



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
COMMERCE

AFE573 - CRN 80716
Practicum In Teaching

COURSE SYLLABUS – Fall 2020

Instructor: Keith J. Frost, PhD, Assistant Professor

Office Location: AGET 153

Office Phone: 903-886-5379

Email Address: Keith.Frost@tamuc.edu

Office Hours: This course is an online graduate listing for those teaching full time and who are looking to certify to as secondary school based agricultural educators through our Alternative Certification process. As such, office hours are on an as-needed basis whereby digital communication is best. I am freely available for email conversations, zoom meetings, or phone calls via the number I have shared with you via D2L email.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description: This course is the culmination of the teacher certification process and is conducted (primarily) in the field at a cooperating school district under a mentor teacher. The *resident* (student teacher) will be expected to plan, organize, deliver, and evaluate instruction for **at least one course** in the Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Career Cluster **for the duration of this time**.

Scheduled Meeting Times: I will make three to four visits to each students place of employment based on a mutually agreeable time.

Textbook (Required): None (Recommended):

Talbert, B. A., Vaughn, R., Croom, D.R., and Lee, J.S. (2007). *Foundations of Agricultural Education, 2nd Edition*. Danville, IL: Professional Educators Publications, Inc. **(Reference on file for use/copying)**.

National FFA Organization (1997) *The Agriculture Teacher's Manual*. Provided by instructor in pdf.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course and associated activities the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate professional judgment and ethical conduct as an educator.
2. Collaborate with mentor teacher and other campus educators.
3. Organize and deliver effective classroom and laboratory instruction.
4. Coordinate and supervise FFA activities.
5. Demonstrate appropriate dress and conduct for job interviews.
6. Demonstrate digital awareness and literacy.

This course is unique in that it is individualized based on each student teacher, their placements, and their district policies. I will make at least three formal observations of your teaching, one of which may be an intracurricular event. My expectations are for continued growth and follow through based on my feedback and correction.

For each of my observation dates, you will provide me with a lesson plan for that content. I will review the lesson plan format with you on my first visit. The lesson plan will be different than are likely using at your school, but helps satisfy the College of Education and TEA requirements.

You will also document the completion of two TEA required trainings: mental health and dyslexia. The mental health training can be accessed at:

<https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/population-focused-modules/youth/>

As of the date of this document, I have yet to receive the link to the dyslexia training. As soon as I receive it, I will share it with you via email.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES
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Course Specific Procedures:

Professionalism: You are expected to be professional in your actions, words, attitude, dress, and in all things you are expected to perform.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism **WILL NOT** be tolerated and will result in an automatic **F** in the course. Students are expected to do their own work. Assistance with written assignments, such as proofreading or editing, is encouraged as long as the final concepts and product are those drafted and authored by the student. Information or materials (including ideas, quotes, data, procedures, etc.) from sources other than the student must be given proper credit through appropriate citation. The discipline of Agricultural Education uses the APA format (7th edition) as its primary style guide for publications, including research papers and reports. Assistance with this format and general guidelines for written assignments are available at the following source:

Scholarly Expectations: All works submitted for credit must be original works created by the scholar uniquely for the class. It is considered inappropriate and unethical, particularly at the graduate level, to make duplicate submissions of a single work for credit in multiple classes, unless specifically requested by the instructor. Work submitted at the graduate level is

expected to demonstrate higher-order thinking skills and be of significantly higher quality than work produced at the undergraduate level.

Writing Standards: All written assignment will be written in a format aligned with the *American Psychological Association (APA) Manual for Publication*, 6th or 7th edition. APA style will always be used for punctuation, writing style, headings, and citations. Exceptions to APA formatting will be specified when appropriate. For the two writings in this course, the exceptions and expectations are:

- Name (First Last) will be a flush right header and Assignment Name will be a flush right footer. I do not want a “running head” in the top left. Page numbers are optional. The precludes the need for a cover page or a “heading” on the first page in the body of the paper.
- 1” Margins for Top, Bottom, Left, and Right
- Times New Roman, 12 Point
- Single-Space all paragraphs with double space between paragraphs, topic headings (in the body), tables, and figures

A tutorial on scientific writing, including the use of APA format is available from the Online Writing Lab at Purdue University (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>). Personal face-to-face assistance with editing and format suggestions is available from the A&M Commerce on-campus Writing Center

Interaction with Instructor Statement: E-mail will serve as the primary method for out-of-class communication between the instructor and students. Therefore, students should check their university (myLeo) or other preferred e-mail account at least once daily. The instructor will attempt to answer each student-generated message within 48 hours of dispatch.

University Specific Procedures and Language

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Citizenship

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

Counseling Availability

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.
