

HIGH SCHOOL

Course Syllabus: Ag. Chemistry/Soil Science**Email:** maryjane_ashley@chino.k12.ca.us**Course Instructor:** Ms. Ashley**Classroom:** Room 208**Office Phone:** 909-591-3902 Ext: 4548**Website:** <http://msashleysscience.webs.com>**Course Description**

Agriculture Chemistry is a one year, laboratory science course, designed for the college-bound student with career interest in agriculture. This course explores the physical and chemical nature of soil as well as the relationships between soil, plants, animals and agricultural practices. Students will examine properties of soil and land and their connections to plant and animal production. Using knowledge of scientific protocols as well as course content students will develop an Agriscience research program to be conducted throughout the first semester of the course. To complete the whole project each student will investigate and test an Agriscience research question by formulating a scientific question related to the course content, formulating a hypothesis based on related research, conducting an experiment to test the hypothesis, collecting quantitative data, and forming a conclusion based on analysis of the data. The result of this program will be an in depth research and experimentation paper that is technically written, based on scientific protocol, and cited using APA formatting. Additionally, students will develop and present a capstone soil management plan for agricultural producers, using the content learned throughout the course. Throughout the course, students will be graded on participation in intracurricular FFA activities as well as the development and maintenance of an ongoing Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program.

Supervised Agricultural Experience Project (SAEP) & Record Book:

All students are required to participate in an SAE project which will allow the active application of science based principles in a “learn by doing” environment. The project will be documented in the FFA Record Book. The Record Book (properly updated and correctly completed) is worth 10% of the total grade earned. This will be primarily an in-class activity, but the activities & participation recorded will be extracurricular. This SAE may consist of a project in the field of agriculture, science, or industrial technology, and will allow students to experience career skills in the industry. **Examples** include: metal or wood shop projects, customer service, horticulture, community service, gardening, working in floral design, landscaping, and livestock (breeding or market animals). **There is a minimum requirement for 30 hours (10 hours per 6-week grading period second semester) to be completed for first year Ag members and 60 hours for second, third, and fourth year members. (10 hours per 6-week grading period first and second semester)**

To clarify... you must have a MINIMUM of 30 hours per semester - NO “roll over” of hours for advanced members. Fall semester starting June 1st and ending Dec. 14, 2020. Spring semester Jan. 6th 2021 through May 21, 2021. Seniors submission date is May 12, 2021.

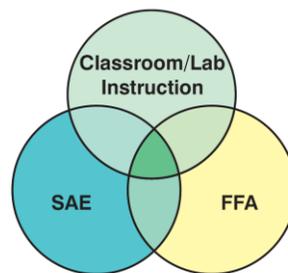
FFA:

All students in the State of California enrolled in an Agriculture class are members of the FFA (Future Farmers of America). FFA is an organization that makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. The FFA is an integral part of every agricultural class. Every student's grade will be enhanced by participation in this organization. Meetings, events, field days, fundraisers, conferences, community service, and competitions are just a few of the ways students can become involved in the FFA. **There is a minimum requirement of 3 FFA Activities per semester. (1 activity per 6-week grading period). If you are (or think you might be) interested in raising a livestock project in spring, you are required to complete 50% of all Fall FFA activities.**

Assessment Methods

Methods of assessment will include:

Assignments	40%
Tests and Quizzes	25%
Labs & Projects	15%
SAE & Record Book	10%
FFA Activities	10%



Grading Policy

A+ = 98% - 100%
B+ = 88% - 89%
C+ = 78% - 79%
D+ = 68% - 69%
F = 59% or below

A = 95% - 97%
B = 85% - 87%
C = 75% - 77%
D = 65% - 67%

A- = 90% - 94%
B- = 80% - 84%
C- = 70% - 74%
D- = 60% - 64%

Homework Assignments

All homework assignments/projects are to be done in blue ink, black ink, or in pencil. The writing must be legible. If I cannot read your handwriting, or the assignment is completed in a color ink other than blue or black, it will be returned to you and asked to be redone. (The professional world uses blue or black ink and, when completing the assignments for my class, so should you.)

All papers must have your name (first AND last), class, period, and date in the upper right hand-corner (or in designated areas) or no score will be given.

All homework assignments are to be turned in on the due date stated unless prior arrangements have been made and approved by me. Late assignments may be subject to a 10% reduction (1 letter grade) in the total points value possible FOR EACH DAY the assignment is late (up to 3 days). **No late work will be accepted after the final assessment when that unit is completed without prior consent. NO EXCEPTIONS**

Following an **EXCUSED** absence it is your responsibility to make up missed work. For each day of an excused absence, you will have the same amount of time to make up work. For example if you are absent one day... you will be allowed one day to make up missed work; two days of excused absence you will be allowed two days up to 7 days. After that **NO** work will be accepted for that absence, unless prior arrangements have been made. **It is your responsibility to come to me and ask for the assignment(s).** In addition, current lecture notes will be available on Ms. Ashley's website which will be accessible for a short period of time in order for you to record in your ISN. Hard copies of Class notes may be requested, however they are not be removed from the classroom. It is your responsibility to enter this information into your science notebook as soon as possible, especially prior to test and/or before a notebook check. Notebook checks may be random so make sure you keep your notebook up to date and bring to class on a daily basis. (Notebook grades will significantly affect your grade)

Plagiarism or copying another's work is unacceptable...**PERIOD!** All of your work is to be completed by you, using your own words. Plagiarism or cheating during a test will result in a score of zero for that assignment or test. In addition, anyone assisting someone in cheating will also receive a zero for the assignment or test. The appropriate administrative personnel will be notified. Academic dishonesty will be noted on your academic record.

