Agronomy 105 Crop Production
Spring 2008 Syllabus

Instructor:
Dr. Lori Unruh Snyder
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Office Hours: Thursday, 9:30-10:30am

Teaching Assistants:
Stephanie Rahn
Office: Lilly 2458
E-mail: srahn@purdue.edu
Hours: Tu, 3-5:30pm; Th, 10am-1pm
Ryan Edwards
Office: Lilly 2458
E-mail: redward@purdue.edu
Hours: M and F, 9-11am; Th, 9:30-11:30am

Lecture Room: Lilly 3-418
Lab Room: Lilly 2-407
8:30 to 9:20 AM Tuesday and Thursday
9:30 to 11:20 Tuesday
11:30 to 1:20 Tuesday
1:30 to 3:20 Tuesday

Office Hours:
Office hours are currently on Thursday immediately following class until 10:30 am. The best way to reach me is via e-mail. However, there may be times when your instructor can not comply with the hours posted. It is best that you schedule an appointment ahead of time to ensure that I will be available to help you. If you are unable to meet with me during my office hours, it is required that you make an appointment to meet with me.


Class Website: http://www.agry.purdue.edu/courses/agry105/
From the class website, you can access blackboard, a copy of the syllabus, find the instructor’s and TA’s contact information, study information for crop/weed ID quizzes, and the lab schedule.

Crops Resource Center: Lilly 2-417
The CRC is a great study tool for all students taking this class. Not only is there where the graduate TAs will be during their office hours, but there are several undergraduate teaching assistants who will be available Monday-Thursday from 8am-5pm and on Friday from 8am-3pm. The undergraduate TAs are there to help you and answer any questions you might have about course materials, assignments, labs, etc. Not only that, but there are magazines with current agriculture topics (good for finding a news article), models and diagrams of plants, computers with internet access, posters with information about each week’s lab, study materials for crop/weed ID quizzes, and much, much, more.

“The small landholders are the most precious part of a state. Cultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens. They are the most vigorous, the most independent, the most virtuous, and they are tied to their country, and wedded to its liberty and interests by the most lasting bonds.”

--Thomas Jefferson
Blackboard
Blackboard will be used for posting information related to class and lab on the internet. Not only that, but grades will be updated periodically through blackboard. PLEASE CHECK FREQUENTLY. Blackboard can be found at: http://www.itap.purdue.edu/lt/blackboard/

Class Grades:
Grades in this class are administered on a point-based scale. Once the course is over, each student’s points will be tabulated (both class and lab points) and the total points received will be used to determine the student’s final grade. Student’s can earn points in the following categories:

Class Participation:
For practical purposes, attendance is required, especially on quiz days (which are unannounced) and those days when there is an in-class assignment due (while some in-class assignments are announced in advance, others are not). There will be several in-class assignments administered usually take one of two forms: 1) "What in this lecture/chapter was not clear?" or 2) "Reaction papers" where each student will be asked to react and respond to an issue, as requested by the instructor. Make-ups for in-class assignments will only be administered if the student can provide a valid excuse (i.e. doctor’s note). Information about quizzes is located in a different section of the syllabus.

In addition, each student is required to bring in a news article related to subject material discussed in class. The student will present his/her article at the beginning of lecture. A week prior to the date that you plan on presenting your article, you must provide the professor with a copy of the article. This way the professor can distribute the article to the rest of the class and the students will have a better understanding of your article. Students are encouraged to ask questions about the presenter’s topic/article. To ensure that all students go in a timely fashion, there will be a sign-up sheet with pre-determined days. If you do not present your article on the day that you signed up for, you must wait until everyone else has presented an article (the end of the semester) and hope that there is enough time for you to give your presentation. If not, you will lose these points. However, if the student misses their day due to illness or other unfortunate circumstances, as long as proper documentation (i.e. doctor’s note) can be presented, the student will be allowed to reschedule for a different day.

Homework:
Periodically, students will be assigned homework that is related to topics being discussed in class. Each homework assignment will have a specific due date. If the assignment is turned in late, the student will automatically loose 50% of the total points that they earned on that assignment. There will be no exceptions to this rule; assignments can always be turned in early.

Crop and Weed Identification:
There are two crop and weed identification quizzes for this class. The student must schedule to study for and take both of these quizzes outside of class time. A chart stating what plants will be on each quiz is located in the Crops Resource Center. There will also be ID pre-quizzes that count towards your grade and you must do the pre-quiz before you take the actual quiz. Student’s must sign up and schedule a time to take each quiz. No more than two-three students can take the ID quiz on the same day. Because of this, there are only a limited amount of time slots available (only enough for the students registered) and the sooner you sign up and take the quiz, the better. A grade of “Incomplete” will be given if either of the quizzes is not taken. However, if the student is sick or is unable to show up (i.e. death in the family) on their scheduled day, as long as there is sufficient documentation (i.e. doctor’s note) the student will be able to make up their quiz. Quizzes must be completed by 12 noon on the due date to receive credit.
Quizzes:
There will be six unannounced quizzes worth 15 points each. Quizzes will cover material from lectures, class assignments, and news articles. Students can receive a total of 90 points from quizzes, but only 45 points will go into the student’s raw grade. Once the student has accumulated 45 points, all extra points will go towards extra credit. Because of this, there will be no make-up quizzes offered. If a student misses class on a quiz day, then the student forfeits those points, no exceptions!

