



SPRING SEMESTER 2020 SYLLABUS

Course Name: *Forestry and Woodland Ecosystems*

Course Overview: To be prepared for careers in natural resource systems, students need to attain academic skills and knowledge, acquire technical knowledge and skills related to natural resources, and develop knowledge and skills regarding career opportunities, entry requirements, and industry expectations. To prepare for success, students need opportunities to learn, reinforce, apply, and transfer knowledge and skills in a variety of settings. This course examines current management practices for forestry and woodlands. Special emphasis is given to management as it relates to ecological requirements and how these practices impact the environment.

Teacher Information: **A. Sarah McDougald** **AgscienceDepartment**
sarahmcdougald@misdmail.org Grades 9-12

Contact Information: Classroom Number: AG 2
Ben Barber Innovation Academy Phone Number: 681-314-1600
Ext. 1609
Email: sarahmcdougald@misdmail.org

Instructor’s Schedule:

A Days		
Block 1	Livestock Production (TEKS 130.7)	7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
	Conference/Planning/Lunch	10:05 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.
Block 2	Vet Med Applications (TEKS 130.9)	11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
B Days		
Block 1	Vet Med Applications (TEKS 130.9)	7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
	Conference/Planning/Lunch	10:05 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.
Block 2	Forestry & Woodland (TEKS 130.18)	11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.



Course Calendar/Schedule: *subject to adjustment, change, or elimination

Units of Study
Introductions & get to know you activities, introduction to the FFA, SAE project description
Safety
Principles of Forestry
History of Forestry
Tree Anatomy
Species of Trees
Forest/Woodland Ecosystems
Photosynthesis/Respiration
Watershed Management
PBL: Project Based Learning Unit
Plant Reproduction
Natural/Managed Forests/Woodlands
Forestry Biometric Skills
Forestry Management Techniques
Control Plans
Harvesting Techniques
Timber Processing/Products
Cartographic Skills
Operation/SAE Presentations
Reviews, Final Exams, Clean-ups

Grading Periods

1st – January 8 – February 21, 2020

2nd – February 24 – April 9, 2020

3rd – April 13 – May 28, 2020

Text, Readings, Materials: Textbooks, web page links for additional help in subject area, reading list, etc.

- 1) Google Classroom – web based
- 2) The Agricultural Experience Tracker (The AET) – web based
- 3) iCEV – web based
- 4) Guest speakers
- 5) Field Trips
- 6) Teacher prepared notes and handouts
- 7) YouTube – web based
- 8) Texas FFA website



- 9) National FFA website
- 10) Mansfield FFA website
- 11) Official FFA Manual
- 12) *Parliamentary Guide* for FFA by Jarrell D. Gray

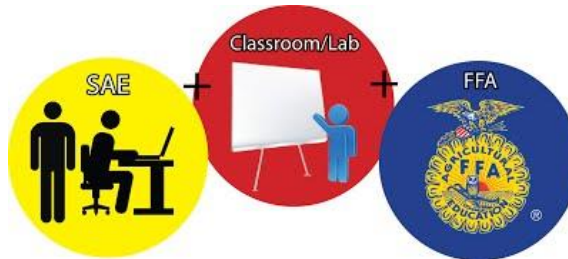
STUDENT MATERIALS/SUPPLIES –

- Composition Notebook
- Pen, pencil, colored pencils, and markers
- MISD issued Apple iPad mini
- An additional 1” three ring binder and tri-fold display board will be needed for the SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) presentations at the end of the semester
- Closed-toe shoes are required in the classroom and barn area. Students should dress accordingly for the weather, as we may be outside during the school year.

FFA PARTICIPATION -

Students are strongly encouraged to join and participate in the Mansfield FFA chapter.

- Current dues are \$20, which includes a Mansfield FFA tee shirt.
- Degrees, awards, leadership development, career development and scholarships are integrated into the FFA organization.



As illustrated by the diagram above, students in agriculture classes are engaged in a three-sector approach for maximum personal growth and development. Federal law requires students to have a Supervised Agricultural Experience project and document all aspects of the selected SAE as deemed appropriate by your instructor. Maximize your leadership potential by joining and participating in the premier youth organization.

INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION-

No certifications offered at this time.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS – The following expectations should be followed at all times during class.

1. Be in your seat ready to learn on time.
2. Come to class prepared and dressed appropriately for the day’s activities.
3. Respect your fellow classmates and your teacher at all times with your words and actions.



4. Use classroom materials and supplies carefully and to keep them in good working condition. **PUT MATERIALS AND TOOLS AWAY WHEN YOU FINISH USING THEM.**
5. Your phone/iPad should be used for class activities only. **DO NOT** take pictures or video the instructor or any student to post online or in an app. You may take pictures/video of interesting classroom activities only with permission from your instructor.
6. Give your best effort possible on class activities.
7. The animals in the barn with care and respect at all times. Do not handle or change an animal's environment.

Reed-Stewart Agricultural Science Center Rules:

In addition to the classroom rules, there are specific rules that apply to the barn where the livestock is housed. The following rules are in place for both student and animal safety.

1. Loitering or other activities not directly related to the furtherance of students individual SAE project(s), or engagement in Mansfield FFA Chapter Sponsored activities will not be permitted at the RSASC. Violations of this may be cause for removal from the RSASC, including removal from the classes.
2. Fences and gates are not designed to hold extra weights. Climbing or sitting on them could cause them to break or to become inoperable.
3. General rule of Agriculture is, "**If you open a gate, close it behind you.** It the gate was open, leave it open."
4. For your own safety, please refrain from going into closets, storage areas, animal pens, and offices.
5. No horseplay is allowed in the barn, greenhouse, or classrooms except by actual horses.
6. Animals in the Ag Center are owned by your fellow classmates. The animals are being trained for shows, please do not touch or harass any animal as this may hamper the student's ability to train their animals.
7. Animals in the Ag Center are on specific diets. Do NOT feed any of the animals.
8. Park only in marked parking spaces. All MISD parking regulations apply at RSASC.
9. Drive responsibly! The speed limit is 15MPH. Carefully watch for people, animals, and equipment.

If a student chooses to break a rule the following will apply:

1. Warnings, parents will be contacted.
2. In class consequences, I contact your parents again.
3. Consequences from teacher, possible out of class consequences.
4. Sent to the appropriate assistant principal.

*******NOTE: Extreme disruption will be cause for the student to be sent to the assistant principal immediately without going through steps 1-3. *******



EXTRA-CURRICULAR EVENTS/ACTIVITIES:

- Leadership Development Events (Fall Semester)
- FFA Leadership Opportunities (Mansfield FFA, District 7 – FFA, Area 5 – FFA, State FFA)
- Poster Competitions (Spring Semester)
- Public Speaking Competitions
- Agriscience Fair Competitions
- Career Development Events (Spring Semester)
- Proficiency Awards (Placement, Entrepreneurship, Combined and Agriscience Research)

POSTING STUDENT WORK:

Student grades will be posted in Skyward parent portal within five business days for daily grades and major grades. Special consideration is given to major projects, including lengthy writing assignments.

MISD GRADING SYSTEM FOR GRADES 9-12

The district high schools use a weighted numerical grading system.* **The following chart reflects the MISD grading system for grades 9-12:**

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
F	Below 70

An “Incomplete” (I) reflects incomplete student work and is not considered an academic grade.

*See MISD Board Policy EIC (LOCAL).

GRADING PRACTICES

Six weeks grades shall be obtained by averaging student work as detailed below. Daily assignments may count more than once, but no more than twice. MISD Curriculum Based Assessments (CBAs) are calculated as part of the daily work category.

