**Mr. Lawson 9th grade**

**E: Mail**: mlawson@aaechighschools.com **1 credit**

AAEC-Estrella Mountain is an “Early College High School” and does not accept any grade lower than a “C”. This includes grades/credits from any college course. Students who are enrolled in any college class and earn a letter grade lower than a “C” (or withdraw from a college course after the grace period) will not receive credit for the class and will not be allowed to enroll in any extra college classes.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION** This course is designed to introduce students to agriculture and illustrate applied principles of biological systems and how they relate to agriculture. The course is the first of three lab science courses required for graduation. This course will present a broad spectrum of different topics exploring agriculture and agriscience. Topics presented include plant science, animal science, natural resources, biotechnology, FFA/ Leadership and more. Enrollment in an agricultural class such as this one is part of the ‘total program of agricultural education’, which involves **classroom learning**, **FFA** and a **Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)** project.

**TEXT REQUIRED**: Text: No text is required for class; however we will be occasionally using various textbooks and media in class as well as participating in hands on laboratory activities.

**Materials Needed:** Students will need to bring the following materials EVERY DAY:

-3 ring binder with plastic cover

-5 tabbed dividers

-College Ruled notebook paper

-Writing Utensils (pen or pencil)

Throughout the course of this class students will be asked to bring in various supplies from home, it is important to the class that the student participate in this as best as possible in order to provide the full learning experience.

**GRADING SYSTEM**:

Exams/Quizes: 20%

Final: 10%

Class Participation: 10%

Assignments: 15%

Projects: 20%

SAE: 10%

Leadership: 10%

Notebook: 5%

Letter grades will be determined by the following scale:

A = 100-90%

B= 89.99-80%

C= 79.99-70%

F= 69.99% and below

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**:

AAEC-Estrella Mountain students are expected to observe and maintain the highest academic, ethical, and professional standards of conduct. Any student found guilty of academic misconduct shall be subject to disciplinary action. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to the following actions: cheating, academic dishonesty, plagiarism, unauthorized possession of materials, and unauthorized access to academic records. If you are found guilty of academic misconduct you will receive a zero and will not be allowed to makeup or retake the test/assignment.

**PARENT/STUDENT VUE**:

Maintaining good communication between the school and home is important to student success. Therefore, students and parents are encouraged to check the grade book portal available online for information on student grades, attendance, and assignments. Parents may stop by the office to receive their login information/password and get access to the portal. Students will receive their access information during the first few days of school in their classrooms. Additionally, Parent/Student/Teacher/Administrator conferences may be scheduled through the front office. If you are trying to reach me, please email me at*:*  [Mlawson@aaechighschools.com](mailto:Mlawson@aaechighschools.com)

TARDIES:

Being prompt is a key to success in life, work, and school. Students are expected to arrive to every class on time and be ready to work when the tardy bell rings. Students are solely responsible for being on time. Excessive tardies will negatively impact a student’s grade in class. Students who are tardy will sign-in on the classroom tardy sheet and be required to serve 15 minutes after school. Failure to make up tardy time will result in further disciplinary action.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

There is a positive relationship between daily attendance and student success. Therefore, attendance to class every day is expected and required. Whenever possible, please schedule all appointments after the school day. If a student must be absent due to illness or other substantial reasons, the parent must call the office at 623-535-0754. Although the absence may be excused, excessive absences for any reason may negatively impact a student’s standing in the class and may also jeopardize success.

It is the student’s responsibility to contact teachers for any information missed. Students who have missed assignments due to excused absences, need extra help, or have grades lower than a “C” must attend **Academic Tutoring**. Tutoring times will be posted on the board throughout the course of the semester.

**LATE WORK POLICY:**

Generally, **no credit** is awarded for missing an assignment deadline. This includes homework, class work, bell work, projects, quizzes/tests, etc.

**CLASS RULES**:

*Cell Phones*: It is my belief that cell phones, while useful tools in today’s society, are generally a distraction in a classroom setting. It will be required for students to leave their cell phones on their desks in front of them so that I can see them throughout the course of class. During independent work, if given permission by me, the student may use their phone to listen to music, however there are stipulations:

-No listening too loudly

-No sharing headphones

-No distracting other students

-No YouTube

-ABSOLUTELY NO ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION OF ANY KIND INCLUDING

-Texting

-Email

-Phone Calls

-Any form of social media

If any of these rules are broken the cell phone will be confiscated for the rest of the school day and returned to the student at the end of the day. Repeat offenses will face further disciplinary actions.

