**East Texas A&M University**

**AG 400-01W – Seminar (CRN 80630)**
**COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2025**

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Lydia Carrascosa, MAg, MS
Office Location: BA 102B and Online
Office Hours: Email, Phone, Virtual and Office by Appointment
Office Phone: (903) 886.5314
University Email Address: Lydia.Carrascosa@etamu.edu

*The best way to contact me is via email. AG 400 is an online course; therefore, expect most communication to be online as well. All emails must include "AG 400" in the subject line and include your full name and campus-wide ID number. I will only correspond with students via official university email (your myLeo email) and will issue all course announcements in D2L. If you wish to make a virtual or office appointment, email me to schedule.*

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Textbook Required**

No textbook required.
Software Required: Microsoft Office Suite (Word and PowerPoint) and Zoom access.

**Supplemental Materials**

Links and files for supplemental materials will be provided in D2L throughout the semester.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Techniques involved in presenting scientific and technical oral reports. Oral presentations required. Prerequisite: Senior standing.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Completion of this course provides the student with the knowledge to:

1. Utilize agricultural research and practical publications.
2. Interpret scientific and technical articles and reports.
3. Discuss contemporary issues in the agriculture industry.
4. Develop and deliver oral and poster presentations.
5. Analyze and evaluate presentations of peers.
6. Engage with industry professionals through networking, conferences, and/or other appropriate forums.

# COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**Technical Skills Needed:** Students will need reliable computer and Internet access. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, D2L, and Microsoft Office Suite (Word and PowerPoint). Students will also need to effectively utilize Zoom (or a similar video platform) for recording and posting of some assignments.

**Instructional Methods:** This course is an online course. Students are required to view all information and materials in D2L. All assignments will be listed and provided in D2L.

**Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course:** To be successful in this course, all content and course modules should be read and reviewed. All assignments (both graded and not graded) should be completed. Students must *actively* participate in the course. Please contact the instructor by email for any assistance.

# ASSESSMENT

Grades are based on quality, consistency, and quantity of work submitted. Each assessment represents a point value in the calculation of the final grade. Grading will be evaluated to include participation in the assignment, consideration of content, and proper use of grammar, spelling, punctuation, and organization.

Assessments to determine calculation of final course grades:

| | |
|---|---|
| Research Poster Presentation (individual assignment) | 100 |
| Video Presentation (individual assignment) | 100 |
| Peer Reviews of Research Poster Presentations and Video Presentations (50 points each) | 100 |
| Roundtable Discussion (group assignment) | 100 |
| Networking Event and Paper (individual assignment) | 100 |
| Total | 500 |

**Grading Scale**
Percentage
A = 90%-100% (450 – 500 points)
B = 80%-89% (400 – 449 points)
C = 70%-79% (350 – 399 points)
D = 60%-69% (300 – 349 points)
F = 59% or below (<300 points)

**IMPORTANT:** The following are the <u>**ONLY**</u> acceptable excuses for missed assignments. In order to make-up missed assignments, you must contact me and provide documentation within 24 hours of the assignment due date. *No extra credit will be given under any circumstances*.

1. Participation in a required/authorized university activity
2. Verified illness
3. Death of an immediate family member
4. Obligation at a legal proceeding
5. Official university-wide excused absence (bad weather day, college event such as athletics or CASNR event)

# TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

## LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS).  Below are the technical requirements.

Learning Management System (LMS) Requirements:
View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).

LMS Browser Support:
Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:
Visit the [Virtual Classroom Requirements Webpage](#).

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID number (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at (903) 468-6000 or [helpdesk@etamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@etamu.edu).

*Note: Personal computer and Internet connection 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 computer at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, an East Texas A&M campus open computer lab, etc.*

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor.

### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace (D2L), please contact Brightspace Technical Support at (877) 325-7778. Other support options can be found on the [Brightspace Support Webpage.](#)

### Interaction with Instructor Statement

This is an online course; therefore, expect most communication to be online as well. Correspondence will always be through university email (your myLeo email) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). The instructor will make every effort to respond to emails within 24 hours provided the correspondence follows the requirements listed below. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

**All emails from students should include:**
- **Course name and subject in the subject line**
- **Salutation**
- **Proper email etiquette (no "text" emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)**
- **Student name and CWID after the body of the email**

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Procedures/Policies

In this class, you will be expected to interact with your classmates collegially and professionally on topics that may sometimes be difficult or controversial to discuss. Participation and interaction in online discussions and/or other virtual instructional activities should follow the basic principles of common courtesy and decency. Rude

or profane comments, as well as academic dishonesty in any form, will not be tolerated. Failure to comply with the instructor's guidelines may result in suspension from the class for the remainder of the semester.

## Syllabus Change Policy

*NOTE: The syllabus is a guide and is subject to change due to circumstances and events. Any changes to the syllabus and/or assignments will be announced in advance in D2L and via email.*

## Student Conduct

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 and Student Guide Book is located here.

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette Webpage for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

## Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the Attendance Webpage.

## Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work.  For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty Policy
Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

## Artificial Intelligence

East Texas A&M University acknowledges there are legitimate uses of artificial intelligence, chatbots, or other software which 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 AI 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 instructor's guidelines. If no instructions are provided, the student should assume 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 AI in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

## 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 reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Student Disability Services**

East Texas A&M University
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu
Website: Student Disability Services

## Nondiscrimination Notice

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

## Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M 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.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at (903) 886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## COUNSELING SERVICES

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, 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 the Counseling Center webpage.