



AGRO 1703 – CROP SCIENCE

Instructor: Peter Ampim, Ph.D.

Office Location: Agriculture and Business Bldg. Room 420

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Office hours: Mon: 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm or by appointment

Mode of Instruction: Face to Face

Course Locations: Agriculture and Business Bldg. (Lecture & Laboratory)

Class Days, Times & Rooms:

Day	Schedule Type	Section	Meeting Time	Room
Monday & Wednesday	Lecture	P01	8:00 am – 8:50 am	111
		P02	9:00 am – 9:50 am	221
Wednesday	Laboratory	P81	3:00 pm – 4:50 pm	217
		P82	1:00 pm – 2:50 pm	322

Catalog Description: AGRO 1703 Crop Science: Credit - 3 semester hours. Botanical characteristics of agronomic and horticultural plants; relationship between crops and civilization in both historical and biological terms; nature of crop plants in relation to structure, physiology, environment, growth and development; crop improvement, cropping systems and practices, crop hazards and prevention

Prerequisites: None

Co-requisites: None

Required Text: Introductory Crop Science. 7th Edition. Richard P. Waldren, Pearson Custom Publishing.

Supplemental Text: Plant Science: Growth, Development, and Utilization of Cultivated Plants. 5th Edition. Margaret E. McMahon, Prentice Hall.

SYLLABUS

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:	Program Learning Outcomes # Alignments	Core Curriculum Outcome Alignment
1. Explain the importance of crops to society as sources of food, fiber, fuel and materials for industrial uses	3	Communication
2. Explain terminologies associated with the study of crop science	3	Communication
3. Demonstrate understanding of plant metabolism and growth	1, 2	Critical Thinking
4. Describe how soil properties affect crop production	1, 3	Critical Thinking, Communication
5. Discuss relationships between crops, the environment and cropping systems	1, 2, 3	Critical Thinking, Communication
6. Apply the principles of crop science	1, 2, 3, 4	Critical thinking, communication
7. Operate on a team and provide useful contribution	4	Team work

Major Course Requirements:

Instrument	Value (Point or Percentage)	Total
Three Major Exams	15 (each)	45
Assignment/Quizzes	10	10
Group Project Presentation	10	10
Labs	10	10
Class Participation/Attendance	5	5
Final Exam	20	20
Total:		100

Grading Criteria and Conversions:

Grade	Percentage Point
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

Detailed Description of Major Assignments:

The instruments listed below will be used to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course

Assignment Title or Grade Requirement	Description
Exams	Written tests designed to measure knowledge gained from the course
Exercises	Written assignments designed to supplement and reinforce the course material
Projects	Assignments designed to measure students' ability to apply the knowledge gained in the class
Labs	Exercises designed to reinforced lectures and provide hands-on study of crop science
Class Participation	Daily attendance and participation in class discussions

Course Procedures or Additional Instructor Policies

Taskstream

Taskstream is a tool that Prairie View A&M University uses for assessment purposes. One or more of your assignments may be required for submission as an "artifact," an item of coursework that serves as evidence that course objectives are met. More information will be provided during the semester, but for general information, you can visit Taskstream via the link in eCourses.

Submission of Assignment

Observe deadlines for submitting assignments and projects to avoid a 10% penalty for each.

Formatting Documents

Microsoft Word is the standard word processing tool used at PVAMU. If you're using other word processors, be sure to use the "save as" tool and save the document in either the Microsoft Word, Rich-Text, or plain text format.

Exam Policy

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except under documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).

Anyone caught cheating during an examination will get a **ZERO** for that examination.

Cell Phone Use

The use of cell phones (i.e. placing or receiving calls, texting etc.) **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED** in class. As a result, all cell phones must be silenced and put away upon entering the lecture room.

SEMESTER CALENDER

WEEK 1 (Aug., 26 - 30)

Topic	<i>Introduction to crop science & terminologies</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture Notes
Class Exercise	None

WEEK 2 (Sept., 3 – 6)

Topic	<i>Development of agriculture</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture notes
Class Exercise	Quiz 1

WEEK 3 (Sept., 9 – 13)

Topic	<i>Classification of crop plants</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture notes
Class Exercise	Prep for Exam 1

WEEK 4 (Sept., 16 – 20)

Topic	<i>Classification of crop plants</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture notes
Class Exercise	Exam 1

WEEK 5 (Sept., 23 – 27)

Topic	<i>Seeds and seedlings</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture notes
Class Exercise	Homework Assignment

WEEK 6 (Sept., 30 - Oct., 4)

Topic	<i>Seeding of crops</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture notes
Class Exercise	None

WEEK 7 (Oct., 7 – 11)

Topic	<i>Photosynthesis</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture notes
Class Exercise	Prep for Exam 2

WEEK 8 (Oct., 14 – 18)

Topic	<i>Respiration</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture notes
Class Exercise	Mid-Semester Exam (Exam 2)

WEEK 9 (Oct., 21 -25)

Topic	<i>Crop production systems</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture notes
Class Exercise	Assignment of group project

WEEK 10 (Oct., 28 – Nov., 1)

