

**CASPER COLLEGE
COURSE SYLLABUS**

COURSE NUMBER & TITLE: CROP 2000-01
Plants, Agriculture and Civilization

SEMESTER/YEAR: Fall 2015

LECTURE HOURS: 3 **LABORATORY HOURS:** 2 **CREDIT HOURS:** 3

CLASS TIME: Lecture:	10:00 -10:50 a.m.	DAYS: MWF	ROOM: WA 106
Lab A:	8:00 - 9:50 a.m.	DAYS: Th	ROOM: WA 106

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Heath Hornecker
INSTRUCTORS OFFICE: WA 101
INSTRUCTOR'S PHONE: 268-2525
OFFICE HOURS: As posted on office door.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Introduces ecological interactions that affect food producing (agricultural) systems. Lectures and laboratory exercises study the various biological components and the science of sustainable agriculture production. Features differences between developed and developing countries. Explores crises and challenges facing agriculture.

STATEMENT OF PREREQUISITES: No prerequisites.

Goal: Introduce ecological interactions that affect food producing systems.

Outcomes: At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Integrate ecosystem concepts in agriculture.
2. Introduce current crisis and challenges for the future in agriculture.
3. Discuss the interaction of various biological processes.

METHODOLOGY: This course is designed to be a lecture course with web assisted activities requiring internet use; however, other means will be used to convey the information to students, such as, video presentations, discussions, small group interactions, individual reading and presentations, and guest lectures. Class discussion will be very essential.

EVALUATION CRITERIA: Grades in this course will be based on the following criteria:

1. Attendance is essential and will be recorded. Announced and unannounced quizzes will be given for both lab and class time. There will be a lab assignment or quiz each week and excused absences require prior approval. Assignments or quizzes missed for unexcused absences may only be made up for a lower grade.
2. The remainder of the grade will consist of 4-5 tests, including a possible mid-term and possible comprehensive final, quizzes, papers and reports.
3. Class participation.
4. The grading scale will be:
A = 90%-100%
B = 80%-89%
C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69%
F = 59% or lower

ATTENDANCE:

1. Attendance is **REQUIRED!** Your presence is important for your own learning.
2. If an absence is unavoidable, please arrange ahead of time to discuss options for making up work. Full credit can be earned on work submitted on or before the due date. **Late assignments will result in lower grades.**
3. Make-up exams that are missed due to an excused absence may be made up before the next class meeting by arrangement with the instructor.

REQUIRED TEXT, READINGS, MATERIALS:

1. "Agroecology: The Ecology of Sustainable Food Systems" 2nd Edition, Stephen r. Gliesman CRC Press

Classroom/Lab

As a college student, it is your responsibility to determine whether or not your attendance in this class is required. The most successful students are always those with the best attendance record! As an instructor, it is my responsibility to ensure that the optimal learning environment is provided to all students. The following are examples of expected behaviors in this, and any college classroom:

- Attend all class meetings, and be on time. If you are late, discreetly enter the classroom
- **TURN OFF CELL PHONES! THEY ARE NOT WELCOME IN CLASS!** If you have an emergency or are expecting a vital call, please put phone on silent and excuse yourself quietly from class to answer.
- Listen to questions/statements made by your fellow classmates; these may enhance your understanding of the material. We will have a wide variety of backgrounds in this class and we can all learn from others perspective.
- Expect to receive pertinent course materials/handouts during the designated course times. If you are unable to obtain these materials at these times, it becomes your responsibility to obtain them from a fellow classmate, or from the instructor, during my office hours. Don't expect late, partially completed or illegible work to be graded.
- Always exercise your right to ask questions. There is absolutely no such thing as a "stupid question" and your instructor is not beyond being able to learn from you. Be active in your learning.
- Most labs will be outside visiting differing types of terrain. It is your responsibility to dress appropriately for the occasion. Good shoes, long pants and jackets will all be needed at times. Come prepared for what the conditions offer! Bring water, sunscreen, bug spray or a coat, gloves and rain gear (if we're lucky). Whatever you will need for several hours in the elements.

LAST DATE TO CHANCE TO AUDIT STATUS: Please see current college catalog.

LAST DATE TO WITHDRAW WITH A "W" GRADE: Please see current college catalog.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

It is the policy of Casper College to provide appropriate accommodations to any student with a documented disability. If you have a need for accommodation in this course, please make an appointment to see me at your earliest convenience.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean Dr. Grant Wilson, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty: (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

Official Means of Communication: Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly.

ADA Accommodations Policy: If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college's Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.