# Tompkins High School

**Department of Agricultural Sciences and Engineering Technology**

**Practicum in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources**

**Lecture/Lab Syllabus 2015-2016**

**Basic Information**

Instructor: Michael Watson

Phone: 281-234-1207 Email: michaelcwatson@katyisd.org

Tutorial hours: Tuesday and Thursday afternoons 2:35 PM – 4:00 PM or by appointment

**Class Meeting Times:**

Lectures: Period 02 & 03-8:27-10:17 Classroom 1341

**Scope:**

The practicum is designed to give students supervised practical application of knowledge and skills. Practicum experiences can occur in a variety of locations appropriate to the nature and level of experiences such as employment, independent study, internships, assistantships, mentorships, or laboratories **Safety Instruction:**

The laboratory is utilized to prepare students for careers that require a safe working knowledge of welding, cutting, electricity, construction and other various skills. Instruction on safety is provided on our state-of-the-art equipment. Students and instructors are expected to work in a safe manner, minimizing the risk of injury. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn at all times and protect against hazards such as hot metal, sparks, flying debris, electric shock, and UV light. All students will receive instruction on safety prior to entering the laboratory environment. **Safety is a must!!! If you are being unsafe in the laboratory environment arrangements will be made, to have you removed to not pose a safety concern to yourself or others.**

**Tentative Course Objectives:**

Students are expected to be capable of the following at the end of the year:

1. Demonstrate professional standards as required by business and industry.
2. Adhere to policies and procedures
3. Demonstrate positive work behaviors and attitudes, including, punctuality, time management, initiative, and cooperation
4. Value and use constructive criticism and critical feedback from supervisor and peers
5. Apply ethical reasoning to a variety of situations in order to make ethical decisions
6. Complete tasks with the highest standards to ensure quality products and services
7. Model professional appearance, including dress, grooming, and personal protective equipment as appropriate
8. Comply with practicum setting safety rules and regulations to maintain safe and healthful working conditions and environments
9. Applies concepts of critical thinking and problem solving
10. Analyze elements of a problem to develop creative and innovative solutions
11. Critically analyze information to determine value to the problem-solving task
12. Compare and contrast alternatives using a variety of problem-solving and critical-thinking skills
13. Conduct technical research to gather information necessary for decision making
14. Demonstrate leadership and teamwork skills to accomplish goals and objectives
15. Analyze leadership in relation to trust, positive attitude, integrity, and willingness to accept key responsibilities in a work situation
16. Demonstrate teamwork skills through working cooperatively with others to achieve tasks
17. Demonstrate teamwork processes that promote team building, consensus, continuous improvement, respect for the opinions of others, cooperation, adaptability, and conflict resolution
18. Demonstrate responsibility for shared group and individual work tasks
19. Establish and maintain effective working relationships in order to accomplish objectives and tasks
20. Demonstrate effective working relationships using interpersonal skills in order to accomplish objectives and tasks
21. Use positive interpersonal skills to negotiate and work cooperatively with others
22. Demonstrate respect for individuals, including those from different cultures, genders, and backgrounds, and value for diversity
23. Demonstrate oral and written communication skills in creating, expressing, and interpreting information and ideas, including technical terminology and information
24. Demonstrate the use of content, technical concepts, and vocabulary when analyzing information and following directions
25. Employ verbal skills when obtaining and conveying information
26. Use informational texts, Internet sites, or technical materials to review and apply information sources for occupational tasks
27. Evaluate the reliability of information from informational texts, Internet sites, or technical materials and resources
28. Interpret verbal and nonverbal cues and behaviors to enhance communication
29. Apply active listening skills to obtain and clarify information
30. Use academic skills to facilitate effective written and oral communication
31. Develop management skills for agricultural resources
32. Discuss the importance of agricultural and natural resources to individuals and society
33. Develop long-range land, water, and air quality management plans
34. Practice equipment maintenance procedures
35. Analyze the cost and maintenance of tools, equipment, and structures used in agriculture
36. Describe and develop marketing strategies for agricultural and natural resources
37. Decide between replacement, maintenance, repair, and reconditioning of agricultural vehicles and machinery
38. Describe and perform hazard analysis and follow safety laws
39. Demonstrates technical knowledge and skills required to pursue a career in the Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources cluster
40. Develop advanced technical knowledge and skills related to the personal occupational objective
41. Evaluate strengths and weaknesses in technical skill proficiency
42. Explain the principles of safe operation of tools and equipment related to the practicum
43. Pursue opportunities for licensure or certification relating to chosen career path
44. Develops an advanced supervised agriculture experience program as it relates to agriculture, food, and natural resources
45. Plan, propose, conduct, and evaluate entrepreneurship; placement; exploratory; research, either experimental or analytical; improvement; supplementary; laboratory-based; or other identified, supervised agricultural experience as an experiential learning activity
46. Apply proper record-keeping skills as they relate to a supervised experience
47. Design and use a customized record-keeping system for the individual supervised experience
48. Employ youth leadership opportunities to create a well-rounded experience program in agriculture
49. Produce a challenging approach for a local program of activities in agriculture
50. Document technical knowledge and skills
51. Update a professional portfolio to include
52. Attainment of technical skill competencies
53. Licensures or certifications;
54. Recognitions, awards, and scholarships
55. Extended learning experiences such as community service and active participation in career and technical student organizations and professional organizations
56. Abstract of key points of the practicum
57. Résumé
58. Samples of work
59. Evaluation from the practicum supervisor
60. Present the portfolio to all interested stakeholders such as in a poster presentation.

