

CURRICULUM STANDARD

Effective Term
Fall 2007
[2007*03]

Curriculum Program Title	Agricultural Biotechnology	Code	A20110
Concentration	(not applicable)		

Curriculum Description

The Agricultural Biotechnology curriculum, which has emerged from molecular biology and chemical engineering, is designed to meet the increasing demands for skilled laboratory technicians in various fields of biological, chemical, and agricultural technology. The curriculum objectives are designed to prepare graduates to serve as a research assistant to a biologist or chemist; as a laboratory technician/ instrumentation technician; or as a quality control/quality assurance technician. The curriculum will also serve to identify/create new areas of opportunity for farmers and other potential clients in rural North Carolina.

Course work emphasizes biology, plant tissue culturing, biotechnology, agriculture, chemistry, horticulture, mathematics, and technical communication.

Graduates may find employment in various areas of industry and government, including research and development, manufacturing, sales, customer services, and production of alternative (bioengineered) crops.

*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.

C. OTHER MAJOR HOURS <i>To be selected from the following prefixes:</i>			
<p>AGR, ANS, BIO, BTC, CHM, CIS, COE, CTC, HOR, MAT, PHY, SCI, and VEN</p> <p><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></p>			