



# Advanced Interdisciplinary Science for Sustainable Agriculture

Elk Grove High School  
Mrs. Welch [slwelch@egusd.net](mailto:slwelch@egusd.net)

## **Course Description:**

### ***Grade Level: 11th***

This integrated course combines an interdisciplinary approach to laboratory science and research with agricultural management principles. Students will design systems and experiments to solve agricultural management issues currently facing the industry. Students will connect the products created in this class with industry activities to link real world encounters and implement skills demanded by both colleges and careers. Students will be graded on participation in intra-curricular FFA activities and the development and maintenance of an ongoing Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program. Pre-requisite(s): Chemistry and Agriscience with a grade of C or better Adopted curricular materials: No textbook assigned. This course meets the third-year science requirement.

## **Class Rules**

1. Every student has the right to learn.
2. The teacher has the right to teach.
3. Anything that prevents numbers 1 and 2 from happening is against the rules.

## **Expectations**

1. If a student is absent, it is his/her responsibility to meet with the teacher regarding missed assignments. The student will have one day for every day he/she was absent to complete the work.
2. Students will arrive to class on time and be prepared, friendly, and polite, be a listener, a doer, a quality worker and positive risk taker in order to be successful.
3. **All work shall be turned in ON TIME if points are expected by the student on any assignment.**

## **Housekeeping**

1. "The Classroom" is anywhere instruction is taking place. All class policies apply regardless of where the class meets (in a room, at the school farm, greenhouse or any other location).
2. Some labs and hands-on situations will require students to work with different types of lab materials and equipment. Safety is our first concern, and students will be informed of appropriate attire for various situations.
3. All other school rules will be followed and any discussion of these rules and their enforcement will take place after school.
4. **Phone Hotel:** Cell phone use is prohibited in class. Students who place their cell phone in the phone hotel numbered pocket will receive 1 extra credit point per day that their phone is placed in their respective pocket. Students who choose not to use the phone hotel must keep their phones out of sight unless asked to use for educational purposes by the instructor.

## **Student & Parent Resources**

Please check our website at [elkgroveffa.com](http://elkgroveffa.com). Schedules, forms, updates pictures, and general information will be available at the Elk Grove FFA website. In addition, grades and a calendar will be posted on Synergy.

## **Materials Recommended for Classroom Success:**

- Pencil, pen or other writing utensil
- A three-ring binder
- Section Dividers
- California Agricultural Education Record Book (provided) or AET Access (online version)
- Course text books (provided)
- Flash Drive (For Agriscience fair project) or ability to save to student server space or equivalent.

## **Grades %**

**The class is graded according to this scale: 100-90, A; 89-80, B; 79-70, C; 69-60, D; 59 & below, F.**

### **1. Classroom (Approximately 80%)**

Completion of assignments:

Class Participation, class work and Citizenship	15%
Homework	10%
Class Projects/Labs	25%
Note/Warm up checks	10%
Quizzes/Tests	20%



### **2. Supervised Agriculture Experience Program (Approximately 10%)**

It is our goal that every student will have a SAE, or a project related to agriculture, which they can pursue both during and after school hours. These SAE projects are valuable tools in teaching work ethic and responsibility. In addition they can lead to awards and recognition in the FFA, scholarships, and future employment. Students will be required to maintain a record book regarding their SAE project.

The choices for SAE projects are:

1. Ownership- This is a project that the student owns. Some examples might be an animal, a crop of some kind, or potted plants in their room.
2. Non-Ownership- A project which the student works with, but does not own.
3. Work Experience- Any job related to agriculture can be considered work experience whether it is paid or unpaid. Some examples might be mowing the lawn, working for a local agriculture business, or home improvement projects.

### **3. FFA (Approximately 10%)**

The FFA, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, is a national organization found in thousands of high schools across the United States. The goals of the organization are to develop premier leadership, personal growth, and career success. Your son/daughter automatically became a member of the National Organization when he/she enrolled in an agriculture class. There are numerous opportunities to participate both during the school year and after school in FFA activities. These activities will be given a point value that will be reflected in students' grades. **Students are strongly encouraged to purchase a FFA membership card, which is \$10.**



## Warm Up/Note Checks

**i. Warm-Up/Note Checks:** Notes and warm-ups will be checked EVERY FRIDAY at the beginning of class. Each check will be worth approximately 20 points (about 200 points per quarter). Mind Movers (warm-ups) are worth 2 points each (10 points per week) and notes are worth 10 points per set.

**ii. Restrictions:** If a student is absent during the week, the student should make up any notes or mind movers missed in their absence. Only those students who have remembered to bring the proper materials to class on Fridays for the check, or who have successfully made up absent/missed notes and warm-ups, and whose materials are displayed teacher approaches their desk during checks will receive credit for the check. Warm-ups should be completed daily and be ready for grading at the beginning of class. Students will have one week to make up a missed notes/warm-up check.

**iii. Recommendations for success:**

It is recommended that students have a three-ring binder, or a section in a binder, for this course that includes class materials. Materials that are suggested to be kept in the binder include Mind Movers, notes, graded assignments, tests or quizzes within a semester. Students should bring these materials to class daily.



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Please have your son/daughter return this part of the letter.

I understand the policies of the Advanced Interdisciplinary Science and will put my best effort forth.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_