PLS 420.001 Crop Practicum  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer I 2014

Instructor: Dr. Curtis Jones  
Office Location: Ag/IT Building Room 145  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Office Phone: (903)886-5354  
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials-
Textbook Not Required.

Resources-
Lectures, printed materials, professional growers and extension agents.

Course Description-Hours: 3  
Crop Production Practicum. Three semester hours (1 lecture, 4 lab). Study of crop production practices in this area by actually planting, growing, harvesting, and marketing a crop: (a) Wheat or Oats; (b) Corn; (c) Grain Sorghum; (d) Cotton. A report, including costs and returns, will be due upon completion of the project. Course may be repeated when subject varies, up to a maximum of 9 hours. Prerequisite: PLS 115.

Student Learning Outcomes
By the end of this course, student will be able to:
   1. Create and develop a crop production plan.
   2. Identify, anticipate, track and troubleshoot problems and pests associated with growing a crop.
   3. Plant, grow, and harvest a specific crop using standard production techniques.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Student Responsibility:
1) Submit a schedule of times available to work their farming project and telephone numbers where they can be reached. Students are encouraged to stay in touch with Mr. Stewart about field conditions. The most conscientious students try to be available to work when called.
2) Students will perform routine maintenance check before each use of equipment (check all fluids, air; visual check for loose, missing, or broken parts).
3) Student will prepare field to be planted (this will include both primary and secondary tillage).
4) Student will prepare for planting by loading seed and fertilizer and adjusting planting rates.
5) Student will plant his/her own crop.
6) Student will cultivate and spray crop as needed.
7) Student will scout crop weekly and submit reports to Mr. Swart.
8) Student will harvest his/her own crop.
9) Student will perform maintenance and repairs on equipment, if needed.

GRADING

Grade will be based on level of participation in course. The successful student will complete all aspects of crop production. A paper will be submitted at the conclusion of their project. Students can keep up to $1000 in profits, and CCRI will dispense profit check to student when final paper is submitted and approved. If final report is not submitted within 90 days after harvest, profit will be forfeited.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- MS word
- Email

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Communication with the instructor will be officially through emails, weekly crop meetings and in the field. The successful student will be available to work on crop project when called upon.
COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures
Students will adhere to all safety precautions and practices discussed throughout the crop practicum course. Safety should be a top priority to all individuals involved at all times.

University Specific Procedures

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities
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 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

-Field Preparation
-Planting
-Scouting
-Management
-Harvest