ELECTIVE COURSES

- 40% - Major Grades
 - ✓ SAE – (Supervised Agricultural Experience)
 - ✓ AET – (Agriculture Experience Tracker)



- ✓ Tests
- ✓ Reports
- ✓ PBL – (Project Based Learning) final product
- ✓ Floral Critiques
- 60% - Daily Work
 - ✓ Assignments in class
 - ✓ Participation
 - ✓ Activities

NUMBER OF GRADES EACH SIX WEEKS

- Regular Classes: 8 grades (minimum)
- All Classes: 2 grades (minimum) per each grading category
- Daily work category: 2 grades (minimum) in addition to the CBA grade

SEMESTER GRADES

- Semester grades are computed for each course by averaging the numerical grades recorded for each of the three six week reporting periods and the course semester exam.
- **All courses** - Semesters One or Two:
 - First Six Weeks = 26%
 - Second & Third Weeks = 27% each
 - Semester Exam: 20%
- A student in grades 9-12, or in a lower grade when a student is enrolled in a high school credit-bearing course, will earn credit for a course only if the final grade is 70 or above. For a two-semester (1 credit) course, the student's grades from both semesters will be averaged and credit will be awarded if the combined average is 70 or above. Should the student's combined average be less than 70, the student will be required to retake the semester in which he or she failed.

SEMESTER EXAMS

Each semester, specific exam schedules are designated for MISD high school and dual credit courses. These schedules must be followed. Neither mid-term nor final exams are given early. If a student is absent on the day of an exam he/she will take the exam at a date/time designated by the school. A student is expected to contact the course teacher to schedule a make-up time for a **first semester exam** missed because of student absence. A student is expected to contact the school counseling department to schedule a make-up time for any **second semester exam** missed because of student absence.

TEST RETAKES

- Students who fail a major test/assessment (below 70%) will be allowed to retake or correct up to a 70% grade. This does not include semester examinations.
- Students are expected to make arrangements with the teacher to retake or correct a major test/assessment.



- Students are encouraged to participate in tutoring opportunities before retaking a test.
- Each teacher will communicate routine requirements for retakes and corrections in his/her course syllabus.
- All retakes or corrections must be completed prior to the end of each six week grading period unless the student is afforded time, after the six week grading period, as a result of the district's absent/make-up guidelines.
- See UIL Eligibility ("No Pass/No Play") guidelines for additional information related to grades and UIL Eligibility.

LATE WORK

- Teacher designates due date and time for assignment (Beginning of class period, End of class period, designated time of day)
- If student fails to meet the due date and time, then the student has till the next class period (next A day or B day) to turn in assignment to be considered one day late.
- Students will be assessed a penalty of 30% points for up to one class period late.
- Score of a zero may be given for work turned in after one day late.

MAKEUP WORK (because of absence for any class missed)

- The teacher may assign the student makeup work based on the instructional objectives or the subject or course and the needs of the individual student in mastering the essential knowledge and skills or in meeting subject or course requirements.
- A student will be responsible for obtaining and completing the makeup work in a satisfactory manner and within the time specified by the teacher. When absent, the student is afforded the number of days missed plus one additional day to turn in makeup work. [A/B Block Example: A student misses Monday and Tuesday of the week and he/she returns on Wednesday of that same week. Student work from Monday's absence is considered late after Friday, and student work from Tuesday's absent is considered late after the following Monday.]
- A student who does not make up assigned work within the time allotted by the teacher will receive a grade of zero for the assignment.
- A student is encouraged to speak with his/her teacher if the student knows of an absence ahead of time, including absences for extracurricular activities, so that the teacher and student may plan any work that can be completed before or shortly after the absence.
- A student will be permitted to make up tests and turn in projects due in any class missed because of absence. Teachers may assign a late penalty to any long-term project in accordance with time lines approved by the principal and previously communicated to students.
- See UIL Eligibility ("No Pass/No Play") guidelines for additional information related to grades and UIL Eligibility.

UIL ELIGIBILITY ("No Pass/No Play")

- Semester grades are computed by averaging the numerical grades recorded for each of the three six week reporting periods.
- Each six week grading period will stand alone for eligibility purposes.



- A student who is declared academically ineligible after a six week grading period will be able to regain eligibility if all of the student's grade averages are 70% or higher at the subsequent 3 week grade reporting period.
- See MISD Board Policy FM (LOCAL) – Exempt Courses.

STUDENT WORK

The amount of time needed to complete assignments may vary with each student's study habits, academic skills and selected course load. This includes major projects such as research reports, book reports, major essays, and other assignments teachers designate as major projects.

