APS AGRONOMY AND AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS

Division Chair
Brad Ramsdale, Ph.D., Associate Professor

Faculty
Dan Stehlik, Lecturer

Mission
The Agronomy-Agricultural Mechanics Division is dedicated to the development of innovative individuals in the agronomy, horticulture and agricultural equipment disciplines. These degree programs prepare students for lifelong careers in agronomy, horticulture, and ag equipment industries. Graduates gain technical knowledge necessary for success in their chosen career path and obtain skills for lifelong learning and community leadership.

NCTA’s campus includes a farm laboratory with over 500 acres of crop and pasture land combined. The farm has three center-pivots including a state-of-the-art Reinke center-pivot irrigation system. Ag mechanics, welding and irrigation technology laboratories are fully equipped. Additionally, the NCTA greenhouse and high tunnel, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum affiliate site and campus ground, and the surrounding community provide living laboratories for horticulture students.

Agronomy-Ag Mechanics Core Courses
The following courses are required for all Associate of Applied Science degree options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGR 2903</td>
<td>INTERNSHIP</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECN 1103</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO AG ECONOMICS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ECN 1203</td>
<td>MICROECONOMICS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABM 2963</td>
<td>FARM, RANCH, AND SMALL BUSINESS RECORD KEEPING</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ACT 1103</td>
<td>ACCOUNTING I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABM 2854</td>
<td>FARM &amp; RANCH MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MGT 2103</td>
<td>MGT CONCEPTS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 2983</td>
<td>CAPSTONE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours Subtotal:</td>
<td>15-16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Agricultural Equipment Management Option-Associate of Applied Science Degree
- Students will be able to safely operate, troubleshoot and maintain agricultural equipment.

Associate of Applied Science Core
Complete requirements: 17
Credit Hours Subtotal: 17

Agronomy-Ag Mechanics Core
Complete requirements: 15-16
Credit Hours Subtotal: 16

Equipment Management Courses
Select 20 credits of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 1071</td>
<td>INDUSTRIAL SAFETY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 1103</td>
<td>SMALL ENGINES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 1171</td>
<td>FARM EQUIP &amp; SAFETY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 1203</td>
<td>WELDING</td>
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<td>AEQ 1313</td>
<td>INTERMEDIATE WELDING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 1503</td>
<td>DC CIRCUIT ANALYSIS</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEQ 1513</td>
<td>AC CIRCUIT ANALYSIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 1651</td>
<td>HARVEST OPERATIONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 2103</td>
<td>AG CHEMICAL APPLICATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 2303</td>
<td>EQUIP PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 2213</td>
<td>ADVANCED WELDING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 2323</td>
<td>PRECISION FARM TECH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 2404</td>
<td>MECHANIZED IRRIGATION SYSTEMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 2801</td>
<td>REINKE CERTIFICATION</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Credit Hours Subtotal: 20

Electives
Advisor Guided Electives: 17-18
Credit Hours Subtotal: 17

Total Credit Hours: 70

Agronomy Industry Management Option-Associate of Applied Science Degree
- Students will be able to apply economically sound and environmentally sustainable agricultural crop production practices in the Great Plains.

Associate of Applied Science Core
Complete requirements: 17
Credit Hours Subtotal: 17

Agronomy-Ag Mechanics Core
Complete requirements: 15-16
Credit Hours Subtotal: 16

Agronomy Option Core
Complete requirements: 23
See below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGR 1091</td>
<td>CROP PRACTICUM I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 1201</td>
<td>SOILS LAB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 1203</td>
<td>PRINCIPLES OF SOILS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MKT 2203</td>
<td>AG MARKETING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 1591</td>
<td>CROP PRACTICUM II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 2091</td>
<td>CROP PRACTICUM III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 2304</td>
<td>SOIL FERTILITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 2353</td>
<td>PEST MANAGEMENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 2383</td>
<td>IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 2403</td>
<td>CROP MANAGEMENT</td>
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</table>

Credit Hours Subtotal: 23

Agronomy Specialization
Select 6 credits of the following:

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<tr>
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<td>WELDING</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEQ 2103</td>
<td>AG CHEMICAL APPLICATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 2303</td>
<td>EQUIP PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Agronomy Option-Associate of Science Degree (transfer)

- Students will demonstrate a basic knowledge in the areas of biology, chemistry, mathematics, and oral/written communication along with a basic understanding of agriculture consistent with standards set for baccalaureate degrees.

