

Agriculture in Today's Society 120
AGRI 120
Fall 2024 - Section #21
"Subject to Change"

120 Agriculture in Today's Society. (1) General orientation to modern agriculture. A study of career opportunities in industry, business, production agriculture, teaching, resource management, and environmental control. 1 hr lecture.

Instructors:

Dr. Andy Baker Office: KH 145 Phone: 298-1080
Email: AJ-Baker@wiu.edu Office hours: By appointment

Dr. Keela Trennepohl Office: KH 315 Phone: (805) 440-8421
Email: KM-Trennepohl@wiu.edu Office hours:

Dr. Mark Hoge Office: KH 314 Phone: (309) 255-2735
Email: MD-Hoge@wiu.edu Office hours:

Ms. Ember Keithley Office KH 110 Phone: (309) 298-2100
Email: EL-Keithley@wiu.edu (preferred) Office hours: By appointment

Class Time: Mondays & Wednesdays noon to 12:50 pm KH 152

Course Length: It is an 8-week course (August 19th – October 9th)

Required Text: None

Course Objectives: At the completion of this course, the student will be able to;

1. Understand methods for success, leadership, and educational opportunities at Western Illinois University and the School of Agriculture;
2. Understand career opportunities in the agricultural industry;
3. Understand basic principles and issues within the agricultural industry;
4. Challenge your thinking and take hold of new opportunities.

Important Dates: (Attendance is a must as it will be a course grade)

September 19th: School of Agriculture Alumni Panel (Stipes 121 - 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm)

October 2nd: School of Agriculture Career Fair (Union Grand Ballroom 9:00 am to 1:00 pm)

Attendance: ATTENDANCE IS A MUST!!!!!!! We are professionals! Students must be prepared to interact, analyze, and discuss topics relating to course assignments. Absenteeism will impede your success on course assignments and final grade. The course is centered around classroom assignments, in-class activities, and attendance at scheduled events.

Late assignments will be deducted 5 points a day starting at the end of the class period for which it was due. **Grading Scale (+/-)** is posted in Western on-line. If you miss the scheduled **final exam** (unexcused absence/not informing instructor prior to the exam date), you will be able to take the final, but only 85% of the score will count.

Please turn off or silence cellular phones and no texting during class time or the instructor may ask for it. It to be returned to the student after the class period. If you need to take a call, please leave the room to take the call and return back to class.

Equal Opportunities Statement:

University values, Title IX, and other federal and state laws prohibit sex discrimination, including sexual assault/misconduct, dating/domestic violence, and stalking. If you, or someone you know, has been the victim of any of these offenses, we encourage you to report this to the Title IX Coordinator at 309-298-1977 or anonymously online at: http://www.wiu.edu/equal_opportunity_and_access/report.php. If you disclose an incident to a faculty member, the faculty member must notify the Title IX Coordinator. The complete Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy is available at: <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/dhsm.php>.

Military/Veteran Support Statement:

As a military-friendly institution, and in accordance with federal regulations and Illinois statutes, Western Illinois University has established policies and procedures to accommodate military service students. In addition to the supports available at WIU's Veterans Resource Center (www.wiu.edu/student_success/veterans / 309-298-3505), veterans, members of the National Guard or Reserves, and active-duty military personnel with military obligations (e.g., deployments, trainings, drill) are encouraged to communicate these, in advance whenever possible, to the instructor. The Military Service Policy can be found at <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/military.php>

Student Rights & Responsibilities: <http://www.wiu.edu/provost/students.php>

Disruptive Student Behavior: <http://www.wiu.edu/vpas/policies/disrupst.php>

Disability Resources:

Students with disabilities: In accordance with University values and disability law, students with disabilities may request academic accommodations where there are aspects of a course that result in barriers to inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement. To file an official request for disability-related accommodations, please contact Disability Resources in the Student Development and Success Center at 309-298-1884, disability@wiu.edu, or in 125 Memorial Hall. Please notify the instructor as soon as possible to ensure that this course is accessible to you in a timely manner.

Academic Dishonesty: <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php>

Any violation of the Academic Dishonesty Policy in Student Handbook will result in an automatic failure in the course. Plagiarism and cheating are areas of concern for this course. This course is designed to enhance your writing and presentation skills within your academic area, not the ability to copy other's thoughts and ideas.

Absences: If at any time you have a family emergency, funeral, or just not feeling well, please use the OARS system to report your absence (www.wiu.edu/oars). I will need the email generated from this system prior to class and not after. If I receive the email after class has ended then the late grade policies come into effect.

Attention Education Majors:

The changes within the state teaching license require all education majors to receive a grade of a "C-" or better in this course in order to meet Illinois teaching license requirements. With the university +/- grading system, receiving a "D+" or below will require you to retake this course or find a substitute course to meet School of Agriculture graduation requirements.

