

Introduction to the Agricultural Industry

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **all AFNR** Pathways
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Introductory Course* (Group 2)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 9-11

Instructional Model

Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (AFNR) education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems. The AFNR instructional model provides students with opportunities for leadership development, personal growth, and career success. Model instruction in all AFNR courses is delivered via three major components:

- Classroom/Laboratory Instruction
- AFNR Work-based Learning
- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

This course aligns with all pathways in the AFNR career cluster. Skills and knowledge gained by students throughout this course are applicable to a wide range of AFNR occupations.

Course Description

This course provides an opportunity for students to learn how the agricultural industry is organized; its major components; the economic influence of agriculture at state, national and international levels; and the scope and types of job opportunities in the agricultural field. Basic concepts in animal science, plant science, soil science, horticulture, natural resources, agribusiness management, and agricultural mechanics, will be presented. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Basic Agricultural Business

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **Agribusiness Systems** Pathway
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Introductory Course* (Group 2)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 9-11

Instructional Model

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- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

The Agribusiness Systems (ABS) Career Pathway encompasses the study of agribusinesses and their management, including, but not limited to, record keeping, budget management (cash and credit), business planning, and sales and marketing. Students completing a program of study in this pathway will demonstrate competence in the application of principles and techniques for the planning, development, application, and management of agribusiness systems in AFNR settings.

Course Description

This course on topics and concepts related to the field of agricultural business. The course introduces business concepts such as record keeping, banking and finance, the role of government/ the USDA in agricultural business, consumerism trends, basics of credit, investment, and management. They usually provide a brief overview of the American Agricultural economic system, cooperatives and corporate organizations. This course may also expose students to a wide variety of agricultural business fields such as sales, marketing, accounting, loan officer and other related careers. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Basic Agricultural Science

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **all AFNR** Pathways
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Introductory Course* (Group 2)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 9-11

Instructional Model

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- Classroom/Laboratory Instruction
- AFNR Work-based Learning
- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

This course aligns with all pathways in the AFNR career cluster. Skills and knowledge gained by students throughout this course are applicable to a wide range of AFNR occupations.

Course Description

This course builds on basic skills and knowledge gained in the Introduction to the Agricultural Industry course. Major units of instruction include agricultural research, soil science, advanced plant science, biotechnology, advanced animal science. Applied science and math skills and concepts will be stressed throughout the course as they relate to each area. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Foundational Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **all AFNR** Pathways
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Introductory Course* (Group 2)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 9-11

Instructional Model

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- Classroom/Laboratory Instruction
- AFNR Work-based Learning
- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

This course aligns with all pathways in the AFNR career cluster. Skills and knowledge gained by students throughout this course are applicable to a wide range of AFNR occupations.

Course Description

This course is designed to establish, improve, and/or expand knowledge and skills in various agricultural careers. Students will increase their awareness of agricultural careers through the following components: Career Exploration and Planning; Employability Skills for College and Career Readiness; Personal Financial Management and Planning; Workplace Safety; and Agricultural Literacy (may be transitioned to Immersion SAE). Participation in FFA student organization activities and exploration of Immersion Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **all AFNR** Pathways
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Orientation Course* (Group 1)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 5-8

Instructional Model

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- Classroom/Laboratory Instruction
- AFNR Work-based Learning
- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

This course aligns with all pathways in the AFNR career cluster. Skills and knowledge gained by students throughout this course are applicable to a wide range of AFNR occupations.

Course Description

Career Exploration courses help students identify and evaluate personal goals, priorities, aptitudes, and interests with the goal of helping them make informed decisions about their careers. These courses expose students to various sources of information on career and training options and may also assist them in developing job search and employability skills.



Exploratory Agricultural Science

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **all AFNR** Pathways
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Orientation Course* (Group 1)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 5-8

Instructional Model

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- Classroom/Laboratory Instruction
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- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

This course aligns with all pathways in the AFNR career cluster. Skills and knowledge gained by students throughout this course are applicable to a wide range of AFNR occupations.

Course Description

This exploration course provides the opportunity to learn fundamental concepts in agriculture to serve as a foundation for future courses and to inform students about the industry that is so vital to society and to their future. Major units of instruction include an introduction to the agricultural industry, animal science, plant science, horticulture science, agribusiness, environmental science, agricultural mechanics, food science, and leadership and personal development. Participation in FFA student organization activities is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Agricultural Entrepreneurship

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **Agribusiness Systems** Pathway
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Skills Course* (Group 3)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 10-12

Instructional Model

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- Classroom/Laboratory Instruction
- AFNR Work-based Learning
- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

The Agribusiness Systems (ABS) Career Pathway encompasses the study of agribusinesses and their management, including, but not limited to, record keeping, budget management (cash and credit), business planning, and sales and marketing. Students completing a program of study in this pathway will demonstrate competence in the application of principles and techniques for the planning, development, application, and management of agribusiness systems in AFNR settings.