Associate of Science Core
Complete requirements 26
Credit Hours Subtotal: 26

Agronomy Specialization
Select 24 credits of the following: 24
- ABM 2854 FARM & RANCH MANAGEMENT
- ACT 1103 ACCOUNTING I
- AEQ 2323 PRECISION FARM TECH
- AGR 1091 CROP PRACTICUM I
- AGR 1591 CROP PRACTICUM II
- AGR 2091 CROP PRACTICUM III
- AGR 1201 SOILS LAB
- AGR 1203 PRINCIPLES OF SOILS
- AGR 2304 SOIL FERTILITY
- ASI 2303 RANGE MANAGEMENT
- AGR 2353 PEST MANAGEMENT
- AGR 2383 IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT
- AGR 2403 CROP MANAGEMENT
- ECN 1203 MICROECONOMICS
- ECN 1303 MACROECONOMICS
- MKT 2203 AG MARKETING

Credit Hours Subtotal: 55

Electives
Advisor Guided Electives 14
Credit Hours Subtotal: 14
Total Credit Hours 64

Mechanized Systems Management Option-Associate of Science Degree (transfer)

Associate of Science Core
Complete requirements 26

Mechanized Systems Management Core 29
- ABM 2854 FARM & RANCH MANAGEMENT
- AEQ 1503 DC CIRCUIT ANALYSIS
- AEQ 1513 AC CIRCUIT ANALYSIS
- AGR 1201 SOILS LAB
- AGR 1203 PRINCIPLES OF SOILS
- AGR 2304 SOIL FERTILITY
- AGR 2403 CROP MANAGEMENT
- ASI 1304 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT
- ECN 1203 MICROECONOMICS
- ECN 1303 MACROECONOMICS

Credit Hours Subtotal: 55

Electives
Advisors guided electives 9
Credit hours subtotal: 9
Total credit hours 64

Ag Chemical Application Certificate
- Students will be able to mix and apply agricultural chemicals safely and efficiently.
- Students will be able to interact professionally with colleagues and clients.

**Ag Chemical Application, Certificate**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 2103</td>
<td>AG CHEMICAL APPLICATION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 2323</td>
<td>PRECISION FARM TECH</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 2353</td>
<td>PEST MANAGEMENT</td>
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<td>Advisor guided electives (AGR or AEQ)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 1881</td>
<td>APPLIED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or AGR 2903</td>
<td>INTERNSHIP</td>
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</table>

Total credit hours 16-18

**agriculture certificate**

- Provide foundational knowledge in crop and animal food production systems and a basic understanding of natural resource and agribusiness management.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGR 1011</td>
<td>AGRICULTURAL CAREERS</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 1103</td>
<td>CROP SCIENCE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 1213</td>
<td>NATURAL RES MNGT</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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<td>ECN 1103</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO AG ECONOMICS</td>
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<td>ASI 1253</td>
<td>NUTRITION</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisor guided electives</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total credit hours 16

Irrigation Technician Certificate

- Students will gain a foundational knowledge in electricity and mechanized irrigation systems in order to effectively and safely service, repair, troubleshoot, and install center-pivot systems.
- Students will be able to interact professionally with colleagues and clients.

**Irrigation Technician, Certificate**

<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 1071</td>
<td>INDUSTRIAL SAFETY</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 1501</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO ELECTRIC CODE</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEQ 1503</td>
<td>DC CIRCUIT ANALYSIS</td>
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<td>AEQ 1513</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 2404</td>
<td>MECHANIZED IRRIGATION SYSTEMS</td>
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<td>AEQ 2801</td>
<td>REINKE CERTIFICATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPC 1103</td>
<td>SALES COMM</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

Total credit hours 16

Welding Certificate

- Students will be able to perform welding and fabrication technical skills.
- Students will be able to interact professionally with colleagues and clients.

**Welding Certificate**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 1071</td>
<td>INDUSTRIAL SAFETY</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 1203</td>
<td>WELDING</td>
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<td>AEQ 1313</td>
<td>INTERMEDIATE WELDING</td>
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<td>AEQ 2213</td>
<td>ADVANCED WELDING</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 2903</td>
<td>INTERNSHIP</td>
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</table>

Total credit hours 13

Crop Production Certificate

- Students will gain a foundational knowledge in crop production related principles and practices.

