

8th Grade-Exploratory Agriculture Syllabus

Instructor Information

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Course Information

Grade Level: 8th Grade

Course Meets: Monday-Friday

Available Credit: 1/2 Elective Credit

Course Duration: 1 Semester

Pre-Requisites: Beneficial to have Exploratory Agriculture 7 prior to taking this course, however, it is not required.

Course Description: This applied course is designed to introduce students to agriculture, its applications, and leadership development as the core foundation of the Agriculture Education program. It provides an introductory overview of some areas of agriculture. Units of instructions are building blocks to help further studies in the Advance Ag Courses.

Materials:

- *Writing utensil (pencils for shop and homework assignments; blue or black pen for note taking and class activities)
- *Three-Ring Binder
- *Notebook or Loose-leaf paper
- *Flash Drive
- *Appropriate Shop/Lab Clothing (on shop days only)
 - Long pants
 - Closed-toe shoes
 - No "baggy" clothing
 - Hair ties to pull back long hair

POSSIBLE CONTENT STANDARD AREAS TO BE TAUGHT IN CLASS

Standards have not been established for this area in Agriculture Education. Units to be taught with flexibility.

- Students will be introduced to FFA and its leadership activities/opportunities.
- Students will learn about second level power tools and how to safely use and identify them.
- Students will learn principles with hands on activities in the area of second level woodworking.
- Students will gain an understanding of plant structure and function. Introduction of horticulture and plant propagation.
- Students will gain an understanding in the area of record keeping and Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE). Use of the AET online record book system.
- Students will gain an understanding of basic car care and maintenance.

- Students will be exposed to Food Science and some of the practical applications involved in the Food industry.
- Students will be exposed to Farm Safety practices.
- Students will be able to construct projects with the tools they have been safely trained on.

Possible Projects

Wood:(Projects can change)

- *Stackable Animals
- *Nailbox
- *Etc.

Metal

- *No Metal Projects at this time

Educational Displays

- *Power Tool Informational Pamphlet/Handout (Publisher)
- *Livestock Structures Poster/Display (Word/PPT/Posters)
- *Farm Safety Displays
- *SAE Record Books (AET Online Record Book System)
- *Etc.

****Daily Participation Points will be issued when the students are engaged in a lab situation in the shop or classroom. Ten points per day will be the maximum each student will be able to earn. The following is a guideline that the Instructor will use for evaluation and granting of points to each student.***

Points Earned	Degree of Participation
10	-Student worked diligently/took part in the activity to best of his or her ability for the duration of the class period. The student also followed all outlined safety procedures, assisted in clean up at the conclusion of the activity, and waited for dismissal from the instructor.
5	-Student worked diligently/took part in the activity to the best of his or her ability for the duration of the class period. However, he or she did not deem it necessary to assist their classmates in clean up at the conclusion of the class period and/or await dismissal from their instructor. (Examples include: wearing safety glasses, proper storage of shop and lab equipment, etc.)
0	-Student worked diligently/took part in the activity to best of his or her ability for the duration of the class period. However, he or she did not deem it necessary to follow all of the outlined safety procedures throughout the activity. (Examples include: repetitively reminded about wearing safety glasses, proper use of power tools, shop and lab equipment, shop procedures, horseplay, etc.)

As you may see, the preceding is a pass or fail option. Stellar work habits, sound implementation of safety and sanitation practices, performance of assigned clean up duties, and solid listening skills will ensure success-not only with your course grade, but long into your future as well. Shoddy workmanship, shortcuts that compromise safety and laziness will not be tolerated. Take pride in your work, our equipment, and our wonderful facility!

Agriculture Education Lab and Classroom Policies

*Students will follow the Student Handbook and additional lab and classroom policies provided to them the first week of school. See also: "Lab and Classroom Policies" under the Agriculture Education section of the Max Public School Webpage.

Student Evaluation and Classification

The grading system shall be:

A-Superior (100-93)

B-Above Average (92-85)

C-Average (84-77)

D- Below Average (76-69)

F Failing (68 and below)

Websites-

- **National FFA Website** www.ffa.org
- **The Agriculture Experience Tracker** www.theaet.com
- **Max Public School Website** www.max.k12.nd.us
- **North Dakota FFA Website** www.ndffa.org
- **North Dakota FFA Foundation Website** www.ndffaoundation.com