Course Description

Agricultural entrepreneurship courses acquaint students with the knowledge and skills necessary to own and operate their own businesses in the agriculture, food and natural resources industry. Topics from several fields typically form the course content: economics, marketing principles, human relations and psychology, business and labor law, legal rights and responsibilities of ownership, business and financial planning, finance and accounting, and communication. Several topics surveyed in agribusiness systems courses may also be included. Participation in FFA student organization activities is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Agricultural Business Management

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **Agribusiness Systems** Pathway
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Skills Course* (Group 3)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 10-12

Instructional Model

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Pathway Alignment

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Course Description

This course will provide students with the basic knowledge and skills necessary to manage personal finances and develop into a successful entrepreneur and/or businessperson. Instructional units include; business ownership types, starting an agribusiness, managing and operating an agribusiness, financing an agribusiness, managing personal finances, record keeping and financial management of an agribusiness, local, state, and federal taxes, agricultural law, and developing employability skills. Student skills will be enhanced in math, reading comprehension, and writing through agribusiness applications. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration, and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Agricultural Sales and Marketing

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **Agribusiness Systems** Pathway
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Skills Course* (Group 3)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 10-12

Instructional Model

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Pathway Alignment

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Course Description

This course is designed to develop student knowledge and skills in agricultural sales and marketing, commodity marketing, agricultural economics, and international agriculture. Instructional units include: successfully starting an agribusiness, developing a marketing plan, pricing, advertising, and selling products and services, communicating with customers, applying commodity trading techniques, basic economic principles, the international agribusiness economy, and agricultural career opportunities. Student skills will be enhanced in math, reading comprehension, communications, and writing through agribusiness applications. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Agricultural Economics

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **Agribusiness Systems** Pathway
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Skills Course* (Group 3)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 10-12

Instructional Model

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- Classroom/Laboratory Instruction
- AFNR Work-based Learning
- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

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Course Description

This course is designed to provide students with the knowledge of basic economic principles of micro and macroeconomics, international economics, comparative economic systems, measurement, and methods. Through the course, the students will understand and apply basic economic principles as they relate to individual consumers, production agriculture, and agri-business management. The students will develop an Agricultural project and keep accurate agriculture records of expenses, receipts, and profit/losses. This course will satisfy the Economics requirement for graduation. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Agricultural Communications

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **all AFNR** Pathways
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Skills Course* (Group 3)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 10-12

Instructional Model

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Pathway Alignment

This course aligns with all pathways in the AFNR career cluster. Skills and knowledge gained by students throughout this course are applicable to a wide range of AFNR occupations.

Course Description

Students will analyze current agricultural issues and determine how they affect people on all sides of the issue. The students then learn and enhance their written and oral communication skills by presenting their views and opinions to the class. Students learn how to arrange and present debates, speeches, and interviews to be effective leaders in today's society. This course can also be designed to provide students with the knowledge and leadership experiences to help them to become successful in life and in the workplace. Students will further enhance their potential for leadership development, personal growth, and career success. Topics may include workplace skills, effective communication, decision-making, problem-solving, leadership styles and qualities, and successful execution of teamwork or collaborative activities. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **all AFNR** Pathways
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Skills Course* (Group 3)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 10-12

Instructional Model

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Pathway Alignment

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Course Description

This course will primarily focus on agriculture in developing countries and frame this focus within a discussion of contemporary crucial issues facing food, agriculture and natural resources on a global scale. The course will look at the impacts of geographic, political, economic, and social issues of a particular country or region and how that affects their agriculture and trade. This course will also examine the impacts that trade agreements have on other countries' agriculture. Specific emphasis will also be placed on debates concerning global hunger and food security. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Agricultural Commodity Marketing

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **Agribusiness Systems** Pathway
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Advanced Course* (Group 4)
- ✓ Recommended for Grade 12

Instructional Model

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Pathway Alignment

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Course Description

Marketing Commodities courses investigate the meaning and methods of marketing as related to agricultural commodities, products and services, and agricultural goods in domestic and international markets. Topics typically include appropriate market research; benefit/cost analysis of marketing; risk management, futures and options contracts, relationship between cash and futures, hedging strategies, commodity price behavior and methods of targeted agricultural marketing in domestic and international markets. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Agricultural Government

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **Agribusiness Systems** Pathway
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Advanced Course* (Group 4)
- ✓ Recommended for Grade 12

Instructional Model

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- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

The Agribusiness Systems (ABS) Career Pathway encompasses the study of agribusinesses and their management, including, but not limited to, record keeping, budget management (cash and credit), business planning, and sales and marketing. Students completing a program of study in this pathway will demonstrate competence in the application of principles and techniques for the planning, development, application, and management of agribusiness systems in AFNR settings.

