



WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**AND**

**INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**Agronomy Lab (Lab), AGRI 1107-075**

**NOTE: This is a 16-week course.**

**NOTE: This is a Face-to-Face course.**

**Vet Tech and Ag Building Rm 108**

**Ronald E. Chmielewski, Instructor**

**Monday 1:00PM-3:55PM**

**Observe all posted speed limits on the Rock Creek Road and at**

**Highlander Ranch**

**Course Description:**

Credit 1

This laboratory-based course accompanies AGRI 1307. Laboratory activities will reinforce the fundamental principles and practices in the development, production, and management of field crops including growth and development, climate, plant requirements, pest management, and production methods.

**Prerequisites and/or Co-requisites:** AGRI 1307 Agronomy (lecture)

**Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations; Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

This course is a presentation of material by the instructor. Students are then required to research information and utilize their own experiences to report on the questions asked/scenarios presented. Skillfully organizing information into clearly written and understandable presentations will be required.

**Instructor Information:** Ronald E. Chmielewski     Adjunct Instructor, Science & Agriculture

Highlander Ranch, Vet Tech and Ag Building, Rm 124. **Office hours:** : *In office or classroom before and after class, or by appointment. I am at Highlander Ranch in my office by 9:00 AM on Monday and Wednesdays, in class on Monday and Wednesdays from 11:10-12:30, and in lab on Monday from 1:00-3:55. Contact me for scheduling a time, using email will be the best way to know when I can meet with you, or call my office number.*

Phone: 254-299-8792   Email: [rchmielewski@mclennan.edu](mailto:rchmielewski@mclennan.edu) :

**USE YOUR MCC EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ALL MESSAGING**

**Required Text & Materials:**

Introduction to Agronomy, Second Edition

**Author:** Craig C. Sheaffer, Kristine M. Moncada

**ISBN:** 978-1-111-31233-6

**Copyright Year:** 2012

**Publisher:** Cengage

[MCC Bookstore Website](#)

Here is a link to the MCC Library: <http://www.mclennan.edu/library/>

This is a good link to get information about resources available for learning.

**Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:**

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who misses 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

I will contact you to discuss attendance issues that may arise.

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](#)

(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

**Course Objectives and/or Competencies:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Apply scientific reasoning to investigate questions and utilize scientific and agronomic tools to collect and analyze data and demonstrate methods.
2. Use critical thinking and scientific problem-solving to make informed decisions.
3. Communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations.
4. Summarize the role of climate and geography in present and past crop production.
5. Explain the growth and development of crops.
6. Analyze the impact of climate on crops.
7. Assess the interactions of soils, water, and fertility on crop production.
8. Contrast methods of pest management in crop production.
9. Differentiate production methods based on geography and crop selection.

**Course Outline or Schedule:**

*Week beginning Monday:*

*Topics / Order of Chapters*

8 January	Introduction to course, procedures and note-taking vocabulary, begin reading. Chapters 1, 2, 3; Food sources, world needs, dietary requirements, country of origin concerns
15 January	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, no class
22 January	Chapters 1, 2, 3
29 January	Farm Equipment and farm safety
5 February	Select a food plant and get all nutritional benefits and use
12 February	Food plant benefits and use
19 February	Plant naming and identification, including seeds
26 February	Plant naming and identification
4 March	Spring Break, no classes
11 March	Soils available for cultivation, quality, topography
18 March	Soils for cultivation
25 March	Soil loss: natural and man-caused
1 April	Cropping systems and sustainability concerns
8 April	Harvesting and storage of crops
15 April	Plant killers (disease, insects and animals, weather)
22 April	How to prevent killing plants
29 April	Final Exam week, no regular class
	There is no final Exam in this course

**Course Grading Information:**

Grading Scale: Letter grades are determined according to the following scale:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = 59 and below

Grades will be determined by the completeness and coherence of the written information which answers the questions or scenario presented by the instructor. Assignments/evaluations (quiz or test) will have a 100-point value.

**Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:**

Late work is accepted for extenuating circumstances. Contact the instructor regarding any absences or late work. *This contact is essential for proper attendance records.*

If an assignment is not completed on the date required, a grade of “70” will be entered into Brightspace. This grade will be adjusted to the earned grade when the assignment is turned in/completed.

**Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the instructor, prompt and regular attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the education opportunity. The MCC *General Conduct Policy* is stated in the [Highlander Guide](#).

**Instructor’s Academic Integrity Statement:**

Plagiarism consists of passing-off as one's own the ideas, words, writings, etc., which belong to another. You are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you have the permission of that other person. Plagiarism destroys trust among research colleagues who have the responsibility of reporting research findings. In the academic setting it is a dishonest way of obtaining a grade. As there are opportunities to obtain grades outside of the classroom, plagiarism *jeopardizes the credit you may receive*. DO YOUR OWN WORK!

10/09/2023



## **ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES**

### **Accommodations/ADA Statement:**

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit [www.mclennan.edu/disability](http://www.mclennan.edu/disability)

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu) (254)299-8122  
Room 319, Student Services Center

### **Title IX:**

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>

Additionally, Title IX provides rights and protections for pregnant and newly parenting students. Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at [www.mclennan.edu/titleix/](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/). It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

**Student Support/Resources:**

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email ([ast@mclennan.edu](mailto:ast@mclennan.edu)) by going to our website (<https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/>)

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact either MCC CREW – Campus Resources Education Web by calling (254) 299-8561 or by emailing [crew@mclennan.edu](mailto:crew@mclennan.edu) or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing [success@mclennan.edu](mailto:success@mclennan.edu).

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to <https://calendly.com/paulannespantry-mcc/15min>.

The CREW, Success Coaches, and Paulanne's Pantry are all located on the second floor of the Student Services building in Success Coaching Services.

**MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:**

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an



emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at [https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency\\_Grant\\_Application.pdf](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf)

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Please view our [Academic integrity statement](#) for more information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

**Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:**

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

**Minimum Technical Skills:**

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

**Backup Plan for Technology:**

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

**Email Policy:**

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to [www.mclennan.edu/studentemail](http://www.mclennan.edu/studentemail).

**Instructional Uses of Email:**

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

**Email on Mobile Devices:**

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email [Helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:Helpdesk@mclennan.edu) for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

**Forwarding Emails:**

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support](#) or email [helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:helpdesk@mclennan.edu).

**Disclaimer:**

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.