MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
COURSE SYLLABUS OUTLINE

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE
COURSE NUMBER: AGR 181
CREDIT HOURS: 3

I. **TITLE:**
Skill Development in Agriculture Production

II. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**
This course will document that students can demonstrate the competencies and skills necessary for occupations in production agriculture. Emphasis will be placed on the development of scientific knowledge and skills pertaining to management of the land and its effect on food and fiber production. Also included will be knowledge and skills pertaining to livestock identification, selection, nutrition, reproduction and genetics, health management and marketing of one or more species of farm animals. Credit will be by challenge exam only according to university policy and will be granted upon successful completion of the State Agriculture Production Skills Standard test and completion of a Career Major in Horticulture at the Secondary School level.

III. **PURPOSE:**
The purpose of this course is to prepare students for a career within production agriculture. Today’s agricultural field requires many technical skills and this class is designed to insure that students are exposed to a set of skills that have been identified by industry professionals and validated by educational professionals.

IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**
A. Develop scientific knowledge and skills pertaining to management of the land and its effect on food and fiber production, the environment, and the quality of life.
B. Develop knowledge and skills pertaining to livestock identification, selection, nutrition, reproduction and genetics, health management and marketing of one or more species of farm animals.

V. **CONTENT OUTLINE:**
A. Plant Science
   1. Land conservation
   2. Fertilization
   3. Land judging
4. Plant science
5. Crop pest control

B. Animal Science
   1. Animal terminology and identification
   2. Livestock digestion and nutrition
   3. Livestock breeding and reproduction
   4. Livestock health
   5. Judging livestock
   6. Meat identification and selection

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

A. Lectures
B. Laboratories
C. Field Trips
D. Guest Speakers
E. Problem Solving
F. Career Planning

VII. FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:

Various laboratory experiences will be utilized to supplement classroom experience in the agricultural industry.

VIII. RESOURCES:

A. Textbooks
B. Industry Personnel

IX. GRADING PROCEDURES:

Students will receive a grade of CR according to University Policy. See the most current copy of the Murray State University Undergraduate Bulletin for Departmental Challenge Exam Policy.

X. ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Please refer to the most current copy of the Murray State University Undergraduate Bulletin.
XI. **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

(Adopted by the MSU Board of Regents)
Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person’s material as one’s own), or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, term papers, or the presentation on unacknowledged material as if it were the student’s own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the faculty member who teaches the course in which the cheating took place.

NOTE: The School of Agriculture Faculty have adopted and implemented an Academic Honesty Policy in addition to the University Honesty Policy, which can be found in the current *Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin*. The policy sets guidelines regarding acts of dishonesty and the procedure to follow should an event occur. It is each Agriculture student’s responsibility to obtain and read a copy of this document. The School’s Academic Honesty Policy can be obtained by asking for a copy from any Agriculture Faculty member or the Secretary.

XII. **TEXT AND REFERENCES:**


XIII. **PREREQUISITES:**

None.

XIV. **STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:**

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact Sabrina Y. Dial, Director of Equal Opportunity, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318. Telephone: 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).
XV. **MSU SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE CELL PHONE POLICY**

The School of Agriculture recognizes that in today’s world cell phones are a familiar and often necessary form of communication for students.

It shall be the policy of the School that no cell phone usage shall be allowed in class and/or labs without the prior consent of the course instructor. This shall include verbal calling, incoming calls, email, text messaging, and use of cell phone calculators on tests and quizzes.

Cell phones must be kept off and out of sight (i.e. secured to a person’s belt or kept in a bag or purse away from desks and lab counters).

Should a student’s cell phone be visible, ring, or other form of unauthorized usage that is interruptive to the class or lab, the student may be asked to leave class and not return for that class/lab period.

Upon prior consent of the instructor, a student may obtain permission to have their phone on in case of an emergency or in critical family situations.

This policy also includes pagers and other electronic equipment such as blackberries and/or computers/laptops.