Exams:
There will be a mid-term and a final exam in this class. Each exam will be comprehensive and cover material that has been presented up to that point. The mid-term will cover information from the first 8 weeks and the final will cover material from the last 8 weeks. In preparation for each exam, students are encouraged to look over quizzes, class assignments, news articles, and to study the powerpoints from lecture. Students should also be able to explain the concepts of each quiz and assignment question. At least 20% or more of the questions on each exam will be identical or very similar to the subject matter on past quizzes and class assignments. Question formats on each exam will include: true/false, multiple choice, short answer, fill-in-the blank, and matching.

Extra Credit:
Not only can you earn extra credit from quizzes, but you can earn extra credit by identifying the plant of the week (which is located in the CRC). Each week, a new plant will be placed in the CRC for identification. In order to receive full credit, students must fill out and turn in a questionnaire about each plant.

Lab Grade:

Lab Participation:
Students are required to participate in all labs. However, not all the time spent in lab will directly involve the lab designated for that week. For example, some labs will feature a movie, group games, or material reviews. During each of these activities, students will be required to participate in and fill-out and turn in any paper work/assignments associated with those activities.

Homework:
There are several homework assignments distributed throughout the semester. Homework is due by the due date, if not, the student will receive a 50% deduction in the total amount of points they earned from that homework assignment. Homework assignments will be posted on blackboard and available to the student the day they are assigned. Therefore, no make-ups allowed.

Pre-Labs:
For some labs, there will be pre-lab assignments. Pre-labs are designed to familiarize students about the different field trip locations that we will be visiting this semester and the labs that we will be performing. Pre-labs will be handed out in class or posted on blackboard and will be due the following week during lab. Because the student will have an entire week to get and complete the assignment, no make-ups will be allowed.

Quizzes:
Each week, students will be quizzed on the previous week’s lab. This will help to reinforce important topics of each lab. If the student misses a lab quiz, the student forfeits those points. No make-ups allowed.
Exam:
There will be a cumulative lab final at the end of the semester worth 100 points. The lab final consists of a written portion, worth 30 points, and a station section, worth 70 points. The written portion will have questions consisting of, but not limited to: multiple choice, short answer, math problems, and matching. For the station section, different diagrams, models, pictures, tools, and various other things will be set up around the room and the student must go from one station to the next and answer each question.

At any time during lab, if you feel that you do not understand a concept or a procedure, please see one of the lab instructors so that we can clear things up for you. It is important that you do this because homework assignments and lab quizzes will be based off of lab concepts.

Planning to Miss Class?
A letter memo in advance from the faculty member in charge of a field trip or other activity is usually adequate for an excused absence. In the event that an unforeseen event occurs (i.e. illness), a written excuse (i.e. doctor’s note) should be presented to the instructor upon your return to ensure that you have the opportunity to make up missed work. ALWAYS, the student is responsible for getting lecture notes from a classmate or picking up any class handouts from the box in the CRC. If you do not know a friendly classmate, make friends with one that you can count upon to provide you with needed/missed information. Please remember, that if you don’t let the instructor or one of the TAs know what is going on with you, we cannot help you.

Course Policy on Academic Dishonesty
University Policy States: “The commitment of the acts of cheating, lying, stealing and deceit in any of their diverse forms (such as the use of ghost-written papers, the use of substitutes for taking examinations, the use of illegal cribs, plagiarism and coping during examination) is dishonest and must not be tolerated. Moreover, knowingly to aid and abet, directly or indirectly, other parties in committing dishonest acts is in itself dishonest (University Senate Document 72-18, December 15, 1972).”

Academic dishonesty in this course will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty will consist of the following actions:

1. Obtaining or using work other than your own on tests and quizzes.
2. Unauthorized use of study aids, answer or crib sheets.
3. Soliciting or providing answers on tests or quizzes.

