

# Agricultural and Environmental Systems Career Field Pathways and Course Structure

## Courses in Natural Resource Management (A6)

| PATHWAY COURSES  | SUBJECT CODE |
|--|--------------|
| Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources <sup>1</sup>           | 010105       |
| Natural Resources <sup>2</sup>                                 | 010710       |
| Energy Systems Management                                      | 010715       |
| Environmental Science for Agriculture and Natural Resources    | 010720       |
| Environmental Systems Management                               | 010725       |
| Forestry and Woodland Ecosystems                               | 010730       |
| Park & Recreational Management                                 | 010735       |
| Urban Forestry   | 010740       |
| Wildlife & Fisheries   | 010745       |
| ELECTIVES  | SUBJECT CODE |
| Business Management for Agricultural and Environmental Systems | 010115       |
| Agricultural and Environmental Systems Capstone <sup>3</sup>   | 010190       |
| Communications and Leadership                                  | 010110       |
| Zoo and Aquarium   | 010940       |

<sup>1</sup>First course in the Career Field; <sup>2</sup>First course in the Pathway; <sup>3</sup>Does not count as one of the required four courses

### Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

Subject Code: 010105

This is the first course in the Agricultural and Environmental Systems career field. It introduces students to the pathways that are offered in the Agricultural and Environmental Systems career field. As such, learners will obtain fundamental knowledge and skills in food science, natural resource management, animal science & management, plant & horticultural science, power technology and biotechnology. Students will be introduced to the FFA organization and begin development of their leadership ability.

### Natural Resources

Subject Code: 010710

Learners will apply science principles and management practices to the protection of renewable and non-renewable natural resources. Students will learn fundamentals of land use as well as watershed, wildlife, fishery and forest management. Students will be introduced to management practices related to managing air and water quality along with requirements for managing solid and liquid waste. Communications, business principles and leadership skill development are essential to the program.

### Energy Systems Management

Subject Code: 010715

Students will apply basic principles of energy accounting, thermodynamics and heat transfer, energy conversion and efficiency to heating, power generation and transportation. Students will apply the principles and practices needed for managing both renewable and non-renewable energy sources including, solar thermal, hydrogen generation, photovoltaic, hydroelectric, biomass use, geothermal heat transfer, and fossil fuel. Future energy systems and energy use scenarios are investigated, with a focus on promoting the use of renewable energy resources and technologies.

### **Environmental Science for Agriculture and Natural Resources**

Subject Code: 010720

Learners will study relationships between organisms and their environment. Principles of biogeochemical cycles, air-water-land relationships, non-point pollution, and wetlands will be applied. Learners will examine economic fundamentals of resource development, agriculture sustainability, energy needs and pollution control. Learners will analyze and interpret data gathered from ecosystems, population studies, forest management practices, pesticide use, land use and waste management. Learners will develop responses to environmental problems and develop management strategies for responsible conservation and resource development.

### **Environmental Systems Management**

Subject Code: 010725

Learners will analyze and interpret biological, chemical and physical properties of soil, water and air. They will determine the source and type of environmental contamination, evaluate pollution control measures and be prepared to respond accordingly. Learners will be able to monitor treatment processes for potable water, waste water and solid waste. Learners will develop and implement environmental plans using principles governing ecosystems in relation to resource development and industrial processes.

### **Forestry and Woodland Ecosystems**

Subject Code: 010730

Learners will apply principles of botany, dendrology and silviculture to the management of forests and forest ecosystems. Learners will apply principles of timber cruising with surveying and mapping techniques to take forest measurements. Learners will develop the knowledge and skills necessary for forest reforestation, timber stand improvement, timber harvesting and forest product utilization. Learners will operate and maintain forestry equipment, apply fire management practices, and understand related regulations, laws, and policy issues.

### **Parks and Recreational Management**

Subject Code: 010735

Students will design facilities, develop educational programs and manage resources for use in public recreation. Students will maintain and operate equipment for maintaining wildlife habitat and supporting a variety of public recreational activities. Students will develop marketing and programming skills for park development, apply management practices to park operations and learn the systems required to maintain public safety.

### **Urban Forestry**

Subject Code: 010740

The learner will promote the care and management of trees for residential and commercial purposes. Learners will apply principles of soil management, dendrology and pest management to the care and management of trees. Learners will analyze budgets; and develop short and long-range management plans that balance environmental and economic goals and that support sustainable land use patterns. Principles of rigging, advanced rope techniques, and chainsaw applications for tree pruning and removal will be learned.

### **Wildlife and Fisheries**

Subject Code: 010745

Learners will apply the principles and practices of resource conservation and management to fish and wildlife populations. Students learn to properly handle wild animals, principles of wildlife nutrition, inventory practices, water quality parameters and testing, and natural and artificial propagation. Learners will apply principles of facility design and layout for managing fish populations. Learners will research and evaluate the impacts of various land practices, legislation, and human activities on habitats and populations.

## **Business Management for Agricultural and Environmental Systems**

Subject Code: 010115

Learners will examine elements of business, identify organizational structures and identify and apply management skills. Learners will develop business plans, financial reports and strategic goals for new ventures or existing businesses. Learners will use marketing concepts to evaluate the marketing environment and develop a marketing plan with marketing channels, product approaches, promotion and pricing strategies. Learners will practice customer sales techniques and apply concepts of ethics and professionalism while understanding related business regulations.

## **Agricultural and Environmental Systems Capstone**

Subject Code: 010190

The capstone course is an opportunity for students to solve problems and demonstrate that they have achieved the requisite knowledge and skills in their chosen Agricultural and Environmental Systems career field pathway. The course is designed to assess cognitive, affective and psychomotor learning and to do so in a student-centered and student-directed manner. The capstone requires the application of learning to a project that serves as an instrument of evaluation.

## **Communications and Leadership**

Subject Code: 010110

Students will analyze attributes and capabilities of those in leadership positions and develop their communication and leadership skills in authentic situations. The course prepares students to apply journalistic, communication and broadcasting principles to the development, production, and transmittal of agricultural and environmental systems information.

## **Zoo and Aquarium**

Subject Code: 010940

In this course, learners will identify and apply responsible animal science principals and routine husbandry practices to captive animal populations. Learners will apply knowledge of animal behavior, welfare, and husbandry principals to enhance exhibit design, animal enrichment and training plans, and educational and visitor engagement programs. Emphasis will be given to data collection and research techniques. Principles of responsible population control, disease risk and management, and problem-solving/action planning techniques will be examined.