



## Vineyard Management

**Prerequisite:** General Viticulture or permission of teacher

**Course Description:** This course is designed for students already familiar with the basics of viticulture. A student project will be completed using geological survey data, evaluating a real site for its potential as a vineyard. Students will develop an establishment plan and create a water management strategy based on soil properties and climate of a selected site. Vineyard design will be covered including planning rows, and calculating the numbers of posts and plants needed. A task management plan will be developed for a year including specific strategies for management of weeds, vertebrate pests, insects, and diseases. Lecture topics covered will include canopy management, foliar sampling, sustainable management practices, and how cropping systems affect vine vigor. Labor management and grape contracts will be discussed. A team sustainability project will be completed focusing on sustainability issues pertinent to the Lake County wine growing region. Lab activities will be scheduled at Middletown High School's Viticulture commercial vineyard.

### COURSE CONTENT

#### Course Student Learning Outcomes:

##### Students will be able to:

1. Select a site that would be appropriate for vineyard development
2. Compile soil and climate information from print and internet sources specific to a potential vineyard site
3. Evaluate soil and climate data of a potential vineyard site to determine: how to prepare it for planting; what varieties will grow best there; and what trellising features will work best for the site and varieties chosen

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4. Prepare a management action plan for a vineyard while considering predicted and hypothetical water relations, nutrient availability, and pest pressure
5. Execute a grape purchase agreement
6. Critically evaluate and report on sustainable practices for a specific aspect of viticulture in Lake County while working as a team with other students
7. Manage and evaluate a canopy microclimate for efficient sunlight interception, airflow and leaf layer numbers appropriate to site and variety characteristics
8. Analyze different spraying technologies to minimize drift and maximize spray effectiveness

**General Outline of Topics Covered:**

- A. Grape purchase contracts and vineyard leases
- B. Water relations in a vineyard: Climate and soil
- C. USDA Soil website
- D. Grapevine Canopy Management
- E. Vineyard Site Evaluation
- F. Vineyard Site Assessment Guidelines
- G. Managing grapevine canopy microclimate
- H. Crop management and yield estimation
- I. Sustainable pest and pesticide management
- J. Nutrient management

**Required Materials** (please bring to class):

- 3-ring binder & viticulture ID Notebook
- Proper writing utensil & lined paper

*\* Periodic "Binder Checks" & "ID Checks" may be conducted to ensure you remain organized. The above mentioned supplies will be expected to receive credit.*

**Late Work and Make-up policy:** No late homework will be accepted after the chapter or unit test. Homework is due on the date announced. All homework must be labeled with a: name, date, period, and name of assignment. It is the **student's responsibility** to find out what assignments he or she missed. All missed work can be made up after school or at lunch by appointment only. The students have same number of days to make up the work as they were absent.

**Viticulture Participation:** Field work is an important part of your grade. Projects could include, but are not limited to; surveying, building deer proof fencing, field soil analysis as well as development of a vineyard site. Operating farm equipment (such as weed-eaters, tractors and hand tools), soil prep, weed control, irrigation, planting and harvesting as well as designing, creating & maintain trellis systems.

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**Grading Categories:**

- Classwork, Homework, Lab Activities and Projects
- Exams/Quizzes & Participation
- Leadership/FFA & SAEP (10% of grade)

**Grading Scale:**

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

**Classroom rules, procedures and expectations:**

- Students are expected to arrive promptly to class and be seated with materials when the bell rings.
- Students are expected to use all equipment safely, correctly, and as directed.
- Students are expected to respect the rights of others to learn.
- Students are expected to participate in labs and discussions & take notes during lectures.
- Students are expected to clean their work area and help maintain common work areas.
- Students are expected to come see me for help and for make-up assignments.
- Students are expected to place all electronic devices in backpacks (turned off) before entering the classroom.

**Participation in FFA events:** Students are required to complete a project (or SAE project), homework, class work, labs, FFA activities and a FFA record book. (10% of the grade)

- To travel with the FFA Chapter for the purpose of FFA contests, Conferences, or to exhibit at the County Fair each student should achieve a minimum 2.0 GPA at the time of travel. Attendance and behavioral records may also be examined.
- Students who miss school for such an event will be expected to collect assignments to be missed from each teacher before the date of absence.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me. Visit my website for our students: [middletownffa.com](http://middletownffa.com) or visit the FFA Student website: [middletownffa.org](http://middletownffa.org)

## **Vineyard Syllabus Acknowledgement**

*I have read and understand the information presented in this Syllabus.*

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Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ag Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Your student is asked to keep this Syllabus in the portion of his/her binder labeled "Expectations." Please refer back to the syllabus at any time.*

## Vocational Agriculture Permission Slip

Over the course of the year, your child will have the opportunity to experience many different aspects of vocational agriculture classes that they may otherwise never see. These include, but are not limited to: docking, castrating, giving injections, ear notching, ear tagging, and tattooing. While we feel that these are great learning experiences for students and necessary management practices for the health and safety of animals, we realize that not everyone feels the same, so the following applies:

- No one has to participate.
- No student is forced to watch, touch, etc...Students have the option of staying in an appointed location and/or completing an alternative assignment. Grades will not be affected.
- Students are asked to inform their parents both before and after the event, using the proper terminology to explain what they have learned.
- Any animals harvested are done so for a purpose.

I have read the above and understand what my child may be exposed to.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_