**Crop Production Certificate**

**Required General Education Credits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGR 1001</td>
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<td>AGR 1201</td>
<td>CROP SCIENCE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 2201</td>
<td>CROP MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 2304</td>
<td>SOILS LAB</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 2313</td>
<td>SOIL FERTILITY</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 2353</td>
<td>PEST MANAGEMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 2401</td>
<td>CROP MANAGEMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 2403</td>
<td>CROP MANAGEMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 2413</td>
<td>CROP MANAGEMENT</td>
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Credit hours subtotal: 16

**Crop Production Emphasis**

Select 18 credits of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 1203</td>
<td>WELDING</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 2103</td>
<td>AG CHEMICAL APPLICATION</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEQ 2303</td>
<td>EQUIP PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEQ 2323</td>
<td>PRECISION FARM TECH</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 1201</td>
<td>SOILS LAB</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 1203</td>
<td>PRINCIPLES OF SOILS</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR 2304</td>
<td>SOIL FERTILITY</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 2383</td>
<td>IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT</td>
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<tr>
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<td>PEST MANAGEMENT</td>
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<td>AGR 2403</td>
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Credit hours subtotal: 18

**Electives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advisor guided electives</td>
<td>6</td>
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</table>

Total credit hours 30

Diversified Agriculture Certificate

- Students will gain a foundational knowledge in crop and livestock production principles and practices.

**Diversified Agriculture Certificate**

**Required General Education Credits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGR 1001</td>
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<td>CROP SCIENCE</td>
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<td>SOILS LAB</td>
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<td>AGR 2353</td>
<td>PEST MANAGEMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGR 2403</td>
<td>CROP MANAGEMENT</td>
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Credit hours subtotal: 16

**Diversified Agriculture Emphasis**

Select 12 credits from AGR, AEQ, or ASI courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>CROP MANAGEMENT</td>
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Credit hours subtotal: 18

**Electives**

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advisor guided electives</td>
<td>12</td>
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</table>

