

AGRN 377 **- Crop Ecology and Management -**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Win Phippen
310 KH
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CLASS: MTW 1:00-1:50pm, KH 226

CREDITS: 3 hours

OFFICE HOURS: MTWR 11:00-12:00pm or by appointment

TEXTS:

Nafziger, E. (Editor). 2009. Illinois Agronomy Handbook, 24th edition. University of Illinois Extension C1394. Available for download at <http://extension.cropsci.illinois.edu/handbook>
Abendroth, L.J., R.W. Elmore, M.J. Boyer and S.K. Marlay. 2011. Corn Growth and Development. Iowa State University Extension PMR 1009.
Pedersen, P. 2009. Soybean Growth and Development. Iowa State University Extension PM 1945.
Undersander, D., et al. 2011. Alfalfa Management Guide. American Society of Agronomy-Crop Science Society of America-Soil Science Society of America, Madison, WI. Available for download at <https://www.crops.org/files/publications/alfalfa-management-guide.pdf>
Other readings will be made available through Western Online or the Internet.

COURSE OBJECTIVE: The objective of this course is to help the student make decisions involved with crop production. The students will gain invaluable information to all aspects of producing grain and forage crops in response to climate and management of soil and water resources, and crop management practices that maximize productivity and minimize environmental impact.

GRADING: There will be an exam after each section, each worth 100 pts, along with a comprehensive final worth 200 pts. Four quizzes will also be offered during the semester. Students are required to prepare a presentation on a specific crop in front of the class during the last part of the semester (presentation = 100pts). Attendance and participation in class discussions will count for 100 points. Total points possible = 700 points.

Quizzes (4 x 25pts/ea)	100
EXAM I	100
EXAM II	100
FINAL EXAM	200
Student Crop Project	100
Attendance and Participation	100
Total Points	700

880 – 836	A
835 - 792	A-
791 - 766	B+
765 – 722	B
721 - 704	B-
703 - 678	C+
677 - 634	C
633 - 616	C-
615 - 599	D+
598 - 554	D
553-528	D-
< 527	F

COURSE POLICIES

Your enrollment and attendance in this course automatically subject you to course policies that have been established by the University. It is the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to follow the course policies. Brief descriptions of these policies are listed below. The University Handbook will be followed in cases where further clarification is needed. See <http://www.wiu.edu/provost/students.php>

PERSONAL HABITS: Some personal habits are distracting to others in the classroom and are disallowed. They include, but may not be limited to: holding conversations with others during lecture, text messaging, making or receiving phone calls, using personal electronic devices for gaming, using tobacco products, etc. Please respect those around you and limit these practices to personal time. You will be asked to leave the class if these habits are not controlled. See <http://www.wiu.edu/vpas/policies/disruptst.php>.

MAKE-UP EXAMS AND QUIZES: Make-up exams are only available if you are excused due to a university sponsored function (example: required field trip, athletic competition, etc.) or verified illness or death in the family. Advanced notice, when possible is expected, and if applicable, a physician's written verification of illness is required. No make-up quizzes will be offered.

HOMEWORK: Presentations, papers, and homework MUST BE TYPED and handed in electronically at the beginning of the class period on the due date. Anything later will be considered late. Late papers will lose 10% of the grade for each day turned in late (including the day of class if you skip class that day).

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: Participation from all the students in discussions is critical to the learning process. Attendance will be taken at each class and laboratory meeting. Students are required to sit in their designated seat during all face-to-face class sessions. Absence from class will be considered excused if the absence if the instructor receives notification through WIU Student Services. The student remains responsible for contacting the instructor to arrange to complete missed work as soon as possible and is ultimately responsible for material covered in class. 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).

ACADEMIC HONESTY: You are encouraged to work with your classmates in class and study together in groups. However, exams must be completed independently. You are expected to maintain academic honesty as stated by the University. See <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.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/studentsuccess/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>

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 the Disability Resource Center at 309-298-2512, disability@wiu.edu or in 143 Memorial Hall. Please notify the instructor as soon as possible to ensure that this course is accessible to you in a timely manner.

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/request_form/index.php. If you disclose an incident to a faculty member, the faculty member must notify the Title IX Coordinator. The complete Title IX policy is available at: https://www.wiu.edu/policies/docs/WIU-D_H_SM-Policy.pdf

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.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
Jan. 13-15	Introduction,
Jan. 20-22	Martin Luther King Holiday; Growth and Development of the Corn Plant
Jan. 27-29	Corn Management, Hybrid Selection, Planting Considerations,
Feb. 3-5	Climate, Soil Management
Feb. 10-12	Harvesting, Drying, Storage, Yield Estimates
Feb. 17-19	Corn Problems, Scouting
Feb. 24-26	Insects, Diseases, Nematodes, Weeds
Mar. 3-5	Weed Control, Review, EXAM I
Mar. 10-12	SPRING BREAK
Mar. 17-19	Growth and Development of the Soybean Plant
Mar. 24-26	Soybean Management Decisions
Mar. 31-Apr 2	Soybean Problems, Weeds, Insects
Apr. 7-9	Diseases Nematodes, Review, EXAM II
Apr. 14-16	Forage Establishment, Survival and Nutrition, Weed Control, Alfalfa, Pasture Establishment, Grasses, Hay Harvest, Hay Storage
Apr. 21-23	New and Alternative Crops; Student Presentations
Apr. 26-30	Student Presentations
May 5	Final Exam, Wednesday, 1:00 pm, KH 226, Cumulative

** This is a tentative course outline and may be subject to change.