## 7th Grade Ag Exploratory
## Mrs. Blair Gerlach
## Bellevue MS/HS
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**Course Description:**
This exploration course provides the opportunity to learn fundamental concepts in agriculture to serve as a foundation for future courses and to inform students about the industry that is so vital to society and to their future.  Major units of instruction include an introduction to the agricultural industry, animal science, plant science, horticulture science, agribusiness, environmental science, agricultural mechanics, food science and leadership and personal development. FFA activities and SAE projects will still be involved throughout the course of the quarter.

**Skills Needed:**
- ❖ Willingness to become involved in activities with the Ag Ed program and FFA chapter.
- ❖ Positive and productive work ethic
- ❖ Responsibility and time management
- ❖ Willingness to accept challenges and give 110%
- ❖ Courteous and respectful to everyone in the classroom
- ❖ Willingness to participate and work both independently and in teams effectively

**Course Units:**     *The extent of the content will be time dependent.*
- ➢ What is Agriculture?
- ➢ FFA Opportunities
- ➢ Careers in Agriculture
- ➢ Environmental Science
- ➢ Soil Science
- ➢ Plant Science
- ➢ Animal Science

**Standards:**
AFNR Common Career Technical Core Standards Alignment

**Grading Criteria:**

**Grading Weights:**
Content= 70%
   Test
   Projects
Process= 30%
   Class Activities
   Participation

**Grading Scale:**
A+ = 100
A = 95
A- = 90
B+ = 89
B = 85
B-= 80

C+ = 79
C = 75
C- = 70
D+= 69
D = 65
D- = 60
F = 59

**Classroom Expectations:**
The following classroom expectations may change slightly or be adjusted by the instructor at any time during the year as needed.
- ❖ Be prepared for class and begin work when you arrive.
- ❖ Respect others, their space, and their belongings.
- ❖ Phones will be deposited in cell phone slots when entering the classroom. Phone usages without permission will result in 0/9th block.
- ❖ Please leave the classroom as you found it.

Late Work:
Late work will be accepted with a <u>no later than date</u>. Students will have two weeks after the assignment's original due date. Once those two week have passed the assignment will not be allowed to be submitted and will be recorded as a zero.

Makeup Work:
Makeup assignments and information are put in the absent work bin in Mrs. Gerlach's classroom. Students are responsible for getting their own makeup work and signing up to makeup activities, and assessment with Mrs. Gerlach. Students have 1 week to complete makeup work before it goes in the gradebook as a zero.

Cheating/Plagiarism:
Cheating and/or plagiarism will **not be tolerated.** Students caught cheating will receive a zero on the assignment. Students caught cheating together will BOTH receive a zero on assignments. This includes copying work from another student, and/or resources.

Technology:
We will be using Google Classroom in our classroom, along with the internet and other online resources. Any inappropriate use of technology, including cell phone usages will result in 0/9th block.

**Other Information:**
Extra credit will be available throughout the year.  Extra credit is NOT "instead of" credit.  You cannot make up points to cover an assignment you didn't complete or to replace participation

points. Extra credit is only for homework, projects, tests, and quizzes.  The instructor must also approve the extra credit beforehand.  In order to receive extra credit, you just have to ask the instructor. Opportunities for extra credit will be provided at various times during the course.

Communication is highly encouraged in this classroom.  I am always available to provide extra assistance to students on assignments and projects. Contacting me to discuss projects or set up extra work time for something is always an option, before and after school.

**Course content, student expectations, and other items on the syllabus are subject to change and/or vary throughout the year.**