Denair Charter Academy
Course Outline

Course Title: Agriculture Science I
Grade Level: 9-12
Elective/Required: Elective
Length/Credits: 1 year/10 credits
Prerequisites: Approval of concurrent enrollment at Denair High School

I. Course Description:

A course focusing on beginning animal and plant science, leadership training (public speaking, parliamentary procedure-debate, judging teams, Supervised Occupational Experience Projects) records keeping skills, and career opportunities. Leads to the fulfillment of the science requirements to graduate from high school.

II. Instructional Materials

Required Texts: None

Supplementary Texts:
Agriculture Basic Core Curriculum Model (All units)
Animal Science by Ensiminger (Animal Units)
FFA Official Manual, Current Year (Leadership Units)
Animal Production and Management by Barrick and Harmon (Animal Units)
Material provided by livestock bread associations (Animal Units)
Publication of the University of California Extension (CA Ag. Units)
Sunset Western Garden Book (Plant Units)

III. Course Outline

A. Agriculture and Society
1. Economic and social importance of agriculture on local, state, national and worldwide basis.
2. Current trends and future outlook of agriculture in the United States.
3. Careers available in agriculture and employability.

B. Agriculture Leadership Development
1. Purpose, origin, and operations of the FFA
2. Parliamentary law and its importance to agriculture
3. Types of Supervised Occupational Experience Programs
4. Record-Keeping and management of projects
5. Agriculture presentation/public speaking
6. Opportunities available through the FFA

C. Livestock Selection and Management
    1. Identification of major livestock breeds
    2. Evaluation of major classes of livestock
    3. Terms, definitions, and life-cycles of the major classes of livestock
    4. Economic/social significance of livestock classes
    5. Management techniques used on various livestock
    6. Poultry and rabbit production
D. Plant Science
    1. Local and state crops of economic importance
    2. Life-cycle and growth of plants
    3. Basic Botany
    4. Plant Nutrition

IV. Expectations for Student Learning
Each student who completes this course will be able to:

A. Agriculture and Society
    1. Identify topography and crops in California
    2. Identify Agricultural Regions in California and the economic importance of crops
    3. Develop an awareness for career opportunities in agriculture
B. Agriculture Leadership Development
    1. Understand and use principals of Parliamentary Procedure
    2. Understand the importance of keeping accurate financial records of business transactions
    3. Be able to speak in public and develop leadership skills
C. Livestock Selection and Management
    1. Identify parts and functions of livestock
    2. Identify economic importance of livestock
    3. Identify different breeds of livestock, their importance, and their use in Agriculture
    4. Identify external anatomy
    5. Understand principals of animal behavior
    6. Understand the factors involved in and develop an ability for evaluating livestock
    7. Be able to perform basic skills necessary in livestock management
D. Plant Science
    1. Understand growth and development of plants
    2. Understand the factors of plant reproduction

V. Instructional Methods
A. Lecture/Note-taking
B. Audio/Visual materials
C. Group/Individual assignments
D. Laboratory activities
E. Discussion

F. Reading assignments/related worksheets
G. Guest Speakers
H. Test-taking
I. Field Testing
J. Research/Term paper
K. Student Presentation

VI. Assessment and Evaluations

A. Assignments

Students will be responsible for completing a variety of assignments as determined by the instructor. Possible assignments include:

1. Term Paper
2. Speech
3. Lab activities
4. Record keeping problem
5. Class Participation
6. In-class work

B. Testing

1. Students will be given objective tests on a regular basis. Tests will require students to retain, interpret, and apply ideas and information taught in each unit.
2. Students will participate in regular lab activities which reinforce ideas and information conveyed by the instructor.
3. Students will be given a comprehensive exam.

C. SOEP and Record Book

1. A Supervised Occupational Experience Program or project is an organized agricultural activity conducted outside of class time with supervision from one of the Agriculture instructors.
2. Hours, inventory and/or money earned must be recorded in a California Agricultural Education Record Book.

D. FFA Activity Involvement

1. Students will be required to participate in a variety of FFA activities.
2. Potential Activities include: Chapter Meetings, Fairs and Shows, Committee Meetings, etc.

E. Homework

1. The student will be responsible for completing a variety of assignments as determined by the instructor.

VII. Grading Policy:

Completion of assigned projects & FFA involvement

90 – 100% = A
80 – 89% = B
70 – 79% = C
60 – 69% = D
0 – 59% = F