Topic	<i>Soil and plant nutrition</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture notes
Class Exercises	Quiz 2 and prep for Exam 3

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WEEK 11 (Nov., 4 – 8)

Topic	<i>Soil and plant nutrition</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture Notes
Class Exercise	Exam 3

WEEK 12 (Nov., 11 – 15)

Topic	<i>Crop improvement</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture Notes
Class Exercise	Preparation for group project power point presentation

WEEK 13 (Nov., 18 – 22)

Topic	<i>Environmental factors affecting crops</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture notes
Class Exercise	Group project power point presentation (1 st attempt)

WEEK 14 (Nov., 25 – 27)

Topic	<i>Environmental factors affecting crops</i>
Reading Assignment	Lecture Notes
Class Exercise	Group project power point presentation (Final attempt)

WEEK 15 (Dec., 2 - 6)

Topic	Course Review
Reading Assignment	Lecture notes
Class Exercise	None

WEEK 16 (Dec. 4)

Topic	Final Examinations
Class Exercise	Exam 4

LABORATORY COURSE CONTENT

Part	Topic	Exercises
1	Plant structures and organs	Examine and describe crop and weed seeds Seed planting
2	Plant growth and development	Observe germination and growth stages of corn and soybean Demonstrate the effects of light, temperature and plant nutrition on crop growth Measurement of leaf chlorophyll
3	Agronomic calculations	Seeding rates Fertilizer Pesticide application
4	Plant identification	Grain, forage, oil and protein and specialty crops Weeds

Student Support and Success

John B. Coleman Library

The library and its partners have as their mission to provide resources and instructional material in support of the evolving curriculum, as a partner in Prairie View A&M University's mission of teaching, research, and service and to support the University's core values of access and quality, diversity, leadership, relevance, and social responsibility through emphasis on ten key areas of service. It maintains library collections and access both on campus, online, and through local agreements to further the educational goals of students and faculty. <https://www.pvamu.edu/library/> Phone: 936-261-1500

University Tutoring Center

The Center offers tutoring via peer tutoring. The services include workshops (i.e., Save My Semester, Recalculate Your Route), seminars (i.e., Tools You Can Use: TI-84), group review sessions (i.e., College Algebra Topic Reviews, GRE Preparation), group study opportunities (i.e., TSIA, HESI, Study Break, Exam Cram), and test-taking strategies (How to take Notes, Study Buddy, 5 Day Study Guide). The Learning Curve is a nationally certified tutoring program through the National Tutoring Association. The peer tutors are trained and certified by the coordinator each semester. Location: J.B. Coleman Library Rm. 307. Phone: 936-261-1561

The Student Academic Success Center

The Student Academic Success Center is designed to help Prairie View students in their second year and beyond navigate towards graduation by providing the following services: Academic Advisement, Targeted Tutorials for Personalized Learning, Campus-Wide Referrals, and Academic & Social Workshops. Location: J.B. Coleman Library Rm. 306. Phone: 936-261-1040

Writing Center

The Writing Center provides student consultants on all aspects of the writing process and a variety of writing assignments. Writing Center consultations assist students in such areas as prewriting, brainstorming, audience awareness, organization, research, and citation. Students taking on-line courses or courses at the Northwest Houston Center or College of Nursing may consult remotely or by email. Location: Hilliard Hall Rm. 121. Phone: 936-261-3724

Student Counseling Services

The Student Counseling Services unit offers a range of services and programs to assist students in maximizing their potential for success: short-term individual, couples, and group counseling, as well as crisis intervention, outreach, consultation, and referral services. The staff is licensed by the State of Texas and provides assistance to students who are dealing with academic skills concerns, situational crises, adjustment problems, and emotional difficulties. Information shared with the staff is treated confidentially and in accordance with Texas State Law. Location: Owens-Franklin Health Center Rm. 226. Phone: 936-261-3564

Testing

The Department of Testing administers College Board CLEP examinations, the HESI A2 for pre-nursing majors, LSAT for law school applicants and MPRE for second-year law students, the Experiential Learning Portfolio option, the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment, which determines college readiness in the state, and exam proctoring, among other service such as SAT and ACT for high school students. Phone: 936-261-3627

Office of Disability Services

As a federally-mandated educational support unit, the Office of Disability Services serves as the repository for confidential disability files for faculty, staff, and students. For persons with a disability, the Office develops individualized ADA letters of request for accommodations. Other services include: learning style inventories, awareness workshops, accessibility pathways, webinars, computer laboratory with adapted hard and software, adapted furniture, proctoring of non-standardized test administrations, ASL interpreters, ALDs, digital recorders, livescribe, Kurtzweil, and a comprehensive referral network across campus and the broader community. Location: Evans Hall Rm. 317. Phone: 936-261-3585

Veteran Services

Veterans Services works with student veterans, current military and military dependents to support their transition to the college environment and continued persistence to graduation. The Office coordinates and certifies benefits for both the G.I. Bill and the Texas Hazlewood Act. Location: May Hall Rm. 118. Phone: 936-261-3563

