



A&M-COMMERCE

AMC 315- Agri Systems Technology Management
CRN 80845 Lecture
CRN 80729 Lab (Monday)
Fall 2024 (3 hrs.)

Instructor

Whitney Figland, Ph.D - Assistant Professor
Office Location: AGET 153
Email: Whitney.Figland@tamuc.edu

Office Hours

My door is always open if I am here, please come in anytime. If I am not here or you would like to schedule an appointment, please send me an email.

Course Meeting Times & Location

Mon, 11:00 am – 12:40 pm, AGET 255
Mon, 1:00 pm – 2:50 pm, AGET 149 Lab

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description

Agricultural Systems and Technology Management. Preliminary study to acquaint student professionals with the principles and theories needed to comprehend and manage agricultural and environmental technology; introduce the application of information technology to agricultural and environment systems; develop mathematical concepts and unit analysis skills associated with machinery and equipment, industry and marketing, energy, structural and environmental and natural resource systems. Focus shall be on basic knowledge rather than on in-depth analysis of the systems covered.

Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to give students a working knowledge of basic agricultural mechanics concepts and skills. Upon completion of this course students should be able to demonstrate the following basic skills and concepts either in industry settings or the secondary agricultural education classroom:

- Display proper safety procedures in the agricultural mechanics laboratory
- Identify and demonstrate proper use of hand tools and power tools
- Demonstrate basic wood working skills
- Select and apply paint to materials
- Explain electrical theory and wire basic A/C circuits
- Demonstrate basic plumbing skills
- Display a basic understanding of project planning and design
- Properly identify and selection fasteners for agricultural projects
- Frame and finish agricultural structures
 - Research, outline, and present a demonstration on an assigned Agri System Technology topic

Course Textbook (Required)

Herren, R.V. (2015). *Agricultural Mechanics Fundamentals and Applications*. CENGAGE Learning. (ISBN: 978-1-285-05895-5)



Required Materials

- Supplemental reading material will be available online via the course website.
- Students must acquire and maintain an active Leo account.
- Safety Glasses (ANSI Z87.1+) and appropriate protective clothing.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

• To fully participate in TAMUC courses, you will need to use a current Flash enabled browser. For PC users, the suggested browser is Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox. For Mac users, the most current update of Firefox is suggested.

• You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:

o 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred

o Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive

o Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

• Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: JAVA web site

<http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

• You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:

o Adobe Reader <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>

o Adobe Flash Player (version 17 or later) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>

o Adobe Shockwave Player <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>

• At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Note: Personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, an Internet cafe, or a bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, etc.

Software: For this course, I will utilize windows software to access all assignments and documents. If you are utilizing any other software, you will be required to convert your documents for compatibility. For Microsoft software, you have the option to utilize google docs. For additional information and help



in converting files contact the help desk. If I cannot open a file I will email the student and provide a 48-hour deadline to resubmit the document in a compatible format. **After 48 hours, a zero** will be awarded if it is not submitted.

myLeo Support

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at myLeo. <https://leo.tamuc.edu>

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor

The following is the list of communication methods used in this class and their purposes. These include student-instructor, instructor-student and student-student communication. You will be expected to check your university email account and log onto myLEO Online at least once every 24 hours Monday-Friday to keep abreast of the latest class announcements.

• **Email** will be used by me to communicate to the entire class general information about upcoming assignments, due dates, and any changes in the schedule or syllabus that might occur.

I will also email students individually with occasional feedback from assignments and on the class as a whole.

Students can use email to ask me any questions about (i) course logistics (upcoming assignments, due dates...) (ii) the way specific assignments were graded and feedback given (iii) constructive feedback to me about how the course is going and any problems/concerns with the course structure (and even things that work particularly well!)

In emails, please put “**AMC 315 Agri Systems Mgt**” in the subject header. I will reply to emails within 24 hours (48 hours during weekends and holidays).

I will always send emails to your official University Email address as given through MyLeo. It will be your responsibility to check your university email regularly.

