

# Agronomy

## AGRI-1307

Spring 2019 Section 001 CRN-20541 3 Credits 01/14/2019 to 05/09/2019 Modified 01/14/2019

### Meeting Times

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#### Lecture

Monday, Wednesday, 12:00 PM to 1:15 PM, RACC 105

Office Hours MW 2:00 - 3:00

All other times by appointment.

### Contact Information

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#### Instructor: Allen Kaminski

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### Description

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Principles and practices in the development, production, and management of field crops including plant breeding, plant diseases, soils, insect control, and weed control. The scientific approach to major food and fiber crops of the world is studied, emphasizing origin, history, classification, distribution, climatic, cultural and soil requirements, improvement and seed technology. Food production as a source to feed an ever increasing population is emphasized.

#### Requisites

Prerequisites:

Corequisites:

### Core Curriculum Statement

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This course is not a core curriculum course.

### Outcomes

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1. Summarize the role of climate and geography in present and past crop production.

2. Explain the growth and development of crops.
3. Analyze the impact of climate on crops.
4. Assess the interactions of soils, water, and fertility on crop production.
5. Contrast methods of pest management in crop production.
6. Differentiate production methods based on geography and crop selection.

## Materials

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### **\*\*OPTIONAL\*\*** Introduction to Agronomy: Food, Crops, and Environment

Author: Sheaffer  
Publisher: Cengage  
Edition: 2nd  
ISBN: 978-1111312336  
Optional

### **\*\*REQUIRED\*\*** Bookstore Note Packet

## Course Requirements

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*Exams:* There will be four exams during the semester plus a comprehensive final exam.

Exams can include multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, short answer and essay questions.

**Make-up exams are only offered to students with an approved excused absence.** Excused absences include those officially recognized by Blinn College. All others are up to the instructor and will be handled on an individual basis. To arrange for a make-up exam see me during the first class period following your absence.

**An unexcused absence from an exam will result in a grade of zero.**

*Assignments:* There will be announced Written Assignments and/or projects throughout the semester.

There will be two major group assignments during the semester. The first assignment will be an infographics assignment; details will be discussed and project will be assigned after Exam 1. The second project will be an Agricultural Production Plan; details will be discussed and project will be assigned prior to the start of the Soils Lecture.

**Written Assignments (optional):** Students enrolled in Agronomy will be provided an opportunity to submit a summary of an article for each exam. The student should prepare a two-page summary of an article involving agriculture topics that relate to the course. A student can earn a total of 5 points that can be applied toward each major exam grade. (Makeup exams are not included) The written assignment will provide the student an opportunity to become familiar with topics in agriculture, which relate to specific course information. Summaries must be typed and accompanied by a cover page and bibliography page. Criteria for Assignment are as follows:

**Source:** Any current Ag publication pertaining to subject matter. Sources include books, periodicals, extension bulletins, Government publications, websites, etc.

**Grade Consideration:** Points are based on the following criteria; Accuracy of Content, Organization of Material, Current Status of Source, Spelling, Grammar, and Technical Information

**Bibliography:** Cite each source on the bibliography page, using the following format: author, title, document, name, and date.

**Due Dates:** Each summary must be submitted independently on the day of major exam. (Only one summary for each Major Exam

will be accepted. No late submissions).

### *eCampus*

Access to the Internet is **REQUIRED**. Internet access at home would certainly be a plus, however, all students at Blinn College and/or Texas A&M have computing resources available to them. The Open Computer Labs at Blinn College are located in Rooms H-225 and L-258, and the Library. If you are not familiar with these, see me or inquire at the Learning Center in the Library Building, L-258, for more details, ASAP. eCampus is an online course tool. It is in essence a virtual classroom through which I will be posting course related materials and information. You will also be able to contact me with questions and or problems you might be having and have the ability to contact your classmates. It will be your responsibility to check this site regularly: <https://ecampus.blinn.edu/default.asp>.

