative classroom instruction, developing supportive relationships, and key industry experiences.

Course Description

Agriscience is an introductory laboratory science course that prepares students for biology, subsequent science and agriculture courses, and postsecondary study. This course helps students understand the important role that agricultural science and technology plays in the twenty-first century. In addition, it serves as the first course for all programs of study in the Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources cluster. Upon completion of this course, proficient students will be prepared for success in more advanced agriculture and science coursework. This course counts as a lab science credit toward graduation requirements.

Course Structure:

Agriculture Education is based on the following three **intracurricular** areas: Classroom Instruction, Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE), and FFA Leadership. All students will engage in these three components at varying levels. **Students will be required to have an SAE in all agriculture education courses.** SAE stresses real world application of classroom instruction and provides valuable life skills in employability, record keeping, marketing and entrepreneurship. All students in an agriculture education course will have FFA membership, paid for by the Tennessee FFA Foundation. Students are encouraged to become involved with FFA as a valuable tool to increase leadership, communication, personal growth and career success. FFA will be a part of agriculture classroom instruction.

Text/Resources:

Students will have access to textbooks and other supplemental materials will be provided via hand-outs or Teams. **Microsoft Teams use is required for this course. Students must have access and check it daily.**

Assessment Plan:

Students will be assessed on knowledge through written, oral, and computer-based evaluation as well as performance testing of needed skills for the agriculture industry.

Classroom Rules and Consequences

Rule
Be Prompt <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Be on time, sit at your assigned seat and begin the bell work.
Be Prepared <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Bring required materials, dress according to school policy and be ready to work.
Be Productive <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Stay on task, remain in your seat, and follow directions.
Be Polite <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Be nice or neutral to everyone.- Respect yourself, your classmates, your teachers, and guests.- Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.- If you do not own it, do not write, draw, or carve on it!
Be Patient <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Wait respectfully and calmly for your turn.

Graded Item	Percentage of Grade
Classwork/Labs	30%
Supervised Ag Experiences (Homework)	20%
Assessments (Tests/Quizzes/Projects)	25%
Midterms/Finals	15%
Leadership	10%

Letter/Number Grade Conversion

A	100-90
B	89-80
C	79-70
D	69-60
F	59 & below

Leadership Point Grade:

Each student will be required to select from a diverse list of activities to accrue points in Leadership this year. These activity points will be used as the LEADERSHIP grade. Leadership activities may be used for SAE hours as well if they apply. Students who are in multiple agriculture courses in one year may use the same total points for all classes. Please see the [Leadership Point Handout](#) for more detailed information.

Course Standards

A link to the full state standard descriptions listed below is provided here: [Agriscience](#)

Overview of Course Standards:

1. Agriscience Safety and Careers
2. Agriscience Investigation and Overview
3. Fundamentals of Environmental Systems
4. Fundamentals of Cell Structures and Processes
5. Fundamentals of Genetics, Genomics and Heredity
6. Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology
7. Fundamentals of the BioChemistry of Animal Digestion
8. Fundamentals of Plant and Soil Science
9. Fundamentals of Animal Reproductive Systems
10. Fundamentals of Power and Energy Systems
11. Fundamentals of Engines

Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)

Supervised Agricultural Experience ([SAE](#)) is a student-led, instructor supervised, work-based learning experience that results in measurable outcomes within a predefined, agreed upon set of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Technical Standards and Career Ready Practices aligned to a career plan of study. Students are required to plan, work, and document their SAE. The school provides an online recordkeeping system called [AET](#). All agriculture students will be provided with personal logins.

- SAE implementation is **20%** of your overall grade. Graded activities will be required in the following areas:
 - Completion of Foundational SAE activities and work including career exploration and planning, employability skills, personal financial management and planning, workplace safety, and agriculture literacy.
 - Maintain AET required information in profile, class schedule, leadership activities, community service activities, and regular journal entries. **One journal entry is required each week for a total of 9 entries per nine weeks.**
 - Completion of **10 cumulative hours each nine weeks** of approved experiences (career/job related)
 - Students may earn SAE hours by volunteering in the greenhouse, small animal lab or ag shop after school and non-school days by appointment.
 - Students may also earn SAE hours by being involved in FFA CDE and LDE events after school or non-school days that relate directly to your SAE area.
 - Students may also use the Agriscience Fair projects as an SAE research project.
 - Presentation of a PowerPoint presentation for a portion of your EXAM grade will be at the end of the semester. Format will be provided during the second nine weeks.
 - AET LOGIN Information:
 - **USERNAME:** Uppercase first initial and last name (Ex. JBROWN)
 - **PASSWORD:** same as username
 - **CHAPTER/SCHOOL ID:** TN0047

Please complete the following information required for state paperwork in our record keeping program. Students will need this information for their first grade of their Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE).

Mother/Guardian Name	
Mother/Guardian Email Address	
Mother/Guardian Phone:	
Mother/Guardian Address:	

Father/Guardian Name	
Father/Guardian Email Address	
Father/Guardian Phone:	
Father/Guardian Address:	

Parent and Student Syllabus Acknowledgement Form

RETURN THIS PAGE COMPLETED & SIGNED BY August 10th, 2023 for a Classwork Grade.

Photo Release

To publicize the quality of students and activities of the Agriculture Education/ FFA programs, pictures and videos may be taken of students in various program activities. I hereby grant permission to be photographed. I additionally consent to the use of my name in connection with the publication by print media, newspaper, television, video, or of photographs taken of me.

____ Yes, I give permission for my child to be photographed and published.

____ No, I do NOT give permission for my child to be photographed and published.

Student Safety Pledge

I will as a part of his/her class use equipment or laboratory materials providing that the parent or guardian gives their written permission.

It is understood that the student will be given proper instruction on the use of such equipment before the student is allowed to operate it. The student must assume the responsibility for the following safety practices described in the safety pledge below:

1. I promise to follow all safety rules.
2. I promise never to use equipment without first receiving permission from the instructor.
3. I will not ask for permission to use equipment unless I have been instructed on its use and have scored 100% on the safety test for such equipment.
4. I will report any accident or injury to the instructor immediately.

Animals in the Classroom

Animals are regularly present in the classroom. Animal visitors range from dogs to guinea pigs, to goats and horses. Students are instructed how to work with and around the visiting animals for the safety unit and reminded when the animal is present. Students in Small Animal Science, Large Animal Science, and Veterinary Science are welcome to bring in their approved animals upon Mrs. Brown's and parental consent. Allergies to or fear of certain animals MUST be reported to Mrs. Brown immediately. These animals visit as a privilege and visits will stop if deemed necessary by Mrs. Brown due to inappropriate behaviors, actions, language, etc.

*By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the expectations of this course. I specifically understand that 20% of an Agriculture course grade will be based on a student's Supervised Agriculture Experience and this grade is completed for the most part outside of classroom time. I also understand the information provided regarding Leadership Point activities. **I understand animals are regularly in the classroom.***

Printed Student Name	Period	Student Signature	Date
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Printed Parent Name	Parent Signature	Date
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