



Gilbert High School
 AG 100- Applied Biological Systems
 Ms. Bird
 Room: 3101 Phone: 480-497-0177 ext 8701531
 taylor.bird@gilbertschools.net

Course Description - This course will introduce the basics of agricultural science, animal science, plant science, food science, and agricultural careers. This course is a prerequisite to other Agricultural Education courses. This class has a class fee of \$15 and will meet one of the District graduation requirements for science, but **will not** replace Lab Biology. This course will satisfy one lab science credit for Arizona university entrance requirements. Tutoring times for this class is offered Tuesdays 2:30-3:30pm or by appointment.

Materials Needed for Class –

- Pencil or pen (blue or black)
- 4 colors of highlighters
- 11 binder dividers (binders will be provided to keep in classroom)
- Loose Leaf Paper/Notebook
- Positive attitude
- Course fees paid (infinite campus or bookstore)
- Garden gloves and old tennis shoes for garden/land lab work

Course Expectations –

Performance objectives for this course can be completed by student **participation** in planned activities. Students grades will be determined based upon completion of assignments given both in class, in the laboratory, and virtually. An emphasis will be placed on the **quality** and **effort** the student puts into completing work. Students will succeed if they do the following:

- Come to class prepared and ready to learn
- Do you best
- Respect others, yourself, and school property
- Follow school rules and safety procedures

Major Topics
What is Agriculture
FFA
SAE
Leadership/Communication
Science of Agriculture
Natural Resources
Gardening/Plants
Food Science
Small Animal Care

Major projects and assignments are expected to be completed on or before the due date. There will be student assignments, review, quizzes, unit exams and projects.

IMPORTANT: *Due to the hand-on nature of this class, students will have the opportunity to work with a variety of animals such as pigs, sheep, goats, rabbits, guinea pigs, birds, nonvenomous reptiles, etc. Any allergies or other issues preventing students from interacting with the animals must be communicated with the teacher prior to handling the animal. Students are expected to dress appropriately for the activities planned and work conducted as well as follow all safety procedures.*

Course Procedures:

Students are expected to dress appropriately for activities planned and work conducted. Safety procedures will be emphasized at all times. Students that choose to not work in a safe manner will be removed from the work area and given written assignments due that day.

See Also – Ag Engineering Course Requirements document



Grading - Students will earn points by written assignments, quizzes, tests, projects and hands on activities in the laboratory. Approximate point values are as follows:

Assignment	Percentage of Total Grade	Description
Laboratory work/Laboratory Projects	30%	A large portion of the grade is based on laboratory activities and projects. Proper preparation, punctuality, and participation will greatly affect the laboratory points.
Written assignments, quizzes, tests, article summaries, career reports	25%	Any assignment assigned within the class that is not within the class. Tests and quizzes will be given periodically covering content students are expected to know and understand.
End of Semester Assessment/Project	10%	Final is proctored at the end of the semester
Quarterly leadership	10%	The objective of the assignment is to encourage students to better themselves through active participation in extracurricular activities. (50 leadership points per quarter)
Supervised Agricultural Experience	10%	Students are required to conduct a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). This is a work, research, or entrepreneurial project in agriculture. Students will keep records and be graded on completion and number of hours involved in the project each semester.
Employability	7.5%	Employability points include: being on time, attitude, attendance, being prepared for class, participating in class discussion, working with classmates, and clean up.
Interactive Notebook	7.5%	Students are required to maintain an interactive notebook to keep notes and store assignments. Notebook checks will be performed periodically.

Policies:

School policies for late assignments will be implemented. Incomplete assignments are not accepted.

- **Absences:** There are two types of absences: **excused and unexcused**. Excused absences will carry the same weight in implementing the policy. An **excused absence** only means that a student has the right to receive credit for make-up work.
 - o **Excused Absences** (May be one of the following):
 - **School related:** If a student misses a class for a school activity (i.e. field trip, counselor, etc.) he/she is not reported absent to the office, but is responsible for making up all missed work.
 - **Other excused absences:** An excused absence is one in which the parent has notified the school within 24 hours of the student’s absence and the school administrator has approved the absence. When a parent knows that the student will be absent for more than one day, one phone call to the school will be sufficient.
 - o **Unexcused Absences:** An absence is considered unexcused if the school has not been notified within 24 hours of the student’s absence. *Any student who has 10 consecutive unexcused absences from school may be withdrawn.*
 - o **Tardiness:** Any student entering the classroom AFTER the bell has rung, and who does NOT have a written excuse from a staff member or the administration, will be considered tardy. If a student arrives after 10 minutes, it will be recorded as an absence.
- **Make Up Work:** When an absence is excused, students are allowed one day for each day absent to submit make-up work.
- **Re-do/Retakes:** For classroom assignments, students are allowed to redo any assignments with a score of 75% or lower to make up points. Students are allowed 1 week prior to receiving the grade back and must turn it in specifying it is a “Redo”. For quizzes and tests, students can retake the test or quiz if they are not happy with their score. It will not be the same exact quiz or test; however, the higher of the two grades will be taken.
- **Late Work:** Late work will be accepted for up to 2 weeks after the due date, losing 5% per day. If work is submitted after two weeks of the due date the highest grade possible will be a 50%. No work will be accepted after each 4.5 week grading period.

See Also – Ag Engineering Course Requirements document