Assignments:

Alumni Mentor Program: (60 pts – 20 pts per visit)

Each of you will be assigned a WIU Agriculture mentor for this course, who is a WIU alumnus. You will meet **three times** with your mentor, either in-person or virtually. You will receive points for each session you conduct with your mentor. We will check with your mentor to ensure three meetings did occur.

1st Visit: Ask a set of interview questions to your mentor (These questions and answers will structure your final mentor presentation)

2nd Visit: Have a discussion with your mentor about your educational goals at WIU

3rd Visit: Have a discussion with your mentor on ways and means of achieving these goals.

Resume: (50 pts)

Design and construct an impactful, effective resume. One page in length. Must include: name, email, address, email, phone number, education component, job objective, work experience, skill sets, leadership roles. Upload to Western on-line under assignment (Resume).

Agriculture Alumni Panel: September 19th 3:00 to 4:30 pm Stipes 121 (20 pts)

Make sure you enter your student id # into Leatherneck Link to record your attendance at the event. Listen and learn from our Alumni.

Ag Career Fair Attendance: October 2nd 9 am to 1 pm Grand Ballroom (20 pts)

Make sure you scan the QR code to record your attendance. We will check the attendance record. Make sure you get your free professional headshot as it is being offered for free to you. Take 3 selfies with 3 different vendors that attend the career fair make sure you get the company logo in the picture. Upload to Western on-line under assignment (School of Agriculture Career Fair).

Personality Test (10 pts)

Go to Western on-line and find the Personality Test Module and click on the link and complete the information. Print off a copy of the results, scan it and create pdf, then upload the pdf into Western on-line under the assignment (Personality Test).

Cover Letter: (50 pts)

Design and construct an impactful, effective cover letter. One page in length. Must include your personal information (name, address, email, and phone #), addressee, position applying for, and why you should be hired for the position. Upload to Western on-line under the assignment (Cover Letter).

Final Mentor Presentation: (50 pts)

Design and construct a professional presentation that comprises an overview of the personal interview with your mentor. It can be a Powerpoint, Prezi, Google slides, or Canva presentation. Upload to Western on-line under assignment (Mentor Presentation).

Agriculture Student Club Attendance: (10 pts)

Over the duration of the course (8 weeks), you need to attend at least one student club meeting of your choice. Take a selfie with the club President and a picture of the club meeting to illustrate your attendance. A club agenda would be nice addition. Upload to Western on-line under assignment (Ag Club Attendance).

Attendance: (50 pts)

A seating chart will be used to record daily attendance. Your attendance % will be used for the final point distribution for this grade.

Course Assignments and Point Values

Mentor Visits (60 pts total/20 pts per visit)	60
Alumni Panel Attendance (20 pts)	20
Ag Career Fair Attendance (20 pts)	20
Resume (50 pts)	50
Cover Letter (50 pts)	50
Mentor Presentation (50 pts)	50
Personality Test (10 pts)	10
Attendance (50 pts)	50
Ag Student Club Attendance (10 pts)	10
Total Points	320

Course Schedule/Outline

- August 19:** Course overview (Baker) Trennepohl, Hoge, & Keithley in attendance
Assign: **Personality Quiz & Contacting Mentor to schedule 1st visit**
- August 21:** University Services (Keithley)
Assign:
- Due:** **Personality Quiz (uploaded into Western on-line)**
- August 26:** Mentor Program Do's and Don'ts (Baker)
Assign:
- August 28:** Learning Styles and Preferences (Baker)
Assign:
- September 2:** No Class (Labor Day)
Assign:
- September 4:** Resume Construction (Trennepohl)
Assign:
- September 9:** Cover Letter Construction (Trennepohl)
Assign:
- September 11:** Effective Ways to Interview (Trennepohl)
Assign:
- September 16:** Student Engagement within the School of Agriculture (Hoge)
Assign:
- Due:** **Your resume (submit through Western on-line)**
- September 18:** Student Organizations (Hoge)
Assign:
- September 23:** Student Organizations (Hoge)
Assign:
- Due:** **Your Cover Letter (submit through Western on-line)**
- September 25:** Faculty Research Programs (Hoge)
Assign:
- Due:**
- September 30:** Understanding your WARD report (Keithley)
Assign:
- Due:**
- October 2:** School of Agriculture Career Fair (9:00 am to 1:00 pm Grand Ballroom)
Assign: **You must attend this event today**
Due: **Please record your attendance when you register**
- October 7:** Course Evaluation and Final (Baker)
Assign:
- Due:** **Bring your laptops**
- October 9:** Understanding how to register for next semester (Keithley)
Assign:
- Due:** **Mentor Presentations, Ag Career Fair Attendance, Ag Club attendance (submit through Western on-line)**