

SYLLABUS
INTRODUCTION TO AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Credit: 2-3 semester hours – No Prerequisite

Course Description:

IAI description: AG 911: *Introduction to Agricultural Education* (2-3 semester hours)

An introduction to Agricultural Education programs and delivery systems, state and federal policies; the nature of teaching in school and non-school settings; types and purposes of Agricultural Education; program components; approaches to teaching, teacher characteristics; community relationships; educational change and innovation; trends and developments in Agricultural Education. A general study of the nature of Agricultural Education along with its opportunities and responsibilities will be explored.

Recommended Text: *(see Suggested References)*

Objectives: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Define and describe the scope and nature of agricultural education.
2. Discuss professionalism, including licensure and certifications, for a career in agricultural education.
3. Identify and describe the school-based agricultural education organizational structure in Illinois and how it fits in with general education at the local and state levels.
4. Identify and describe career opportunities in agricultural education.
5. Explain the philosophical basis for agricultural education.
6. Identify major historical events and key influential individuals that have shaped agricultural education from its inception to present day.
7. Describe the nature, role, and components of agricultural education programs in formal, non-formal, and informal settings.
8. Describe the principles of learning to establish a basic understanding of how humans process information.
9. State the characteristics of effective agricultural educators and their programs.
10. Create an effective instructional plan and successfully implement the plan during a micro-teaching.

Topic Schedule:

I. Introduction to Agricultural Education 6-9 sessions

(Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4)

- A. What is Agricultural Education?
 - 1. Definition of Agricultural Education
 - 2. Scope and Nature of Agricultural Education
- B. Professionalism in Agricultural Education
 - 1. Teacher Licensure and Certifications
 - 2. Professional Organizations
- C. Organizational Structure of Agricultural Education
 - 1. How Ag Education fits into General Education/Career & Technical Education
 - 2. Ag Education Partners- ISBE, IAVAT, FFA, FCAE, ILCAE, ICAE, etc.
- D. Career Opportunities in Agricultural Education

II. Philosophical Foundations and History of Agricultural Education 4-6 sessions

(Objectives 5, 6)

- A. Philosophies and education theories influencing agricultural education
- B. Developing a Teaching Philosophy
- C. History of Agricultural Education
 - 1. Individuals influencing the development of Ag Education
 - 2. Key legislation in CTE/Agricultural Education
 - 3. History of the FFA Organization

III. Educational Types and Programs 5-7 sessions

(Objective 7)

- A. Types of Education (Formal, Non-formal, and Informal)
- B. School-Based Agricultural Education
 - 1. Classroom and Laboratory Instruction
 - 2. FFA Programs
 - 3. Supervised Agricultural Experiences
- C. Cooperative Extension Service/ 4-H Programs
- D. Agricultural Literacy- Ag in the Classroom thru Adult

IV. Teaching and Learning in Agricultural Education

5-7 sessions

(Objectives 8, 9)

- A. Principles of Learning- How People Learn
- B. Domains of Learning & Bloom's Taxonomy
- C. Characteristics and Qualities of Effective Educators
- D. Characteristics and Components of Successful Ag Education Programs

V. The Instructional Planning Process

10-15 sessions

(Objective 10)

- A. The Instructional Process & Lesson Planning
- B. Writing Objectives & Using Educational Standards
- C. Instructional Methods: Teaching Strategies and Engaging Activities
- D. Creating Effective Instructional Aids
- E. Assessing Learning

Suggested Activities:

1. Field trips to local high schools and community colleges & universities
2. Participate or host FFA CDEs and/or judge FFA/SAE award programs
3. Guest Speakers – Examples: Successful Agricultural Education teachers, FCAE staff, FFA alumni, Illinois FFA Center staff, ISBE Ag Ed Consultant, Ag in the Classroom Representative, Cooperative Extension Personnel, EFE Director, or Regional Office of Education Superintendent
4. Develop a lesson plan and teach a lesson/micro-teaching
5. Participate in activities and/or conferences of the IAVAT Student Branch & collegiate agricultural education organizations
6. Job shadowing, clinical experiences, internships, partnership with Ag in the Classroom

Qualifications of Instructors:

The preferred qualifications of the instructor of this course should be:

1. B.S. degree in Agriculture with certification to teach high school Agricultural Education.

2. Three (3) years of experience in teaching high school agriculture.
3. Master's degree in Agriculture with specialized training for teaching.

Suggested References and Supplemental Resources:

Phipps, L. *Handbook on agricultural education in public schools (newest edition)*.

Talbert et al. *Foundations of agricultural education. (newest edition)*.

The Agricultural Education Magazine- <https://www.naae.org/profdevelopment/magazine/>

Official FFA Manual- <https://www.ffa.org/official-manual/>

Ag Teachers Manual- <https://ffa.app.box.com/v/agteachersmanual>

FFA Student Handbook- <https://ffa.app.box.com/v/studenthandbook/file/639012943093>

University Agricultural Education Websites:

Illinois State University- [https://agriculture.illinoisstate.edu/education/;](https://agriculture.illinoisstate.edu/education/)

<https://education.illinoisstate.edu/teacher/>

Southern Illinois University-

<https://coas.siu.edu/academics/bachelors/agsystems/agricultural-education/teachag.html>

University of Illinois- <https://alec.illinois.edu>

Western Illinois University- [http://www.wiu.edu/cbt/agriculture/;](http://www.wiu.edu/cbt/agriculture/)

<http://www.wiu.edu/coehs/teacher/>

Other websites:

www.ilaged.org

<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Agriculture-Education.aspx>

<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Educator-Licensure.aspx>

www.ffa.org

www.naae.org

www.agintheclassroom.org

www.myaert.com

www.teachag.net