Total credit hours 30
AEQ 1071 INDUSTRIAL SAFETY
Description: Designed to acquaint students with standard industry practices and emergency procedures and develop an awareness of job hazards. Students will prepare for a CPR/First Aid exam and receive some bulk handling equipment training (forklift/skid steer).
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 1103 SMALL ENGINES
Description: A complete course in gasoline engine operation. It consists of operational theory and nomenclature including the internal components and its air, fuel, lubrication, and cooling system. This course will emphasize small and multi-cylinder gas and diesel engines.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 1171 FARM EQUIP & SAFETY
Description: An orientation into the safe operation of tractors, combines, balers, skid loaders, and other common farm equipment. Students will be expected to demonstrate their ability to safely operate several types of equipment.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 1203 WELDING
Description: Develop fundamental skills and procedures for oxy/acetylene, arc, and wire feed welding in flat position. Included will be basic blueprint interpretation and weld symbols, with metal cutting and preparation techniques.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 1313 INTERMEDIATE WELDING
Description: (Pre req: AEQ 1203 or equivalent) Develop skills in vertical, horizontal and overhead position arc and wire feed welding. Plasma Arc Cutting and a small assigned construction project are included. Use of a spool gun and TIG equipment will be introduced.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 1501 INTRODUCTION TO ELECTRIC CODE
Description: Introduction to Nebraska state electrical law and the National Electric Code as they pertain to the working electrician.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 1503 DC CIRCUIT ANALYSIS
Description: Fundamentals of DC electricity as applied to series, parallel, and series-parallel circuits. Diagnosis and troubleshooting of circuits with test equipment.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 1513 AC CIRCUIT ANALYSIS
Description: Fundamentals of AC electricity including alternating current theory, waveform quantities and characteristics, and network analysis. Diagnosis and troubleshooting simple circuits with proper test equipment.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 1651 HARVEST OPERATIONS
Description: The course will primarily focus on grain harvest operations. Grain combine setup and operation will be emphasized. Students will gain an understanding of factors influencing harvest efficiency including estimating harvest losses. Combine yield monitor operation will also be included.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 1713 CARPENTRY
Description: Learning basic tools and techniques of carpentry as it would pertain to a farm and ranch, including selection, use and maintenance of hand and power tools; selection of wood construction materials; construction of joints; application of finishes; and using these basic skills to follow a plan in the construction of a functional project.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 2103 AG CHEMICAL APPLICATION
Description: A course to provide career based training for a commercial applicator of pesticides, fertilizers and other agricultural chemicals. A foundation for the safe and effective use of agricultural chemicals will be emphasized. Students will gain experience and knowledge in the calibration, operation and maintenance of agricultural chemical application equipment. Preparation for obtaining a commercial pesticide applicator license will be included.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded
AEQ 2211 HYDRAULICS
Description: Basic study of hydraulic concepts, applications, and operation as applied to power equipment systems. This class also includes study of the diagnosis of power equipment with the emphasis on hydraulic problems.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 2213 ADVANCED WELDING
Description: (Pre req: AEQ 1313 or equivalent) Students will develop skills using a spool gun and TIG welding, and additional arc and wire feed welding on a wide variety of metals. The second eight weeks is devoted toward preparation for American Welding Society certification.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 2303 EQUIP PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE
Description: A study of economic principles and principles of operation, adjustments, repair, maintenance, and tune-up of farm vehicles (automotive, tractors, and powered farm equipment vehicles).
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 2323 PRECISION FARM TECH
Description: A course designed to acquaint students with the basic skills of farm map creation, GPS hardware components, software choices, decision making skills and application of GPS/GIS in the agriculture industry for improved crop management and protection of the environment.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 2404 MECHANIZED IRRIGATION SYSTEMS
Description: Prerequisites: AEQ 1501, AEQ 1503, AEQ 1513. Fundamentals of mechanized irrigation systems focusing on center-pivot components. Technical service and operation will be emphasized. Application of industrial electrical components and controls.
Credit Hours: 4
Max credits per semester: 4
Max credits per degree: 4
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 2413 DIESEL ENGINE
Description: A study of cost effective maintenance programs for agriculture power equipment. Included is nomenclature, operational theory, adjustment and maintenance of agriculture gasoline and diesel engines. Lab includes the disassembly of a diesel engine.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AEQ 2604 WELDING APPRENTICESHIP
Description: (Pre req: approval by Division Chair) The apprenticeship provides job experience in your field of study at an approved work location. Official agreements are entered into between the student, employer, and the college. The internship must last a minimum of 8 weeks averaging at least 40 hours per week. A written journal of daily work activities plus a 10 minute PowerPoint presentation are required upon completion. Students must submit a list of learning objectives prior to the apprenticeship and include discussion of these within their presentation. The student and employee will also complete a survey at the conclusion of the apprenticeship.
Credit Hours: 4
Max credits per semester: 4
Max credits per degree: 4
Grading Option: Pass No Pass

AEQ 2801 REINKE CERTIFICATION
Description: Prerequisites: AEQ 1501, AEQ 1503, AEQ 1513. Students will complete the Reinke Platinum PLUS Certified Technician training program. The course is an on-line training program developed by Reinke with integrated exams at the end of each training module. Students will be expected to complete the training sessions on their own time; however, faculty assistance will be available. To receive a Pass for the course, students must meet performance standards established by Reinke.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Pass No Pass