Course Description

The Agricultural Government course will study the US agriculture industry and the large role it has and will continue to play in our country's past, present and future. Students will receive an overview of the U.S. Government and its structure and functions. Students will explore the politics around policies that relate to agriculture at home and abroad. They will examine how political parties and interest groups impact decisions made about agriculture and its markets. This course will focus on people's impacts on the democratic process. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Agribusiness Systems Independent Study

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **Agribusiness Systems** Pathway
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Independent Study Course* (Group 4)
- ✓ Recommended for Grade 12

Instructional Model

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Pathway Alignment

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Course Description

Courses in Agribusiness Independent Study, often conducted with instructors as mentors, enable students to explore topics of interest related to agribusiness. Independent Study courses may serve as an opportunity for students to expand their expertise in a particular application, to explore a topic in greater detail, or to develop more advanced skills. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Agriculture Computers and Technology

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **all AFNR** Pathways
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Advanced Course* (Group 4)
- ✓ Recommended for Grade 12

Instructional Model

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- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

This course aligns with all pathways in the AFNR career cluster. Skills and knowledge gained by students throughout this course are applicable to a wide range of AFNR occupations.

Course Description

Agriculture Computers and Technology courses help students develop their knowledge and skills in using computer and other technology to operate and manage agricultural businesses. These courses allow students to use computer hardware, software, and the Internet to find information, record and analyze financial and production data, track market trends and economic forecasts, monitor weather, utilize global positioning systems, and prepare communications and reports. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Agricultural Leadership

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **all AFNR** Pathways
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Advanced Course* (Group 4)
- ✓ Recommended for Grade 12

Instructional Model

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- Classroom/Laboratory Instruction
- AFNR Work-based Learning
- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

This course aligns with all pathways in the AFNR career cluster. Skills and knowledge gained by students throughout this course are applicable to a wide range of AFNR occupations.

Course Description

Agricultural Leadership courses help students develop leadership skills with a focus on opportunities in the food, fiber, and natural resources industries. Topics may include but are not limited to human relationships and effective communication, decision-making and problem-solving, leadership qualities and styles, and ensuring successful completion of group activities. Students will learn to lead groups and teams, manage volunteers, exercise leadership ethics, and be able to demonstrate leadership in multicultural settings. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.



Agribusiness Systems Workplace Experience

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **Agribusiness Systems** Pathway
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Workplace Experience Course* (Group 5)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 10-12

Instructional Model

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- Classroom/Laboratory Instruction
- AFNR Work-based Learning
- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

The Agribusiness Systems (ABS) Career Pathway encompasses the study of agribusinesses and their management, including, but not limited to, record keeping, budget management (cash and credit), business planning, and sales and marketing. Students completing a program of study in this pathway will demonstrate competence in the application of principles and techniques for the planning, development, application, and management of agribusiness systems in AFNR settings.

Course Description

Agribusiness Workplace Experience courses provide work experience in fields related to agribusiness. Goals must be set cooperatively by the student, teacher, and employer (although students are not necessarily paid). These courses must include classroom instruction at least once per week, involving further study of the field, discussion of relevant topics that are responsive to the workplace experience and employability skill development. Workplace Experience courses must be taught by an approved WBL educator-coordinator. These courses should be aligned to a Career Development Experience that could include: Student-led Enterprises; School-based Enterprises; Immersion Supervised Agricultural Experiences; Clinical Experiences in Science and Technology programs; Internships; and Apprenticeship programs including Youth Apprenticeships, Pre-apprenticeships, and Registered Apprenticeships.



Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Workplace Experience

Key Course Details

- ✓ Aligned to **all AFNR** Pathways
- ✓ Recognized as an *AFNR Workplace Experience Course* (Group 5)
- ✓ Recommended for Grades 10-12

Instructional Model

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- Classroom/Laboratory Instruction
- AFNR Work-based Learning
- Student Leadership Organizations

Pathway Alignment

This course aligns with all pathways in the AFNR career cluster. Skills and knowledge gained by students throughout this course are applicable to a wide range of AFNR occupations.

Course Description

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Workplace Experience courses provide work experience in fields related to the Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources cluster. Goals must be set cooperatively by the student, teacher, and employer (although students are not necessarily paid). These courses must include classroom instruction at least once per week, involving further study of the field, discussion of relevant topics that are responsive to the workplace experience and employability skill development. Workplace Experience courses must be taught by an approved WBL educator-coordinator. These courses should be aligned to a Career Development Experience that could include: Student-led Enterprises; School-based Enterprises; Immersion Supervised Agricultural Experiences; Clinical Experiences in Science and Technology programs; Internships; and Apprenticeship programs including Youth Apprenticeships, Pre-apprenticeships, and Registered Apprenticeships.

