

Agriculture BS

Develop Professional Skills

Goal Description:

Students earning a BS in Agriculture will learn the skills necessary for seeking job placement and technical writing in the work place. RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Development of Marketplace Skills

Learning Objective Description:

Students completing the BS in Agriculture will demonstrate skills necessary to compete in the professional marketplace.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

AGRI 4120- Professional Employment Portfolio

Indicator Description:

All students seeking a degree in Agriculture are required to complete AGRI 4120 in their senior year. The course addresses essential skills necessary for job placement in the work force for agriculture employment - resume preparation, interview skills, technical writing skills and employment opportunities. Faculty will review student assignments and assess student performance on a portfolio of artifacts using a faculty-developed rubric.

Attached Files

 [AGRI 4120 Portfolio Rubric Matrix](#)

Criterion Description:

Faculty evaluations will indicate that at least 70% of the Agriculture students enrolled in AGRI 4120 will perform at an acceptable level and score a 3 (meets expectations) or higher on a scale of 1-5. Technical writing skills and proper grammar were concerns from previous evaluation and continues to an area addressed.

Findings Description:

On average, 100% of Agriculture students in the class scored 3 or higher on the professional portfolio submission, while we were very pleased to see that 80% scored a 5. The portfolio included a cover letter, resume, reference page, letters of recommendation and an application. This is an indication that students are taking this assignment seriously as they prepare to exit the university.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Development of Marketplace Skills

Action Description:

Students are exceeding expectations based on the criterion description. This is a positive outcome. Based on these findings, we will continue monitoring student performance on an annual basis. We must be diligent in continuous assessment of this learning objective to ensure that our students are prepared to enter the marketplace. We may consider moving the criterion description standard to 70% of Agriculture enrolled in the course scoring a 4 or higher, rather than a 3 or higher, but we believe it is too early to make this change at this point in time.

Knowledge of Key Concepts and Skills

Goal Description:

Students will develop knowledge and skills relevant to agriculture.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Development of Students’ Knowledge and Skills

Learning Objective Description:

Students will be able to demonstrate competency in key areas of professional communication skills through electronic presentations of technical agriculture content. Content knowledge along with writing and oral communications will be important skills assessed.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

ACOM 3360- Student Knowledge and Skills Development

Indicator Description:

All students enrolled in the program must complete ACOM 3360. ACOM 3360 addresses key presentation concepts via electronic media and communication and writing skills of technical content in agriculture. Five presentations of students majoring in Agriculture will be reviewed by faculty members with expertise in the field of agriculture. Faculty members will score the assignments using a scale ranging from 1-10 for specific aspects of the presentation and oral skills with categories of no evidence of achievement, inadequate evidence, adequate, and outstanding (see attached rubric).

Attached Files

[!\[\]\(3dfb8d66e81160ad61421a3452093d1b_img.jpg\) ACOM 3360 Presentation Rubric](#)

Criterion Description:

Faculty in Agricultural Sciences will assess students' agricultural knowledge enrolled in ACOM 3360 via oral and electronic presentation of technical topics relevant to agriculture. At least 80% of the students will be expected to perform at a level equivalent to adequate evidence or higher as noted on the rubric. Specific focus will be in the areas of clarity, ag/content knowledge and grammar will skills of emphasis as noted from previous review.

Findings Description:

One of three students met the 80% goal. Thus, only 33% of the students met the desired learning outcomes to: 1) create an effective, technically correct presentation aid; and 2) demonstrate effective presentation skills.

The “Content and Elaboration During Oral Presentation” section of the rubric revealed the greatest need for improvement. Therefore, more focus will be placed on helping students clearly understand what is correct regarding how a presentation aid should be used. Formatting of the Presentation Aid received too low of a score also, so much more attention will be given to ensuring adherence to details and requirements of the development presentation aid.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Development of Students' Knowledge and Skills

Action Description:

Students failed to perform at the expected level. The “Content and Elaboration During Oral Presentation” section of the rubric revealed the greatest need for improvement. Therefore, more focus will be placed on helping students clearly understand what is correct regarding how a presentation aid should be used. Formatting of the Presentation Aid received too low of a score also, so much more attention will be given to ensuring adherence to details and requirements of the development presentation aid.

Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):

Focus will be directed to ensuring students understand appropriate voice quality, enthusiasm, mannerisms, and body movement while making oral presentations.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

The “Content and Elaboration During Oral Presentation” section of the rubric revealed the greatest need for improvement. Therefore, more focus will be placed on helping students clearly understand what is correct regarding how a presentation aid should be used. Formatting of the Presentation Aid received too low of a score also, so much more attention will be given to ensuring adherence to details and requirements of the development presentation aid.

Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):

We must be diligent in continuous assessment of the learning objective, "Development of Marketplace Skills" to ensure that our students are prepared to enter the marketplace. We may consider moving the criterion description standard to 70% of Agriculture students enrolled in the course scoring a 4 or higher, rather than a 3 or higher, but we believe it is too early to make this change at this point in time.

Students failed to perform at the expected level in content and skills. The “Content and Elaboration During Oral Presentation” section of the rubric revealed the greatest need for improvement. Therefore, more focus will be placed on helping students clearly understand what is correct regarding how a presentation aid should be used. Formatting of the Presentation Aid received too low of a score also, so much more attention will be given to ensuring adherence to details and requirements of the development presentation aid.

Marketplace Skills and Content Knowledge

Closing Summary:

We must be diligent in continuous assessment of the learning objective, "Development of Marketplace Skills" to ensure that our students are prepared to enter the marketplace. We may consider moving the criterion description standard to 70% of Agriculture students enrolled in the course scoring a 4 or higher, rather than a 3 or higher, but we believe it is too early to make this change at this point in time.

Students failed to perform at the expected level in content and skills. The “Content and Elaboration During Oral Presentation” section of the rubric revealed the greatest need for improvement. Therefore, more focus will be placed on helping students clearly understand what is correct regarding how a presentation aid should be used. Formatting of the Presentation Aid received too low of a score also, so much more attention will be given to ensuring adherence to details and requirements of the development presentation aid.