Course Specific Procedures

General Policies

- The use of any tobacco products is strictly prohibited in all classrooms and laboratories.
- Please suspend the use of all electronic devices during lecture other than for notetaking.
- No late work will be accepted in this course without pre-approval from the instructor.
- All assigned reading should be completed before the corresponding lecture time.

Attendance

Due to the hands-on nature of this course, lecture and laboratory attendance is strongly encourage Attendance will be taken during each lecture and laboratory session. University excused absences will be honored when appropriate written documentation is provided, otherwise the absence will be considered unexcused. Makeup work and labs may be arranged with the instructor prior to excused absences. Students may not make up work or labs missed from unexcused absences.



Laboratory Dress Code and Safety

- Safety glasses are required to be worn at all times in the laboratory.
- Each student should purchase their own pair.
- Proper clothes should be worn while working in the lab.
- Closed toed shoes are required (work boots recommended).
- Ear plugs should be worn when in the presence of load machinery.
- Students ***not working*** in a safe manner will be required to leave the shop.

Interaction with Instructor

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.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

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/>

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

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.



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>

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.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus during the semester, if needed. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance. The instructor also reserves the right to extend credit for alternative assignments, projects, or presentations.

Grading Scale

Total Points	Letter Grade
972 – 1080	A
864 – 971	B
756 – 863	C
648 – 755	D
647 or less	F



Lecture		Total Points
Ag Safety Project		50
Competency exams for each major area	Module 1: Safety Module 2: Hand & Power Tools Module 3: Ag Structures Module 4: Irrigation & Concrete Module 5: Electrical	250
Extra Credit	*Possible project	TBD
Labs		
Skill or demonstration proficiency rubric	20 points each x 15 Lab 1 – Lab Safety and Hand tool id Lab 2 – No Class (Labor Day) Lab 3 - Measurement and Power Tools Lab 4 - Project Planning and Design Lab 5 – Lumber Selection & Defects Lab 6 – Abrasives, stains, paints, & sealers Lab 7 – Framing Structures/Engineered Lab 8– Fasteners/Finish Project Lab 9 – TBD Lab 10 – Irrigation/Plumbing & Concrete Lab 11 – Irrigation/Plumbing & Concrete Lab 12– Electrical circuits/diagrams Lab 13– Wiring Lab 14 – No class Lab 15– Review, Clean-up, & Lab Final Lab Demonstration	300
Performance		
Attendance & Punctuality	10X day/class; 28 classes	280
Final Exam		200
		1080 Total Points



Course Schedule

Week	Lecture Topic	Lab Activity	Reading
1. 8/26	Module 1: Safety *Complete safety exam	Safety Demonstration Project	Unit 4-6
2. 09/02	Labor Day No Class	No Lab/Monday	
3. 09/09	Module 2: Hand & Power Tools	Tool Usage/ID	Unit 7 &14
4. 09/16	Module 3: Ag Structures	Wood Working	Unit 18-20
5. 09/23	Wood Working	Wood Working	Unit 9
6. 09/30	Wood Working	Wood Working	Unit 11
7. 10/07	Wood Working	Wood Working	Unit 10
8. 10/14	Wood Working	Wood Working Final	
9. 10/21	TAMUC FFA Invitational LDEs #1 (Tentative)	No Class or Lab on Monday/Help with LDEs	
10. 10/28	Module 4: Irrigation/Plumbing & Concrete	Irrigation/Plumbing & Concrete	Unit 37 & 38
11. 11/4	Irrigation/Plumbing & Concrete	Irrigation/Plumbing & Concrete	Unit 40
12. 11/11	Module 5: Electrical	Electrical	Unit 33,34,36
13. 11/18	Electrical	Electrical	
14. 11/25	No Class	No Class	
15. 12/2	Course Wrap up/Make ups	Lab Final	
16. 12/11	Final Exam 10:30 – 12:30		

*Schedule is tentative and may be changed by the instructor at any time.

**All readings from the textbook should be completed before the corresponding lecture.