Introduction to Agricultural Science
AGSC 2300

FACULTY INFORMATION

Lead Instructor
Dr. J. Will Dickison
Office: 220 Vincent Building
Office hours: by appointment; door is usually open
Email: jw.dickison@angelo.edu
Phone: (325)942-2027

COURSE INFORMATION

Location:
Vincent Building, Room 263.

Pre-requisites: None

Required & Recommended Textbooks *required for majors of agricultural education


Students graduating from Angelo State University should be able to:

Demonstrate the ability to assess critically claims about social issues, human behavior, and diversity in human experiences.

Demonstrate awareness and knowledge of distinct cultures or sub-cultures — including but not limited to — ethnicity, gender, class, political systems, religions, languages, or human geography.
COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

History and principles of agricultural education, community assessment of agricultural programs, planning, and development of agricultural youth organizations. Fulfills multicultural requirement. Fulfills social and behavioral core requirement.

Learning Outcomes – Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify the historical and philosophical foundations of agricultural education
2. Demonstrate foundations used for successful preparation and presentation of instruction in agricultural education.
3. Apply learning theories and practices in the development of teaching philosophies in instruction for formal and non-formal educational programs.
4. Identify and critique alternative explanations for claims about social issues and human behavior.
5. Identify and appreciate differences and commonalities among cultures.
6. Demonstrate awareness and knowledge of cultural differences within one or more distinctive sub-cultures of the United States.

Course Requirements:
- Written assignments
- Computer access to the Internet
- Successfully complete 2 exams and one final exam
- Complete projects outside of class
- Attend class

SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES

Course Assignments

Assignments are due at the beginning of class. If you miss class for something, you should have your assignment submitted prior to the class start time. Emailed assignments will only be allowed if arranged in advance with the instructor. Late assignments will not be accepted without a prior agreement between the student and the instructor.

Assignments

1. Participation and Professionalism – Attendance is important. However, occasions arise where other activities take priority. If you plan to miss a class, you are expected to contact the instructor prior to class. If the absence is deemed acceptable by the instructor, professionalism points will be awarded if the work is made up. It is the student’s responsibility to request for make-up. Frequent absences will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Assignments due on expected absences are still due on that due date. If not deemed as excusable, an absence will result in a 10% reduction in professionalism.

2. Student Info Sheet – Each student will complete a form with a brief description of themselves. Data will be used to get to know the students and investigate the diversity of our class.

3. Reflective Teaching – After teaching the Clinical Teaching Experience each student will
write a ½ to 1 page paper about his or her own performance during the teaching experience. The reflection paper is due one class session after teaching.

4. **Speaker Reflections** – After each speaker, students will be required to complete a one to two page reflection after each guest speaker. The reflection should not be a summary of the speaker’s presentation; it should be a thoughtful writing about what the student has learned.

5. **Student Exceptionalities Poster & Presentation** – Students will be assigned to a group that will explore the effects of different student exceptionalities and their affect on the classroom. (ex. Learning Disabilities, ADHD, Speech/Language Impairments, Emotional & Behavioral Disorders, Autism, Gifted & Talented, etc.)

6. **Quizzes** – Approximately 11 quizzes based on assigned readings and class discussions will be given throughout the semester. Quizzes will be a great source of information for the exams. Quizzes are scheduled and unscheduled.

7. **Exams** – Two exams will be given during the semester. Exam 2 will be a comprehensive evaluation of your learning, but will focus primarily on the content delivered after the first exam.

**Course Grading Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90.00-100.00</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80.00-89.99</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70.00-79.99</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60.00-69.99</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>less than 60</td>
<td>F</td>
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</table>
**COURSE POLICIES**

**Late Assignments**

Late assignments will not be accepted, and students who turn in late assignments will receive a score of “0” for that assignment. If an emergency arises that will require students to turn an assignment in late, or if a student will be absent for a university-approved function, they will be required to submit documentary proof of the emergency or the university function. If an emergency does arise, students should call the instructor at (325-942-2027), immediately. For absences related to university functions, students must work with instructor at least two weeks in advance to create a plan for completion of missed work.

**Class Attendance**

Class attendance is critical. Each class will include discussion and information that is vital to a student’s success in the course. For that reason, absences are strongly discouraged. Missed assignments will still be considered “on time” as long as they are delivered to your instructor or uploaded to Blackboard on or before the day they are due.