## ✓ Evaluation

### Criteria

Type	Weight	Topic	Notes
Assignments/Participation	50 points		Assignments and Class participation will make up 50 total points
Exams	400 points		4 major exam grades administered during the semester. Each exam is worth 100 points
Final	100 points		A comprehensive final exam administered at the end of the semester. Final is worth 100 points
Grading Scale			A - 495-550 B - 440-494 C - 385-439 D - 330-384 F - Under 329

## Blinn College Policies

All policies, guidelines, and procedures in the [Blinn College Catalog \(http://catalog.blinn.edu/\)](http://catalog.blinn.edu/), [Blinn College Board Policies \(http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/1204\)](http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/1204), and the [Blinn College Administrative Regulations \(https://www.blinn.edu/administrative-regulations/\)](https://www.blinn.edu/administrative-regulations/) are applicable to this course.

[Specific information on civility, attendance, add/drop, scholastic integrity, students with disabilities, final grade appeal, alternative retailers, campus carry and proctoring arrangements and cost. \(http://www.blinn.edu/syllabus-policies/\)](http://www.blinn.edu/syllabus-policies/)

Notice of any action taken under these protocol and procedures, by Blinn College or its employees, may be delivered by hand, through the U.S. Postal Service, or electronically to the student's Blinn Buc e-mail account. Notice shall be deemed received upon actual receipt, on deposit in the U.S. Mail, or upon entering the information processing system used by Blinn College for Blinn Buc e-mail accounts, whichever first occurs.

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## Schedule

When	Topic	Notes	
<b>All dates are tentative based on the rate at which information is covered</b>			
Week	Day	Section(s)	Topics Covered
		Covered	
1	M	1/14/2019	Syllabus and Introduction to Agriculture
	W	1/16/2019	History of Agriculture
2	M	1/21/2019	Holiday
	W	1/23/2019	Agriculture Today and Terminology
3	M	1/28/2019	Classifying and Naming Crops
	W	1/30/2019	Classifying and Naming Crops
			Day of Record
4	M	2/4/2019	Exam 1 / Written assignment 1 due
	W	2/6/2019	Exam Analysis/ Farming Tech Video/ Assign Infographic Assignment
5	M	2/11/2019	Plant Anatomy and Morphology
	W	2/13/2019	Plant Anatomy and Morphology
6	M	2/18/2019	Plant Anatomy and Morphology
	W	2/20/2019	INFOGRAPHIC DUE/ Improving plants-Breeding, Genetics
7	M	2/25/2019	Improving plants-Breeding, Genetics
	W	2/27/2019	GMO's / GMO Video(time Permitting)
8	M	3/4/2019	Exam 2 / Written Assignment 2 due
	W	3/6/2019	Exam Analysis /Climate- Temp. Humidity, Wind, Light
			3/11-3/15 Spring Break
9	M	3/18/2019	Climate- Temp. Humidity, Wind, Light
	W	3/20/2019	Ag Production Systems (Ch 10. Short)/ Assign Soils Group Project
10	M	3/25/2019	Soils-profiles, Textures, CEC, pH
	W	3/27/2019	Soils-profiles, Textures, CEC, pH
11	M	4/1/2019	Soils-profiles, Textures, CEC, pH
	W	4/3/2019	Tillage-types, equip. used, seeding tech./Review/ SOILS PROJECT DUE
12	M	4/8/2019	Exam 3 / Written Assignment 3 due
	W	4/10/2019	Weeds- ID, Effects and Control
13	M	4/15/2019	ID of Plant Diseases and Insects, Control
	W	4/17/2019	ID of Plant Diseases and Insects, Control

When	Topic	Notes	M	4/22/2019	Harvest Methods, Equip., Bushel Weights.
			W	4/24/2019	Harvest Methods cont./Harvest Video
		15	M	4/29/2019	Exam 4 / Written Assignment 4 due
			W	5/1/2019	Test Review/ Final Prep
		16	M	5/6/19	AGRI 1307-001 12:45-3:00
			T	5/7/19	
			W	5/8/19	
			R	5/9/19	
					Total Contact Hours