AGR 1011 AGRICULTURAL CAREERS
Description: Students will be exposed to the great diversity of careers that support the agricultural industry. Educational requirements to prepare for these agricultural careers will also be explored.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 1073 INVASIVE PLANTS
Description: Invasive plants can be found nearly everywhere on Earth. The flora of our planet is constantly being redistributed by either natural or human forces. The change in locations of plant species has affected, and continues to affect, ecosystems around the world. In this course, students will learn how invasive plants are able to establish in regions outside of their native range. Students will develop an understanding of the importance of invasive plants at the global scale and learn how species, which are fairly being in on ecosystem, can have significant negative impacts in others. The focus will be on how and why invasive plants become established and their impacts on ecosystems.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded
AGR 1091 CROP PRACTICUM I
Description: This is the first course of a 3-course sequence that integrates students into the crop production on NCTA's farm laboratory. Students will work as a team to develop a crop management plan for one of NCTA's crop fields. The plan will include actual production practices, budgeting and marketing of the harvested crop. Crop planting and harvest will be conducted by the students and possibly some ag chemical applications. Due to farm size limitations, the practicum courses will be limited to just Agronomy majors.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 1103 CROP SCIENCE
Description: Students will develop a global understanding of the food, feed, and fiber system. Crop production strategies to maximize yield and quality while sustaining resources and the environment will be emphasized. Principles of crop growth and development, pest management and technology for crop production will be covered.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 1116 AGRICULTURE APPLICATIONS
Description: This course is designed for students to gain experience in handling conditions on the farm daily. Students will receive hands on experience.
Credit Hours: 6
Max credits per semester: 6
Max credits per degree: 6
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 1201 SOILS LAB
Description: Laboratory activities dealing with physical, biological and chemical properties of soils that support plant growth.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 1203 PRINCIPLES OF SOILS
Description: A study of soil formation, physical, biological and chemical properties of soil with attention given to conditions that affect plant growth. Impacts of crop management on soil quality will be emphasized.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 1213 NATURAL RES MNGT
Description: A study of our natural resources with special emphasis on soil and water management including land classification, conservation practices, and protection methods used to conserve our natural resources, plus the role of government agencies in Natural Resource Management.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 1591 CROP PRACTICUM II
Description: This course is the second of a three course sequence that will be required for all agronomy majors. The 3-course practicum sequence will provide another direct assessment of the agronomy program learning outcome of “applying economically sound and environmentally sustainable agriculture crop production practices.” The practicum courses will also increase student utilization of the college’s farm laboratory.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 1603 INTRODUCTION TO URBAN AGRICULTURE
Description: An introduction to the history, definitions, principles, practices, and innovations of agricultural production in urban and peri-urban settings. Topics will include urban farming systems including traditional and emerging systems such as controlled environment and hydroponics, animal systems in urban settings, urban food systems, community gardens, policies regarding urban agriculture, food access and security, urban agriculture’s role in community and society, agricultural marketing in urban setting, and sustainable urban agricultural best practices.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 1661 AGRONOMY ORIENTATION
Description: This course will provide students the opportunity to develop their “intercultural knowledge and competence” and “information literacy” skills and abilities. It will also include group activities to help formulate career goals, improve academic success skills, develop a resume and select and appropriate internship.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 1881 APPLIED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE
Description: An introduction to the history, definitions, principles, practices, and innovations of agricultural production in urban and peri-urban settings. Topics will include urban farming systems including traditional and emerging systems such as controlled environment and hydroponics, animal systems in urban settings, urban food systems, community gardens, policies regarding urban agriculture, food access and security, urban agriculture’s role in community and society, agricultural marketing in urban setting, and sustainable urban agricultural best practices.
Credit Hours: 1
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 6
Max credits per degree: 6
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 1891 CROPS JUDGING I
Description: This course will cover all principles of agronomy to prepare students to compete in crops judging contests that operate under the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) contest guidelines.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded
AGR 1991 INDEPENDENT STUDY
Description: Individual or group projects in research, literature review, or extension of course work under the supervision and evaluation of a Major faculty member who is willing and available to contract with the student. (Pre req: Approval of project by Instructor, Division Chair, and Advisor)
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 2002 WILDLIFE HABITAT MGT
Description: A course that studies the most common Nebraska Wildlife species that are managed for harvest throughout the state. The habitat requirements and management techniques for each wildlife species will be covered. Current wildlife habitat support programs will be reviewed.
Credit Hours: 2
Max credits per semester: 2
Max credits per degree: 2
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 2091 CROP PRACTICUM III
Prerequisites: AGR 1591 Crop Practicum II
Description: This is the third of a 3-course sequence that integrates students into the crop production of NCTA's farm laboratory. Students will work as a team to develop a crop management plan for one of NCTA's irrigated crop fields. The plan will include actual production practices, budgeting and marketing of the harvested crop. Crop planting and harvest will be conducted by the students and possibly some ag chemical applications. Due to farm size limitations, the practicum courses will be limited to just Agronomy majors.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 2103 BUILDING CONSTRUCTION
Description: A study of materials, techniques, and design used for farm and ranch facilities. Lab time will include the construction of Ag building, fences, and facilities on the NCTA campus.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 2153 ORGANIC FOOD PRODUCTION
Description: An introduction to the history, definitions, principles, and practices of organic food production. Topics include soil husbandry, integrated pest management, farming systems including diversified vegetables, perennial fruit, agronomic field crops, meat, egg, and milk production, organic certification, and marketing.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 2201 COMMERCIAL AG CARRIER
Description: A course of study designed to enable students to successfully obtain their CDL with all necessary endorsements. This course of study targets agricultural employees and producers. It is not intended for those seeking fulltime employment as commercial truck drivers. (Pre req: Must be a full time NCTA student)
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Pass No Pass