**Absence due to extended illness, injury, or immediate family deaths** - The Center for Campus Life is responsible for notifying the campus community of student illnesses, immediate family deaths and/or student death. Generally, in cases of student illness or immediate family deaths, the notification to the appropriate campus community members occur when a student is absent from class for four (4) consecutive days with appropriate verification. It is always the student’s responsibility for missed class assignments and/or course work during their absence. The student is encouraged to contact the faculty member immediately regarding the absences and to provide

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### COURSE ASSIGNMENTS and EXPECTATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcome Assessed</th>
<th>Points Earned</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation &amp; Professionalism</td>
<td>÷</td>
<td>x 10</td>
<td>=</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Information Sheet</td>
<td>÷</td>
<td>x 5</td>
<td>=</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflective Teaching</td>
<td>2, 3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>=</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student with Exceptionalities Poster &amp; Presentation</td>
<td>3 5 6 7</td>
<td>÷ x 15</td>
<td>=</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker Reflections</td>
<td>6 7</td>
<td>÷ x 10</td>
<td>=</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td>÷ x 10</td>
<td>=</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Portfolio</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</td>
<td>÷ x 10</td>
<td>=</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams (25%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1 – 10%</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</td>
<td>÷ x 10</td>
<td>=</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2 – 15%</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</td>
<td>÷ x 15</td>
<td>=</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
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verification afterwards. The notification from the Center for Campus Life does not excuse a student from class, assignments, and/or any other course requirements. The notification is provided as a courtesy. In case of an illness that will require absence from class for more than one week, the student should notify his or her academic dean who will inform all of the student’s instructors.

Absence due to religious observance - The Angelo State University Catalog states that a student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day will be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

Absence due to officially approved trips – The Angelo State University Catalog states that the person responsible for a student missing class due to a trip should notify the instructors of the departure and return schedule in advance of the trip. The student may not be penalized and is responsible for the material missed.

**Use of Blackboard**

This course, including exams, will be supported by Blackboard. I would suggest you set aside a few minutes each day to log on to Blackboard and check your grades, print assignment guidelines/rubrics, review class PowerPoints. Here’s how you log in:

1. go to [www.blackboard.angelo.edu](http://www.blackboard.angelo.edu)
2. click “Log In To Blackboard”
3. enter your username and password (contact the library to get these if you don’t already have them)
4. click on the name of the course
5. click on the icon representing your need

**Grade Dispute Policy**

At some point in this course, you may disagree with a grade you receive on an assignment. In cases such as this, you should schedule a meeting with your instructor to discuss your concerns. Here are some guidelines to follow in the case of a grade dispute:

- Before scheduling a meeting to discuss your concerns, review the assignment guidelines and grading rubric so that you fully understand the requirements of the assignment.
- If you still have a concern about the grade you received, e-mail your instructor to schedule a meeting. You must do this within seven (7) days of receiving the assignment back. After seven days, no assignment grades will be considered for change.
- Bring your graded assignment to the meeting you schedule.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the
Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services  
Office of Student Affairs  
325-942-2047  
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu  
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

**Incomplete Grade Policy**

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

**Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.
**Title IX at Angelo State University**

The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Boone, J.D.
Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-942-2022
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Quiz</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1     | Introductions and Syllabus  
The Very Beginning | | Information Page |
|       | Turn of the Century/Formal Ag Ed  
Modern Ag Education | | |
| 3     | What is Ag Ed?  
Formal, Non-Formal, In-Formal Ed  
**Speaker 1 – Historical** | | |
| 4     | Introduction to Learning Theory  
Behavioral Learning Theories  
Behavioral Learning Theories | | Speaker Reflection |
| 5     | Social Cognitive Theories  
Cognitive Learning Theories  
Constructivism | | |
| 6     | Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs  
Characteristics of Effective Teachers  
Principles of Teaching and Learning | | |
| 7     | Bloom’s Taxonomy  
Objectives and Lesson plans  
Lesson Plans | | |
| 8     | **Speaker 2 – Extension**  
Student vs. Teacher Centered  
Student vs. Teacher Centered | | Teaching Reflection  
Speaker Reflection  
Quiz |
| 9     | **Exam 1**  
**Speaker 3 – Teacher**  
Professional Portfolios | | Lesson Plan Due  
Speaker Reflection  
Quiz |
| 10    | What is Student Diversity?  
What is School Culture?  
Socioeconomic Status | | Quiz |
| 11    | Socioeconomic Status  
Ethnicities  
**Speaker 4 – Diversity or Minority** | | Quiz |
| 12    | Intrinsic & Extrinsic Motivation  
Gender Stereotypes  
Exceptionalities | | Speaker Reflection |
| 13    | LDE’s and CDE’s in FFA  
**Speaker 5 – Teacher of Special Needs**  
Discussion and review | | Quiz  
Speaker Reflection |
| 14    | **Exam 2**  
Adult Education - a different perspective  
**Last Day of Class --** | | |

*Note.* Calendar is subject to change. Final exam will follow the University Schedule.

[https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/]