**Supervised Agricultural Experience Program (SAEP)**

It is mandatory for each student to have and complete and SAEP project throughout the duration of the course to meet course curriculum requirements. The teacher will discuss this project in further detail during the first six weeks of school.

**Record Book**

Part of the SAEP requires students to keep and maintain a record book. The teacher will help set up and give some time in class to work on it. Several grades will be taken on the progress and completion of the record book.

**Additional Information**

Students are highly encouraged to join FFA! Being enrolled in this course does not mean the student is automatically a member. **Those wanting to become an FFA member should ask for a membership form and pay $30 by Sept. 25th.**

**Tentative Grading**

Major Exams or Major Projects-55%

Quizzes and Minor Projects- 30%

Daily Work and Participation-15%

**Late Assignments**

Assignments that are not turned in the day they are due will be accepted the next day for a maximum score of 70%. If the assignment is not turned in by the next day after it was due, it will not be accepted.

**Make-up Work**

Students will have two days for every day they are absent from school to complete make-up work. It is your responsibility to get your make-up work from your teacher or the while you were out box. If you are absent for three or more days, please meet with the teacher to discuss make-up work options.

**Academic Dishonesty**

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The school and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

**Classroom Rules of Conduct**

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the school. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the assistant principal for disciplinary action in accordance with school policy.

**Visitors in the Classroom**

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official OTHS identification card to be permitted in the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor’s discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

**Americans with Disabilities Act**

Students with a disability that affects their academic performance are expected to arrange for a conference with the instructor in order that appropriate strategies can be considered to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

**USE OF TELEPHONE AND TEXT MESSAGERS IN ACADEMIC CLASSROOMS AND FACILITIES:**

The use by students of electronic devices that perform the function of a telephone or text messenger during class-time may be prohibited if deemed disruptive by the instructor to the conduct of the class. Arrangement for handling potential emergency situations may be granted at the discretion of the instructor. Failure to comply with the instructor’s policy could result in expulsion from the classroom or with multiple offenses, failure of the course. Any use of a telephone or text messenger or any device that perform these functions during a test period is prohibited. These devices should not be present during a test period is prohibited. These devices should not be present during a test or should be stored securely in such a way that they cannot be seen or used by the student. Even the visible presence of such a device during the test period will result in a zero for that test. Use of these devices during a test is considered de facto evidence of cheating and could result in a charge of academic dishonestly.

**USE OF TOBACCO AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS:**

Tompkins High School is a tobacco free campus and all tobacco products are prohibited in all buildings and outdoor public areas on campus.

**Course:** Practicum in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

**Instructor:** Mr. Watson

**Period:** 2nd And 3rd

Student Name Printed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, parent or guardian of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have read the course syllabus and understand all of the expectations and requirements for this course.

Please return this for to Mr. Watson by the end of the first week of school.

Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Student Signature Date

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Parent or Guardian Signature Date