I. **TITLE:**

Seed Production and Technology

II. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

Special emphasis is given to the production and processing of seeds; the evaluation and testing for quality; and the study of viability during storage.

III. **PURPOSE:**

To survey the multi-billion dollar seed business.

IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

A. To understand the problems concerned with production, storage and marketing of seeds.
B. To emphasize the quality aspects of seed as an item of commerce.
C. To develop certain basic competencies. Upon completion of the course you should be able to:
   1. Describe the structure and composition of seeds.
   2. Evaluate a sample of farm seed for purity and germination.
   3. Explain the special seed quality test.
   4. Explain the principles of seed cleaning and apply them to different types of seed.
   5. Discuss the several methods of seed processing.
   6. Understand the production and marketing structure for major agricultural seed.
   7. Identify the types of fraud in the seed business.
   8. Apply principles taught to new crops that may emerge within the region.

V. **CONTENT OUTLINE:**

N/A

VI. **INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

Lectures
VII. **FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:**

Field trips to area seed processors

VIII. **RESOURCES:**

A. Textbook  
B. Seed samples  
C. Handouts  
D. Library

IX. **GRADING PROCEDURES:**

Your grade will be determined from the cumulative scores of 3 or 4 one-hour exams and several pop quizzes and a final exam. Grades will be based on a curve at semester’s end. To approximate a grade before that time, you may assume that:

- A = 90 - 100  
- B = 80 - 89  
- C = 70 - 79  
- D = 60 - 69  
- E = Below 60  

Make-up exams will be handled on an individual basis. Reasonable excuses include hospitalization, family crisis or official representation at a university function. Make-up exams will be more difficult to adjust for information transfer that usually takes place after an exam. I will discard your one low score on a pop. If you miss a pop test, that one becomes your low score.

X. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Please refer to the most current copy of the *Murray State University’s Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate 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.

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to make adjustments in this syllabus during the semester.