



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
**COMMERCE**

AMC 424  
Agricultural Safety

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Instructor:** Whitney Figland, Ph.D. - Assistant Professor

**Office Location:** AGET 153

**Office Phone:** 903-886-5379

**Email Address:** [Whitney.Figland@tamuc.edu](mailto: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 INFORMATION**

**Course Description:** Principles and strategies for implementing safety training and reducing risk of injuries in agricultural enterprises including shop and machinery operations, chemical applications, livestock handling, transportation, and farm-based recreation.

**Scheduled Meeting Times:** Virtual Course; Self-Paced

**Textbook (Required):** No specific textbook is required; readings and materials are all found on D2L. Some modules may have more readings, Power Points, discussions, or projects required to complete.

**Course Objectives:**

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

1. Recognize potential hazards in farm, ranch, and agricultural education workplaces.
2. Interpret historical trends, recommended guidelines, and laws related to agricultural safety.
3. Conduct a safety inspection of power tools, equipment, and/or machinery.
4. Conduct a safety inspection and audit of a farm shop, livestock facility, and/or greenhouse.
6. Apply basic first aid and emergency response techniques.
7. Interpret OSHA regulations and NIOSH guidelines for safety of farm workers.
8. Interpret Operator's Manuals and other technical publications related to maintenance/operation.
9. Discuss social and economical implications related to accidents and injury of farm workers.
10. Discuss/recognize appropriate handling and restraint techniques when working with livestock.
11. Identify/demonstrate/describe safe procedures related to Pesticides and other hazardous materials.
12. Prepare machinery/implements for road travel and/or transport.
13. Identify, select, and demonstrate safe use of common farm hand tools and power tools.
14. Demonstrate appropriate behavior and cleanup for the agricultural workplace.
15. Conduct basic training exercises for agricultural employees/youth/student

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS and ASSESSMENT

**Assignment #1 – Safety Audit:** Select a farm or agribusiness to inspect. Select one of the safety audit or inspection forms provided in the Lecture for Module 1. Use the form to assess the conditions of facilities, equipment, machinery, tools, etc. as well as if safety practices are followed when items are used. The "checklist" approach will be used to collect the raw data from your assessment. You should then summarize the findings to a one-page report that includes the address, contact person(s), and phone number or e-mail address of the owner or manager.

**Assignment #2 – Animal Facilities Safety Review:** Your assignment is to visit an establishment that visitors (without prior safety training) would attend. Examples of such items would be Equine Riding Facilities, Livestock Auctions, Flea Markets, Ranches open to the public, or County Fair/Stock Shows. If you are unsure of your facility of choice, please email me for clarification.

While visiting this facility take note of safety pre-cautions they have established. However, I also want you to think of other ways that this facility could improve safety for visitors. If you were the manager of this facility, would you consider it up to par? Picture documentation of things they are doing correctly or incorrectly would be beneficial to include in the report.

**Assignment #3 – MSDS Readings:** Access the form below and answer questions regarding a pesticide used at work or at home. If you do not use pesticides at work or at home, visit a local nursery, garden center or farm supply store and obtain the necessary information from a pesticide in the store.

**Assignment #4 – Grain Bin Advocacy:** *Grain bin safety awareness has been a growing concern in the farming communities. For this assignment, use the information provided in the module to create a series of safety posters or brochures that could be used to advocate grain bin literacy to the public. You should have at least 2 posters to highlight necessary information.*

**Assignment #5 – Hunter or Boater Safety:** *Use the links provided in the lecture to review the online hunter education and boater safety modules. Complete the series of tests or quizzes for the hunter or boater safety program. Cut and paste your score report(s) from the tests into a PDF or screen shot and submit to assignment folder.* It is my understanding that you can complete the hunter education course without paying for it. You only pay if you need the certificate. You do have to pay for the boater education training, which includes personal watercraft such as jet skis. If you do not need the boater education course, choose hunter education, since it won't cost anything. If you already have a valid hunter education or boater education certificate from TWPD, you may upload a copy for this assignment.

**Final Exam:** TBD

---

## Assessment and Grade Determination

### Grading Scale

%	Letter Grade
90 - 100	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
59 <	F

### Course Schedule

Module	Lecture Topic	Activity	Reading
1	Overview/expectations; Workplace Safety & Hazards	Discussion	D2L materials
2	Safety Audit Inspections	Discussion/Assignment #1	D2L materials
3	Animal Safety	Discussion/Assignment #2	D2L materials
4	Pesticides and Chemical Applications Safety	Discussion/Assignment #3	D2L materials
5	Situational Safety for Bins, Silos, and Pits	Assignment #4	D2L materials
6	Recreational Safety	Discussion/Assignment #5	D2L materials
	Final Exam	Safety Project	

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Procedures:

**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 (7<sup>th</sup> 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*, 7<sup>th</sup> 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. This 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](mailto: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>

### ***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.

### ***Use of AI Aids***

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

### ***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.