AGR 2304 SOIL FERTILITY
Description: Dynamics of essential plant nutrients in the soil environment. Sustainable and profitable fertility management of agronomic and horticultural crops will be emphasized. Characteristics of the fertilizer materials, fertilizer application methods and fertilizer rate calculations will be covered.
Credit Hours: 4
Max credits per semester: 4
Max credits per degree: 4
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 2353 PEST MANAGEMENT
Description: Identification of plant pests, including morphology and life cycles of selected insects, weeds and diseases. Pest control methods will include chemical, physical, mechanical, cultural and biological techniques. Application of integrated pest management will be stressed.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 2383 IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT
Description: Efficient irrigation management strategies of agronomic crops. Irrigation techniques, irrigation scheduling, equipment selection, and water use regulations will be covered. Sustainable utilization of our water resources will be emphasized.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 2403 CROP MANAGEMENT
Description: Integration of principles of crop and soil science, plant breeding, climatology and integrated pest management in the development ad evaluation of crop management practices. Students will be able to apply economically sound and environmentally sustainable crop production strategies in the Great Plains.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 2405 FARM BEGINNINGS
Description: The Farm Beginnings Program consists of a series of sessions offered throughout the year by Nebraska Extension with cooperation from NCTA. The sessions focus on alternative agriculture and cover a variety of topics, including building networks, goal setting, whole farm planning, building your business plan, marketing, business and farm management and financials management. In addition to learning first-hand from successful farmers, participants will develop their own business plan as they progress through the course.
Credit Hours: 4
Max credits per semester: 4
Max credits per degree: 4
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 2892 CROPS JUDGING II
Description: A course of study designed to enable students to compete in crops judging contests that operate under the North American College and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) contest guidelines.
Credit Hours: 2
Max credits per semester: 2
Max credits per degree: 6
Grading Option: Graded
AGR 2903 INTERNSHIP
Description: (Pre req: approval by Division Chair) The internship provides job experience in your field of study at an approved work location. Official agreements are entered into between the student, employer, and the college. The internship must last a minimum of 8 weeks averaging at least 40 hours per week (NOTE: students must honor length agreed upon by employer). A written journal of daily work activities plus a 10 minute PowerPoint presentation are required upon returning form internship. Students must submit a list of learning objectives prior to the internship and include discussion of these with their presentation. The student and employer will also complete a survey at the conclusion of the internship.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Pass No Pass

AGR 2983 CAPSTONE
Description: This course is designed to culminate the student’s experience in their APS or AMS program and will focus on tying together functional aspects of a farm, ranch, or entrepreneurial venture. The class will culminate with a workable business plan, understand the legal and regulatory environment of their proposed enterprise, and be ready to move into formation. Included in this plan will include facility design, applicable management plans, and a complete financial package for the proposed operation that will include a cash flow, net worth, one year and three year budget, and what-if analysis. This course allows students an opportunity to integrate tools learned in their respective program.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

AGR 2992 INDEPENDENT STUDY
Description: Individual or group projects in research, literature review or extension of course work under the supervision and evaluation of a Major faculty member who is willing and available to contract with the student. The student will present his/ her independent study proposal to the Major Division Chair and faculty for their approval. (Pre req: Approval of project by Instructor, Advisor, and Division Chair)
Credit Hours: 2
Max credits per semester: 2
Max credits per degree: 2
Grading Option: Graded

1. Students will be able to effectively communicate in oral and written form.
2. Students will be able to gather, assimilate, and process information to reach sound logical conclusions in their chosen career pathway.
3. Students will be able to apply economic principles of accounting, marketing and budgeting to agronomy or agricultural mechanics enterprises.
4. Students will be able to exhibit required knowledge and skills consistent with their chosen field of study. (Technical Competence)