

Rappahannock County High School
Foundations of Agriculture
Syllabus
2013-2014

Textbook Used: Agriscience Fundamentals and Applications, Fifth Edition

Course Description

Students explore science as it relates to agriculture and develop an understanding of human relations, communication, the importance of agriculture to the economy, and key scientific terms related to the field of agriculture through the study of animal science, plant science, agribusiness, agricultural technology and forestry. Students will also develop workplace readiness skills and goal setting. FFA and SAE activities such as field trips and career development events are also a part of the course. Students and parents will be notified of field trips day and should dress appropriately for these trips.

Units

In this class students will come to understand the broad spectrum of agriculture. This will include:

- FFA – its history and how it is an integral part of agricultural education
- What is agriculture and what role does it play in Virginia's economy
- Ag History
- Goal Planning/Oral Communication/Leadership
- Agricultural Careers and Workplace Readiness
- Animal Science (Life Cycles, disease, breeds, and care)
 - Livestock (cattle, sheep, and swine)
 - Small Animals
 - Equine
- Natural Resource Management
- Plant Sciences
- Agribusiness
- Agriculture Technology

Goals for the year

Students will:

- Participate in a student organization (FFA)
- Demonstrate Virginia's workplace readiness skills in course activities
- Identify internet safety and procedures
- Practice Leadership Skills
- Explore supervised agricultural experiences
- Explore the agriculture industry
- Recognize the importance of agriculture
- Explore plant science, animal science, and agribusiness
- Recognize the importance of natural resource management

Materials Needed

- 3 ring binder with loose leaf notebook paper
- Writing utensil
- Agenda

Homework and Class Work

Course work will consist of major assessments, which include unit tests, exams, and projects, quizzes, class work and participation, which includes a weekly binder check, and homework as

needed. If the class work/projects are not completed during class time the student will be expected to complete for homework. These will be compiled to reach a student's grade.

Grading Scale

The following is a percentage of the total grade:

1. Major Assessments- 40%
2. Participation/ Class work - 30%
3. Quizzes – 20%
4. Homework- 10%

Expectations/Attendance

In this class, you will follow all RCHS expectations and rules. You will need your agenda every day. Class attendance is expected. If a class is missed it is the student's responsibility to make up all missed assignments. Student will need to approach me before or after class to obtain missed assignments.

Class Rules/Procedures:

1. Students will show *respect* to others, property, and themselves at all times.
2. Students will be expected to come into class and have their *binder* out, along with a *writing* utensil. **Please get a 2" binder ☺**
3. Students need to bring their *agenda* to class *everyday*.
4. Students will be sitting at their assigned seat *when the bell rings*.
5. Students will read the board when entering the room and follow the directions given. (ex: warm-up)
6. Bathroom breaks will be for emergencies only. Please go before or after class.
7. Our school wide policy of *no gum* will be enforced.
8. Students will not be permitted to use the computers without the teacher's permission.
9. Students are not allowed to play with class pets, enter into the shop area or run any equipment without the teacher's permission and having taken and passed the necessary safety test.
10. Students need to *raise their hand* and be called on when asking and answering questions. However, there is no dumb question; please ask questions when you don't understand.
11. Students will be *required* to write (journals, notes, research paper etc).

Violations of rules/procedures

- a. 1st "out" – phone call to parent
 - b. 2nd "out" – lunch detention and phone call home to parent
 - c. 3rd "out" – referral
12. The teacher may write office referrals at any time if circumstances warrant.
 13. A student may be given a refocus worksheet to be filled out in an area away from the class at any time the teacher feels the student needs to refocus.
 14. Please be advised that inappropriate behavior may result in lowering your participation grade.

Your Teacher

I prefer to answer questions by email at sfincham@rappahannockschoools.us but would be happy to speak with you over the phone at (540)227-0745.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PAGE TO MS. FINCHAM. THANK YOU.

We have read Foundations of Agriculture syllabus and understand the nature of this course.

Parent/Guardian

Date

Student

Date

Parent Email Address

Parent Phone Numbers

Please circle your preferred method of communication:

Email

Phone