**CELL PHONES MAY NOT BE USED AT ANY POINT IN CLASS UNLESS PERMISSION IS GIVEN BY MR. LAWSON.**

**AAEC AND ITS TEACHERS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOST, STOLEN, OR DAMAGED ITEMS**

*Consequences for inappropriate behavior*:

1st time- Warning

2nd time- Parent contact

3rd time- Detention

4th time- Removal from class, until a Parent/Teacher/Student/Admin conference is schedules and/or a referral submitted o administration

\***All decisions will be at the discretion of the instructor and are subject to change.**

**AGRICULTURAL COMPONENTS**: This course will include components of all agricultural courses: Agricultural Instruction/Curriculum, Supervised Agriculture Experience, and FFA.

*Agriculture Instruction/ Curriculum*: Grades are not given, they are earned. Grades will be determined by the degree to which objectives are met, success is achieved, timeliness, neatness and original work.

*Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Project*: Students will be required to have an SAE as mandated by the state department of education. This is a project that is done outside of class time. A record book will be used and regularly updated with the SAE and will also be graded. Students must maintain and submit a record book to get full credit. Students will use the website [www.theaet.com](http://www.theaet.com) in order to keep a record of their SAE project. Students will be expected to design and implement a SAE plan. Students will keep an electronic record of this project and are expected to take photos of their project throughout term. This will count as part of the semester’s grade.

*FFA Leadership Grade*: FFA is an intra-curricular part of agricultural education. As such, students will receive leadership points towards class based on their participation in FFA events and activities. Point can be earned by attending FFA meetings and activities, competing on a Career Development Event (CDE) team participation in National FFA week and many other events throughout the year. By being enrolled in an agriculture class you are automatically a member of FFA! Congratulations! “Leadership” points will be given for participating in FFA activities and count towards your grade.

**ASSESSMENTS**:

*Exams*: All exams are cumulative and will be taken during scheduled class time. They may be either in written or practical/skill format. A minimum of one week notice will be given prior to exams.

*Quizzes:* Pop and scheduled quizzes are to be expected.

*Assignments*: Assignments are expected to be completed and turned in on time. Neatness counts! If I cannot read your handwriting you will be asked to either type or re-write the assignment. Unless otherwise stated, all assignments will be done individually.

*Projects*: There will be several projects completed both as a group and individually. They will vary in content and will be discussed further in class.

*Articles*: A large component of agriculture is research. To increase exposure to research, students will be completing several journal article summaries covering various areas related to classroom material.

*Notebook*: Each student will have a binder specifically for this class. Notebook evaluations will be unannounced and sporadic during the semester. Therefore, it is in your best interest to come to class prepared and remain organized on a daily basis. To receive full credit on notebook evaluations students need to do the following;

Binder labeled with name and class on outside

Tabs labeled

-Notes

-Assignments

-Test/Quiz

-Bellwork

All materials need to be organized by date within each tab

No extra paper tucked into pockets

*The instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus as needed.*

This class is designed for student success; do your best!

COURSE SYLLABUS RECEIPT

Please sign the bottom of this page and have the student return it to the teacher.

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ OVER THE COURSE SYLLABUS FOR THIS COURSE.

I UNDERSTAND THE STUDENT’S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES ASSOICATED WITH THE COURSE.

I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS REGARDING THE COURSE GRADE, CONTENT, OR REQUIREMENTS, I CAN CONTACT THE INSTRUCTOR.

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

COURSE NAME/PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Miscellaneous Parental Permission**

*Video Clips*

Occasionally, throughout the school year, I may show movies and video clips that tie in with the curriculum your student is learning. I always preview the movies prior to showing, and I will only show age-appropriate material (G to PG-13 rated). Please indicate consent for your student to watch these movies by signing below. Feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns.

*Website/Newsletter*

We occasionally feature students for their success in agriculture and/or FFA. Accordingly, parental consent for students under the age of 18 is required. By signing below, I grant the agriculture department permission to use my student’s name (first only) and/or picture on the schools website and newsletter.

**Parent/ Guardian Signature**:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date**:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/ Guardian Contact Information and Preferences**

Parent/ Guardian Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Home Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me about my student’s behavior via \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_E-mail