**Intro to Ag Mechanics 2013-2014**

**Contact Information**

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Conference Hours: By Appointment

Welcome to the Agriculture Science Department at Lufkin High School!

**Teacher Expectations:**

Be respectful of self and others! Be prompt! Be prepared! Be polite! Be positive!

Be safe and help create a safe environment for others to work.

**Course Outline:**

This course is designed to develop an understanding of agriculture mechanics as it relates to safety and skills in tool operation, electrical wiring, plumbing, carpentry, fencing, concrete, and metal working techniques. You will explore career opportunities, entry requirements, industry certifications, and industry expectations. Due to the nature of this class and activities we will be doing, proper attire will need to worn on lab dates-including close toed shoes, jeans, and long sleeve shirt. Gloves are recommended. You may get dirty! You will be notified prior to the date of the lab. It is very important in this class to be safe at all times. **You must follow all shop and classroom safety rules to participate in labs. You will be required to make a 100 on an open notebook safety test prior to using the shop.**

**Topics**:

1. Skills of a Successful Employee/Careers in Ag Mechanics Field
2. Supervised Agriculture Experience Programs (SAE)
3. **Safety/ Organization**
4. Operate Tools and Equipment
5. Electrical Wiring Skills
6. Plumbing Skills
7. Construction Skills
8. Carpentry Skills
9. Fencing Skills
10. Cold & Hot Metal Techniques
11. Metal Merging Technology and Processes related to Agriculture Systems
12. Cost Effective Construction Techniques
13. Agricultural Leadership/ Personal and Communication Skills

**Agriculture Education has three components:**

1. **Classroom**: this is based on the topics covered for this class experience.
2. **FFA:** The Future Farmers of America is one of the largest national youth organizations. Through the FFA students have the opportunity to participate in numerous leadership and career development contest. **FFA member ship is encouraged for all students that are enrolled in Agriculture Science Courses.**
3. **SAE (Supervised Agriculture Experience):** An SAE allows students the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills learned in a classroom setting. According to TEKS (state standards) every student must have an SAE project. SAE’s will be covered during the 1st two weeks of the course so you will have a better understanding of this portion of agriculture education.

**Materials Needed For This Class:**

Three-ring binder

Pens and Pencils

Notebook Paper

1 pack of Dividers

Optional Items: Crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue stick (these can be items shared among your other classes.)

**Grading System:**

Grades will be determined by the following criteria:

Daily/Participation/Quizzes: 40%

Exams/Labs: 60%

Late work will be -10 points /each day late

Extra Credit opportunities will be available throughout the nine weeks

**Make up Policy:**

The student will have as many days as they were absent to make up the assigned work. Pop quizzes given during class will not be counted against the student if they were absent, but any written work or notes are the student’s responsibility to obtain. The student must also contact me when they return so I can give them instructions of what they missed in my class.

**Notebooks/SAEP Record Books:**

The student will keep an electronic journal or log of their classroom hours and what they have participated in over the nine weeks. Each three weeks they will receive a grade on completeness, neatness, and on how much they elaborated. These record books are part of the grading rubric and more information will be given in greater detail during class.\*\*Bonus Point will be given for work done outside of classroom hours. Example: LDE/CDE contest, SAE Project, committee work, etc\*\*

**FFA Membership:**

FFA membership is **highly recommended** while enrolled in an Agricultural Science course. **FFA is CO-curricular NOT extracurricular!** The student will have the opportunity to get involved with the community, gain leadership experience, and have to opportunity to conduct a supervised agricultural experience. We will be exploring career opportunities in Livestock Production, and through FFA the members are also exposed to other career opportunities and can find out their strengths and weaknesses. This is also a great organization to start a network of people for when you get ready to continue your education, job references, or even possibly they can help you find a job in your field. \*\*2 points added to final semester grade for being a member & Bonus Points (2) for attending each FFA Chapter Meeting to a daily grade\*\* **Membership is $20**…please send cash or make checks payable to Lufkin FFA. A receipt will be given at the time of payment! ☺

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_