

CURRICULUM STANDARD

Effective Term
Spring 2006
[2006*01]

Curriculum Program Title

Sustainable Agriculture

Code

A15410

Concentration

(not applicable)

Curriculum Description

The Sustainable Agriculture program is designed to provide the entrepreneurial and technical skills necessary to manage a profitable, environmentally sound, community based small farm or agricultural business. The objective is the development of a workforce knowledgeable in sustainable agriculture practices.

Students will learn the fundamentals of sustainable agriculture, focusing on crop production and farm business. Emphasis is placed on entrepreneurial and practical field training. Students will complete a business plan and an agricultural internship in marketing and farming.

Graduates should qualify for employment in a variety of positions associated with sustainable agriculture, including horticultural and live stock operations, wholesale and retail produce management, nursery operations, and environmental and agricultural education.

*Curriculum Requirements**

[for associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs in accordance with 23 NCAC 02E.0204 (3)]

- I. General Education.** Degree programs must contain a minimum of 15 semester hours including at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics. Degree programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of communications. Diploma programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of general education; 3 semester hours must be in communications. General education is optional in certificate programs.
- II. Major Hours.** AAS, diploma, and certificate programs must include courses which offer specific job knowledge and skills. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit. *(See second page for additional information.)*
- III. Other Required Hours.** A college may include courses to meet graduation or local employer requirements in a certificate, diploma, or associate in applied science program. These curriculum courses shall be selected from the Combined Course Library and must be approved by the System Office prior to implementation. Restricted, unique, or free elective courses may not be included as other required hours.

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Minimum General Education Hours	15	6	0
Minimum Major Hours	49	30	12
Other Required Hours	0-7	0-4	0-1
Total Semester Hours Credit (SHC)	64-76	36-48	12-18

**Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic use of computers.*

Major Hours

[ref. 23 NCAC 02E.0204 (3)]

- A. Core.** The subject/course core is comprised of subject areas and/or specific courses which are required for each curriculum program. A diploma program offered under an approved AAS program standard or a certificate which is the highest credential level awarded under an approved AAS program standard must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit derived from the subject/course core of the AAS program.
- B. Concentration** (if applicable). A concentration of study must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit from required subjects and/or courses. The majority of the course credit hours are unique to the concentration. The required subjects and/or courses that make up the concentration of study are in addition to the required subject/course core.
- C. Other Major Hours.** Other major hours must be selected from prefixes listed on the curriculum standard. A maximum of 9 semester hours of credit may be selected from any prefix listed, with the exception of prefixes listed in the core or concentration. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit.

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	AAS	Diploma	Certificate														
Minimum Major Hours Required	49 SHC	30 SHC	12 SHC														
A. CORE Courses required for the diploma are designated with * Required Courses: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr><td>* AGR 111 Basic Farm Maintenance</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>* AGR 121 Biological Pest Mgmt</td><td style="text-align: right;">3 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>* AGR 139 Intro to Sustainable Ag</td><td style="text-align: right;">3 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>* AGR 160 Plant Science</td><td style="text-align: right;">3 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>* AGR 170 Soil Science</td><td style="text-align: right;">3 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>* COE 111 Co-op Work Experience I</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>* BUS 280 REAL Small Business</td><td style="text-align: right;">4 SHC</td></tr> </table> Required Subject Areas: None	* AGR 111 Basic Farm Maintenance	2 SHC	* AGR 121 Biological Pest Mgmt	3 SHC	* AGR 139 Intro to Sustainable Ag	3 SHC	* AGR 160 Plant Science	3 SHC	* AGR 170 Soil Science	3 SHC	* COE 111 Co-op Work Experience I	1 SHC	* BUS 280 REAL Small Business	4 SHC	19 SHC	19 SHC	
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* AGR 121 Biological Pest Mgmt	3 SHC																
* AGR 139 Intro to Sustainable Ag	3 SHC																
* AGR 160 Plant Science	3 SHC																
* AGR 170 Soil Science	3 SHC																
* COE 111 Co-op Work Experience I	1 SHC																
* BUS 280 REAL Small Business	4 SHC																
B. CONCENTRATION (Not applicable)																	
C. OTHER MAJOR HOURS To be selected from the following prefixes: AGR, ANS, BUS, CIS, COE, CSC, and HOR <i>Foreign language courses (including ASL) that are not designated as approved other major hours may be included in all programs up to a maximum of 3 semester hours of credit.</i>																	