



# Introduction to Agriculture

Mrs. Bontrager

2016 – 2017



Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9

Elective/Required: Elective

Course Description: Ag I includes the study of a wide range of agriculture areas and careers. Basic areas of study include careers in agriculture, Future Farmers of America (FFA), Plant Science, Animal Science, Agriculture Business and Agriculture Mechanics. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in hands on learning as it relates to skills used in agriculture. Practical application of skills will take place at the High School Farm.

Course Outline: The following is a list of topics that will be covered in Introduction to Agriculture Science 1 course:

- I. Basic Animal Science
- II. California Agriculture
- III. Basic Plant Science
- IV. Agriculture Careers
- V. FFA Leadership
- VI. FFA Record Book
- VII. SAE (Supervised Agriculture Experience)
- VIII. Parliamentary Procedure

Grading: Grading of this course will be based on the following percentage scale:

90 – 100%	A
80 – 89%	B
70 – 79%	C
60 – 69%	D
59% or below	F

\*Plus or minus grades may be used on borderline situations.

Student's grades will be determined by using the following weighted scale:

30%	Assignments, Homework, Class work, SOD, Etc.
30%	Tests/Exam and Quizzes
20%	Labs
10%	FFA (Must attend <b>5 activities</b> for full credit)
5%	Record Book & SAE Project
5%	Participation, Work Ethics, & Attitude

I have read the syllabus provided and understand what is expected of me/ my child in this class:

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**Introduction to Agriculture  
Classroom Polices & Procedures  
Mrs. Bontrager  
2016-2017**



### **A. Class Rules**

1. **Family First**- In the classroom we are family!
2. **Respect**-
3. **Leave the Food at Home**- Students may not eat or drink in the classroom. This includes gum, candy and even water.
4. **No Hats** - I do not allow hats (of any kind) to be worn during class time. You may wear it into & out of class only.
5. **NO Cell Phones** – I do not allow cell phones in my classroom. If it is out, I will collect it and turn into the office and student will receive a Step.

### **B. Make-Up Tests**

I do not have set days or times for make-up tests or labs. Ag teachers have many different activities or functions going on all the time that students will need to arrange a time with me to schedule a make-up time.

### **Class Procedures**

#### **A. Most Common Procedures**

##### **Entering the Classroom & Arriving Late**

When you enter the classroom no screaming, running or causing a ruckus. Students who do not do this will be asked to leave the room and reenter as expected. You should also check the side whiteboard for the day's agenda. You can also use this time to briefly speak with me or make an appointment to make-up a test or get extra help. When you enter the room late (with or without a pass) you need not disturb the class. You will come in quietly, sit at your seat and raise your hand when it is an appropriate time to get back on track with the rest of the class.

##### **Leaving the Classroom**

- YOU are NOT cattle do not herd the door!
- The bell does not dismiss the class, I do.
- Do not pack up until I dismiss the class.
- Do not leave your seats until I dismiss the class.
- People who pack fast shall leave last.
- I will keep you in if you disobey the above (if you are late to your next class, break, lunch, bus, etc. that is your problem not mine)

##### **Stumper of the Day (SOD)**

Everyday will begin with the SOD. You will find the SOD displayed on the front white board when you arrive each day. The SOD should be started *before* the bell rings, immediately upon entering the classroom. The SOD will be a collection of questions reviewing current/past material or introducing new material. SOD is required and will be collected weekly for a grade. Those who refuse to do SOD or do not begin when entering the class will lose points. If you miss a SOD you must find an Ag related article and write a summary for that day's SOD in order to receive full points.

##### **Turing-In/Passing Back Assignments**

In the PINK file box, there will be two folders per class period. One folder will be the IN-folder where assignments are turned in and the second will be the OUT-folder where assignments are returned to students. Remember late work will not be accepted. **All assignments must be properly labeled with: Student Name; Date; Period.** This

should be placed in the upper right-hand corner of each assignment. Also, the title of each assignment should be placed on the top line and centered on the paper when needed.

**Discipline**

You will receive one warning if you choose to behave inappropriately. Further insubordination will be dealt with using the Dinuba High School Referral system and Step system.

**Using the Bathroom**

Each student will be given two bathroom passes at the beginning of the semester. It will be the responsibility of the student to retain (keep) this pass all semester long. If the student loses his/her pass it will not be replaced. Each student will have two passes only. Once, the passes have been used using the restroom will need to be done at brunch, lunch or during passing periods. Any unused passes may be redeemed at the end of the semester of extra credit points!

**FFA/SAE Participation**

Each student is required to participate in **5 FFA activities per semester**. FFA participation will count for 10% of your class grade. Each student will be required to have a Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) project such as raising an animal, growing crops, or work experience. We will cover a unit on appropriate SAE projects. SAE projects will count as 10% of your grade.

**Record Books**

Each student will be required to keep a California Agricultural Record Book. The record book will be provided to you during the semester. Your record book must be kept neat, and up to date at all times. Periodically your record book will be checked for completeness.

**Instructor Note:** All policies/procedures may be changed or new ones added by the instructor. All procedures will be thoroughly rehearsed as a class.

I have read the syllabus provided and understand what is expected of me/ my child in class:

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