Students who violate the above policy can expect disciplinary action. Disciplinary action may consist of receiving a zero on the assignment, failing the course, being reported to the Dean of Students, or other action as deemed appropriate by the course instructor.
Grading Procedure:

Lecture:
Homework 100
Quizzes (3 @ 15pts each) 45
Class Participation 20
In-Class Assignments 20
Exams (2 @ 75pts each) 150
Lecture Total: 335

Crop and Weed Identification:
Pre-Quiz (2 @ 10pts each) 20
Quizzes (2 @ 35pts each) 70
Crop/Weed ID Total: 90

Laboratory:
Pre-Labs 25
Quizzes 120
Homework 60
Lab Participation 20
Laboratory Final 100
Laboratory Total: 325

Lecture, ID, and Lab Total 750

Extra Credit:
Quizzes (3 @ 15pts each) 45
Plant of the Week (14 @ 1pt each) 14
Extra Credit Total: 59

Class and Extra Credit Total: 809

Evaluation & Grading:
The following scale will be used to determine the final letter grade:

750-675 = A (90-100%)
674-600 = B (80-89%)
599-524 = C (70-79%)
523-449 = D (60-69%)
448-000 = F (Below 60%)
# Lecture Topics and Schedule – Spring 2008

**(Tentative Schedule)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 8, 10</td>
<td>Introduction, Society and Agriculture, Agricultural Regions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 15, 17</td>
<td>Trends in US/World Agriculture, Climate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 22, 24</td>
<td>Early Growth and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 29, 31</td>
<td>Structure and Function of Stems and Leaves, Hybrid Selection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 5, 7</td>
<td>Reproduction and Seed Development, Nitrogen Fixation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 12, 14</td>
<td>Roots, Soil Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 19, 21</td>
<td>Integrated Pest Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 26, 28</td>
<td>Weed Control, Tillage and Planting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>EXAM 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 6</td>
<td>Tillage and Planting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11, 12</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18, 20</td>
<td>Precision Agriculture, Harvest and Storage of Grain Crops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 25, 27</td>
<td>Crop Residues, Grain Grading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1, 3</td>
<td>Soils in the field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 8, 10</td>
<td>Soils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15, 17</td>
<td>Soils in the lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 22, 24</td>
<td>Soils</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Exam will be during the week of April 28-May 2.*
# Laboratory Schedule – Spring 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lab Date</th>
<th>Lab Activity</th>
<th>LAB Manual Pages</th>
<th>Quizzes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 8</td>
<td>Introduction, Seed Germination (Ragdoll)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 15</td>
<td>Seed Quality and Seed Certification, <strong>Field Trip</strong></td>
<td>66-72</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 22</td>
<td>Early Growth and Development of Seedlings</td>
<td>14-24</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 29</td>
<td>Structure and Function of Crop Stems and Leaves</td>
<td>38-51</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 5</td>
<td>Reproductive Morphology and Seed Development</td>
<td>53-65</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 12</td>
<td>How Root Systems Affect Crop Production</td>
<td>25-37</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 19</td>
<td>Integrated Pest Management – Insects and Diseases</td>
<td>93-101</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 26</td>
<td>Integrated Pest Management – Weed Control</td>
<td>82-92</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 4</td>
<td>Calibration and Operation of Planting Equipment <strong>Field Trip</strong></td>
<td>102-106</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 11</td>
<td>Spring Break, No Lab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 18</td>
<td>Precision Farming, <strong>Field Trip</strong></td>
<td>107-112</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 25</td>
<td>Estimating Crop Residue Cover</td>
<td>117-121</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grain Harvesting, <strong>Field Trip</strong></td>
<td>113-116</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 1</td>
<td>Post Harvest Management, Grain Grading</td>
<td>73-81</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 8</td>
<td>Examining Soils: In the Field, <strong>Field Trip</strong></td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 15</td>
<td>Examining Soils: In the Laboratory</td>
<td>5-13</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 22</td>
<td>Laboratory Final</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Weed and Crop ID Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weed and Crop ID Deadlines</th>
<th>Group I</th>
<th>Group II</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiz A</td>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>Mar. 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz B</td>
<td>Feb. 25</td>
<td>Apr. 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Agronomy 105 Spring 2008

Name: __________________________________________ Laboratory time:______________

(Last) (First)

Semester Classification: _____ Major_______________ Department _______________

School Address: ________________________________________________________________

School Phone: ______________ E-mail address________________________________________

Major Area of Interest: __________________________________________________________________

Background:

Rural Farm ______ Rural Non-farm _______ Urban _______

Farm acreage owned: [ ] small (0-99 acres) [ ] medium (100-500 acres) [ ] large (>500 acres)

Farm acreage rented: [ ] small (0-99 acres) [ ] medium (100-500 acres) [ ] large (>500 acres)

Home Address ________________________________ Home Phone _________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

Career plans after graduation:

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

Why did you decide to take this course?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

RETURN OF GRADED MATERIALS IN AGRY 105

Please put a check on the proper line and sign your name on the line at the bottom of the page.

_____ I give Dr. Snyder, Mr. Ryan Edwards, and Mrs. Stephanie Rahn permission to return graded
class material, homework, examinations and quizzes by putting them in piles in the front of the room
and by placing them in the box in Lilly 2-417. I understand that these places are open to inspection
by other students and staff.

_____ I decline permission to return my graded materials through the above mentioned methods

Signed _______________________________________________