Texts and Instructional Materials

Prentice Hall Chemistry. Boston, Massachusetts: Pearson Education, Inc., 2007

Technology: computer with internet capabilities, printer, smartphone (if available)

Class Rules & Expectations

1. You are expected to be **on time**, ready to work when the bell rings!
2. Please come to class **prepared** for the day's lesson with assignments completed, your ISN, pen/pencils and paper (Especially on test days).
3. Be **respectful** to your teacher, your classmates and to yourself
4. There is **NO eating, drinking, or gum chewing** in the classroom/lab.
5. Students will be allowed to use cell phones as a learning tool for specific assignments only.

Inappropriate use of cell phones or electronic device (including ear buds) will not be tolerated. Students will receive one verbal warning, parents/guardian will be notified via School Messenger. If student continues inappropriate use of such devices they will be confiscated and require parent/guardian pickup in the discipline office by 3pm.

Teacher-Parent-Student Contract (*Print this page & keep in your binder and return signature portion to your teacher*)

Teacher Responsibilities

1. Present the science content in a variety of ways over a workable period of time so that every student is given an opportunity to assimilate and communicate his/her knowledge of the information and succeed in our class.
2. Arrangements can be made with me to provide after-school tutoring for students who require extra help or need to retake a formative quiz.
3. Contact parents consistently via **School Loop** to keep them informed of assignments and projects due, scheduled tests, failing grades, and both positive and negative behaviors.
4. Print and post grades every Thursday (anonymously with student ID #s)
5. Return parent calls/reply to parent emails within 24 hours.

Parent Responsibilities

1. Make sure your child comes to school EVERY DAY on time with his/her 3-ring binder specifically for Science, pencils/pen, highlighter, color pencils, paper. Excessive absences are one of the main reasons students fail - without guided instructions, making up assignments correctly with complete understanding of the subject matter is extremely difficult.
2. Make sure your child completes each class and homework assignment neatly and on time, and he/she studies for quizzes and test in plenty of time to perform well on these assessments. When possible provide a quiet area at home for your child to work and study.
3. Check your child's grades EVERY WEEK via the Aeries Program in all subjects as well as the inside cover of his/her Science 3 ring binder. (Semester Grading Sheet)

Student Responsibility

1. Come to school EVERY DAY, on time with your Science 3-ring binder, your own pencils and a positive attitude!

2. PUT AWAY ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES UPON ENTERING the classroom. These devices are a distraction to your learning as well as your surrounding classmates!!! You may ONLY have such devices out according to my directions. If you are not compliant, these will be confiscated and require parent/guardian pickup in the discipline office before 3:00 PM. Consider this as your warning!
3. Record your grade EVERY Thursday on your Semester Grading Sheet.
4. Complete each class and homework assignment neatly and on time. Study for quizzes/tests in plenty of time to perform well on these assessments.
5. Abide by the Don Lugo Dress Code. Inappropriate clothing will be reported and you are subject to school code consequences
6. Do your own work - no cheating or plagiarizing! Come to after school tutoring when you need help.

Parents and Students: Please sign and return this page only to indicate that you have carefully read the entire syllabus. If you have any questions regarding this syllabus, please contact me using the contact information provided on the first page. TO PRINT THIS PAGE please right click, click on print then only print out page 3.

Thank you very much for your help and support! I'm very much looking forward to working with you this year.

Student Signature

I have read my course syllabus. I understand that I will be held responsible for following all of the rules, regulations, and policies explained therein. (Suggestion from Ms. Ashley...It's a good idea to keep the syllabus in your notebook and use it as a reference tool as needed).

Print Name: _____

Signature_____ Date_____

Parent/Guardian Signature

I have read the course syllabus. I understand that my child will be held responsible for following all the rules, regulations, and policies explained therein. I will use the syllabus (found in my son/daughter's notebook) as a reference tool when necessary.

Print Name: _____

Signature_____ Date_____

Contact Information: Please supply the following information so that I may contact you and keep you updated on your student's progress.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Important Telephone 3: Daytime: _____ Evening: _____ or Work:

_____ Which number do you prefer I use for contacting you? _____

Email Address (if you prefer to communicate this way) _____

****Please write any information that you would like to share regarding your son/daughter to help us have a positive and successful school year:**