SAE: Supervised Agricultural Experience

Every student enrolled in an Agricultural Science class is required by the state to have a Supervised Agricultural Experience. The requirements for these are made up of the following:

- All students enrolled in an agricultural class will have a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). Students will record the hours in the online record book at www.theaet.com. Students' SAE can be an entrepreneurship, placement, or research project; and must relate to the class. The teacher of the course will approve each student's SAE and provide guidance for his or her SAE. Detailed information will be sent out during the first two weeks of school regarding this assignment. Students who participate in the FFA organization can add additional hours outside of the classroom environment through collaboration with the FFA sponsors.
- Records must be maintained using the established Record Book management system (www.theaet.com) which will be graded throughout the duration of the course.

ATTENDANCE, LATENESS – Classes begin at 7:00 A.M. and 11:30 A.M. depending on your schedule.

Please read and understand the Mansfield ISD's policy and Texas law and code for attendance.

Students who arrive to class after these times will be issued a tardy.

- First tardy = verbal reminder of the district policy for attending class on time.
- Second tardy = verbal reminder and warning
- Third tardy = after school detention
- Fourth tardy = two days of after school detention
- Fifth tardy = In school suspension
- Remember, students may be assessed a penalty of no more than 10 points per day for up to three days before a zero may be given for work not turned in on time.

LAB SAFETY/HEALTH -- In some courses these issues can literally be a matter of life or death. As a part of our curriculum students may work with veterinary equipment, livestock medications and vaccinations, as well as live animals. Students must demonstrate proper handling of all animals and equipment.



Students will be taught a unit on Safety in the class. Students will earn a grade of 100 before the student can be admitted to the laboratory area. Students MUST wear the approved and appropriate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) for the task at hand.

If a student does not adhere to these requirements he/she will be given afterschool detention for the first offense. If there should be a second offense, two days of afterschool detention will be given. On the third offense, the student will be required to take a personal safety refresher module and must make 100 on the exams. Should there be a fourth offense the teacher will require the student be removed from the class for the remainder of the semester. Animal abuse and mishandling will not be tolerated and will result in immediate administrative action.

CONSEQUENCES FOR ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Daily Work

- Every Offense
 - Academic and Disciplinary Consequences
 - Assign grade of zero
 - Write a referral
 - Teacher contacts parents
 - Consequence from administrator would be a minimum of AC placement

Exams or Other Major Assessments

- Every Offense
 - Academic and Disciplinary Consequences
 - Assign grade of zero
 - Write a referral
 - Teacher contacts parents
 - Consequence from administrator would be a minimum of AC placement
 - An alternative exam or major assessment can be completed for a maximum grade of 70%
 - Academic Associate is notified and will schedule a meeting with student, parent and teacher

ELECTIONS – The election requirements and process is found in Mansfield FFA Constitution and By-laws found on the Mansfield FFA website. <http://mansfield.ffanow.org>



Forestry
 Student and Parent/Guardian
 Syllabus Verification Form

My signature verifies/confirms that I have read, understand and will follow the guidelines as set forth by my teacher, Ben Barber Innovation Academy, Mansfield ISD, and the state of Texas.

I understand that if these guidelines are not adhered to consequences will be issued.

Student's printed name _____ Student's signature _____
 Date _____

Parent's printed name _____ Parent's Signature _____
 Date _____

As a means of communication for events and major assignment deadlines, I use the phone app **(GroupMe).**

Please list names of parents/guardians/student that would like to added to this communication application for iPhones and Smart phones.

Name printed _____ Cell phone _____
 Name printed _____ Cell phone _____
 Name printed _____ Cell phone _____

Also, as a teacher and parent, please list any health concerns that you believe would be important for awareness regarding your student.

Allergies _____
 Other medical concerns... _____

Best time to call for student celebration news...

Time _____ Name of Parent/Guardian _____
 Time _____ Name of Parent/Guardian _____

Other activities your student is participating or involved during the school year. (band, dance, athletics, work)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

List the top three accomplishments/involvement you hope to see from your student in this class.

Examples: Improved public speaking skills, Improved reasoning skills, self-confidence, career skills, Involvement in Mansfield FFA (leadership, career development, scholarship, new friends, awards recognition, raise an animal project, project construction, Agri-Science Fair,)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Please complete and return this page to Mrs. McDougald by January 17, 2020