Office for Student Engagement

The Office for Student Engagement delivers comprehensive programs and services designed to meet the co-curricular needs of students. The Office implements inclusive and accessible programs and services that enhance student development through exposure to and participation in diverse and relevant social, cultural, intellectual, recreational, community service, leadership development and campus governance. Location: Memorial Student Center Rm. 221. Phone: 936-261-1340

Career Services

Career Services supports students through professional development, career readiness, and placement and employment assistance. The Office provides one-on-one career coaching, interview preparation, resume and letter writing, and career exploration workshops and seminars. Services are provided for students at the Northwest Houston Center and College of Nursing in the Medical Center twice a month or on a requested basis. Distance Learning students are encouraged to visit the Career Services website for information regarding services provided. Location: Evans Hall Rm. 217. Phone: 936-261-3570

University Rules and Procedures

Disability Statement (Also See Student Handbook):

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 believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in Evans Hall, Room 317, or call 936-261-3585/3.

Academic Misconduct (See Student Handbook):

You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with your Student Handbook, especially the section on academic misconduct. Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures.

Forms of Academic Dishonesty:

1. Cheating: deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not mastered; giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations.
2. Academic misconduct: tampering with grades or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of a scheduled test.
3. Fabrication: use of invented information or falsified research.
4. Plagiarism: unacknowledged quotation and/or paraphrase of someone else's words, ideas, or data as one's own in work submitted for credit. Failure to identify information or essays from the Internet and submitting them as one's own work also constitutes plagiarism.

Nonacademic Misconduct (See Student Handbook)

The university respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either (1) the instructor's ability to conduct the class, (2) the inability of other students to profit from the instructional program, or (3) campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Such incidents will be adjudicated by the Dean of Students under nonacademic procedures.

Sexual Misconduct (See Student Handbook):

Sexual harassment of students and employers at Prairie View A&M University is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the university community violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

SYLLABUS

Title IX Statement

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) is committed to supporting students and complying with the Texas A&M University System non-discrimination policy. It seeks to establish an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you experience an incident of sex- or gender-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, sexual assault or attempted sexual assault, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, the faculty member must report the basic facts of your experience to Ms. Alexia Taylor, PVAMU's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you privacy or confidentiality, there are individuals who can meet with you. The Title IX Coordinator is designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies and can assist you with understanding your options and connect you with on- and off-campus resources. The Title IX Coordinator can be reached by phone at 936-261-2123 or in Suite 013 in the A.I. Thomas Administration Building.

Class Attendance Policy (See Catalog for Full Attendance Policy)

Prairie View A&M University requires regular class attendance. Attending all classes supports full academic development of each learner whether classes are taught with the instructor physically present or via distance learning technologies such as interactive video and/or internet.

Excessive absenteeism may result in a student's course grade being reduced or in assignment of a grade of "F". Absences are accumulated beginning with the first day of class during regular semesters and summer terms.

Student Academic Appeals Process

Authority and responsibility for assigning grades to students rests with the faculty. However, in those instances where students believe that miscommunication, errors, or unfairness of any kind may have adversely affected the instructor's assessment of their academic performance, the student has a right to appeal by the procedure listed in the Catalog and by doing so within thirty days of receiving the grade or experiencing any other problematic academic event that prompted the complaint.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Minimum Recommended Hardware and Software:

- Intel PC or Laptop with Windows 7; Mac with OS X; Smartphone or iPad/Tablet with Wi-Fi
- High speed Internet access
- 8 GB Memory
- Hard drive with 320 GB storage space
- 15" monitor, 800x600, color or 16 bit
- Sound card w/speakers
- Microphone and recording software
- Keyboard & mouse
- Most current version of Google Chrome or Firefox

Note: Be sure to enable Java & pop-ups in the Web browser preferences

Participants should have a basic proficiency of the following computer skills:

- Sending and receiving email
- A working knowledge of the Internet
- Proficiency in Microsoft Word (or a program convertible to Word)
- Proficiency in the Acrobat PDF Reader
- Basic knowledge of Windows or Mac O.S.

Netiquette (online etiquette):

Students are expected to participate in all discussions and virtual classroom chats as directed. Students are to be respectful and courteous to others on discussions boards. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated.

Technical Support:

Students should go to <https://mypassword.pvamu.edu/> if they have password issues. The page will provide instructions for resetting passwords along with whom to contact if login issues persist. For other technical questions regarding eCourses, call the Center for Instructional Innovation and Technology Services at 936-261-3283

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Communication Expectations and Standards:

Emails or discussion postings will receive a response from the instructor, usually in less than 48 hours. Urgent emails should be marked as such. Check regularly for responses.

Discussion Requirement:

Online courses often require minimal to no face-to-face meetings. However, conversations about the readings, lectures, materials, and other aspects of the course can take place in a seminar fashion. This will be accomplished by the use of the discussion board. The exact use of discussion will be determined by the instructor.

It is strongly suggested that students type their discussion postings in a word processing application and save it to their PC or a removable drive before posting to the discussion board. This is important for two reasons: 1) If for some reason your discussion responses are lost in your online course, you will have another copy; 2) Grammatical errors can be greatly minimized by the use of the spell-and-grammar check functions in word processing applications. Once the post(s) have been typed and corrected in the word processing application, it/they should be copied and pasted to the discussion board.