Objectives - At the conclusion of this course you will understand:

- Basic principles for student success –
  - Location and methods of access and utilization for specific student resources including the library, learning centers, e-Lion, course management system and other resources provided by the Pennsylvania State University and the College of Agricultural Sciences.
- Unique Characteristics of the Pennsylvania State University College of Agricultural Sciences –
  - The implications of being designated as a land grant school
  - The role and specific implications of the land grant mission for education, extension and research
- Enhanced teamwork, research and presentation skills through:
  - Small group discussion
  - Team research and presentations (oral and written)
  - Team debates of relevant agricultural topics
  - Development of e-Portfolio

Course Management System - This course will utilize the Angel course management system for communication and submission of assignments. Students are responsible for regularly checking the site for news and announcements. The site is accessed at [http://cms.psu.edu](http://cms.psu.edu). Word must be used in preparing written assignments submitted in Angel drop boxes. A Penn State access id and password are necessary to utilize the system.

Text & Other References –

- Additional Reading:
- Websites
  - How to Critically Analyze Information Sources ([http://www.library.cornell.edu/okuref/research/skill26.htm](http://www.library.cornell.edu/okuref/research/skill26.htm))
  - How to Evaluate Information on the Web ([http://www.libraries.psu.edu/instruction/infolit/andyou/mod6/eval.htm](http://www.libraries.psu.edu/instruction/infolit/andyou/mod6/eval.htm))
  - Science Made Stupid ([http://www.besse.at/sms/smsintro.html](http://www.besse.at/sms/smsintro.html))
  - Why We Need to Evaluate What We Find on the Web ([http://thorplus.lib.purdue.edu/~techman/eval.html](http://thorplus.lib.purdue.edu/~techman/eval.html))
Assignments - Assignment details will be included in appropriate folders within the Angel Lessons Content section.

- Debate (30 points) - Team Activity
  - Position paper (10 points)
  - Presentation of Argument (10 points)
  - Team Summary (5 points)
  - Class Evaluation (5 points)
- Study Skills Presentation (20 points) - Team Activity
  - Powerpoint Presentation (10 points)
  - "Tip List" (10 points)
- Homework Assignments (20 points)
- Seminar Series/Tour Summaries (2.5 points each = 10 points)
- E-Portfolio (10 points)
- Class Attendance/Participation (10 points)

Grading Policy –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>100-93</th>
<th>92-90</th>
<th>89-87</th>
<th>86-83</th>
<th>82-80</th>
<th>79-77</th>
<th>76-70</th>
<th>69-60</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Late Policy: All assignments are due on the date and at the time indicated on the course calendar in Angel. Assignments will be deducted 1% if they are not received at the posted time and 10% per day for each day late. No assignments will be accepted more than 5 days after the due date.

Academic Integrity –
Academic integrity, as defined by University Faculty Senate Policy 49-20, is the pursuit of scholarly activity free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of the institution. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating of information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. This sets a standard for open, honest and responsible expectations for all students. It serves the basic guiding principle of academic integrity at Penn State. All members of the University community are expected to act accordingly. The University’s Code of Conduct states that all students should act with personal integrity, respect other students’ dignity, rights and property as well as help create and maintain an environment where all can succeed. Academic integrity includes a commitment not to engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Such Acts of dishonesty violate the fundamental ethical principles of the University community and compromise the worth of the work completed by others.

For more information, visit the College of Agricultural Sciences Academic Integrity website. ([http://academicintegrity.cas.psu.edu/](http://academicintegrity.cas.psu.edu/))
Personal Impact – How will you be different as a result of taking this course?

By the end of this course, you will:
  o Understand the complex nature of the Land-Grant Mission and the College of Agricultural Sciences.
  o Be comfortable articulating the goals and objectives of Penn State and the College of Agricultural Sciences commitment to food, fiber and natural resource systems.
  o Appreciate the rigor and joy of learning
  o Know how to pursue your academic goals and objectives

Questions to be addressed through the course:
  o Can someone learn to be a critical thinker?
  o How are animals protected when used in research?
  o How can you become a better student?
  o How can you better manage your time?
  o How did Penn State originate?
  o How does someone become a researcher?
  o What are fellowships, assistantships and teaching assistants?
  o What are the three missions of the College of Agricultural Sciences?
  o What is a research grant?
  o What is meant by the term "Land Grant College?"
  o What role can international study play in your education?
  o What role can internships play in your education?
  o What role does Extension play in the College of Agricultural Sciences?
  o Where do research findings go after completed?
  o Where does research originate?
  o Who pays for research activities?
  o Why is it important that the College of Agricultural Sciences conduct research?
  o Why is there a College of Agricultural Sciences at Penn State?