SCSC - SOIL AND CROP SCIENCES (SCSC)

SCSC 105 World Food and Fiber Crops  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.  
(AGRI 1307 and AGRI 1107, AGRI 1407) World Food and Fiber Crops.  
Plant relationships, structure and development; environmental factors  
affecting plants; technological aspects of agricultural practices; food  
production for an increasing population.

SCSC 201 Great Plains Settlement and Farming  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
American Indian hunting and farming; transformation by Manifest  
destiny, Homestead Act, railroads, Indian Wars, U.S. Army, crops and farm  
families; effects of World Wars, Great Depression, Dust Bowl, irrigation,  
fertilization, pest controls, precision farming.

SCSC 205 Problem Solving in Plant and Soil Systems  
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.  
Problems in management of soils, crops, and natural resources; problem  
solving skills including collecting, interpreting, using and communicating  
scientific and nonscientific data.

SCSC 289 Special Topics In...  
Credits 0 to 4. 0 to 4 Other Hours.  
Selected topics in an identified area of soil and crop sciences. May be  
repeated for credit.

SCSC 291 Research  
Credits 1 to 3. 1 to 3 Lecture Hours.  
Research conducted under the direction of faculty member in agronomy.  
May be repeated 2 times for credit.  
Prerequisites: Freshman or sophomore classification and approval of  
instructor.

SCSC 301 Soil Science  
Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.  
Evaluation of the nature and properties of soils; explanation of the  
various soils, their components and roles in the environment using the  
scientific methods and technology.  
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification, or approval of  
instructor.

SCSC 302 Recreational Turf  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Principles underlying construction and maintenance practices for turf  
facilities including athletic fields, golf courses, parks and home lawns;  
aesthetic, safety and economic aspects of turf varieties, soil conditions,  
plant protectants and maintenance equipment.  
Prerequisite: Biology or approval of instructor.

SCSC 304 Plant Breeding and Genetics  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.  
Genetic improvement of crops by hybridization and selection; special  
breeding methods and techniques applicable to naturally self-pollinated,  
cross-pollinated and asexually reproduced plants.  
Prerequisite: SCSC 105, SCSC 205, or HORT 201, or approval of instructor.

SCSC 305 Professional Development in Agronomy  
Credit 1. 2 Lab Hours.  
Enhancement of human relation skills related to a career in soil and  
crop sciences; field trip to Mississippi to interact with leadership from a  
global agricultural company; on-campus experiences to improve effective  
learning practices; job seeking and retention and setting and achieving  
short-term and long-term professional goals.  
Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

SCSC 307 Crop Biology and Physiology  
Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.  
Emphasis on seed biology germination, development of cells and tissues,  
anatomy, and growth and development of crop plants; plant  
hormones and tropisms, membranes and membrane transport, water  
absorption and transport through plants, photosynthesis, respiration and  
carbohydrate metabolism, and flowering; environmental effects on crop  
adaptation, growth, development, and productivity.  
Prerequisites: SCSC 205, junior or senior classification, or approval of  
instructor.

SCSC 309 Water in Soils and Plants  
Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.  
Fundamentals of plant water use, and water movement and storage  
in soils; evapotranspiration, plant water requirements and irrigation  
scheduling; issues impacting irrigation and water quality; techniques for  
measuring soil and plant water relations.  
Prerequisite: SCSC 301; Junior or senior classification, or approval of  
instructor.

SCSC 310 Soil Morphology and Interpretations  
Credits 2. 1 Lecture Hour. 3 Lab Hours.  
Field study of morphological features of soil profiles and the  
morphological characterization of important soils of Texas in relation to  
soil use and management.  
Prerequisite: SCSC 301 or registration therein.

SCSC 311 Principles of Crop Production  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Origin and development of major U.S. agronomic crops; crop and  
species adaptation; crop management factors such as cultivar selection,  
planting, pest control, plant nutrition, irrigation, harvesting; organic  
farming; conservation agriculture; bioenergy crops; influence of markets,  
government policies, and global economy on cropping strategies; provide  
an understanding of the major row and drill (agronomic) crops grown in  
the United States including barley, corn, cotton, grain sorghum, peanuts,  
rice, soybean and wheat.  
Prerequisites: SCSC 105 or SCSC 205, junior or senior classification, or  
approval of instructor.

SCSC 312 Professional Development in Turfgrass  
Credit 1. 2 Lab Hours.  
Includes but not limited to fertilizer, pesticide, irrigation calculations;  
turfgrass, insect and weed identification and management, soils and  
rootzone construction; irrigation system operation and auditing;  
sprayer and spreader operation and calibration; builds upon and allows  
application of information obtained in SCSC 302; designed to better  
prepare those intending to compete in the GCSAA and STMA Collegiate  
Turf Bowl competitions.  
Prerequisite: SCSC 302 or registration therein.

SCSC 315 Hemp Production and Utilization  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Advanced topics in principles and practices of producing hemp and its  
utilization in industrial, nutritional and therapeutic activities.  
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.
SCSC 330 Social and Ethical Aspects of International Cropping Systems
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
Philosophical basis of ethical decisions; includes slavery, war, population growth, migration, farm workers, chemical inputs, genetically modified organisms, soil and water conservation and protection of wild species.
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.

SCSC 401/FIVS 401 Forensic Soil Science
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Examination of soils biology, chemistry and physical attributes to solve crimes; soil and geologic characteristics associated with crime scene examination; physical, biological and chemical characteristics and use of trace evidence.
Prerequisite: Grade of C or better in FIVS 482.
Cross Listing: FIVS 401/SCSC 401.

SCSC 402 Crop Stress Management
Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Identification, measurement, biology, physiology and management of crop stress; limitations of specific environments to crop productivity; morphological and physiological crop stress response mechanisms.
Prerequisites: SCSC 307, junior or senior classification, or approval of instructor.

SCSC 405 Soil and Water Microbiology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Roles of soil and water microorganisms in the sustainability and productivity of various ecosystems with specific emphasis on plant-microbial interactions, nutrient cycling, degradation of pesticides and other xenobiotics, generation of trace gases, and soil and water quality; hands-on laboratory experience with current techniques in soil and water microbiology.
Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification, or approval of instructor.

SCSC 406 Soil and Water Microbiology Laboratory
Credit 1. 2 Lab Hours.
Hands-on experience with current techniques for examining the types, numbers, activity and roles of soil and water microorganisms with specific application to the carbon, nitrogen and sulfur cycle; plant-microbial interactions; soil and water quality.
Prerequisites: SCSC 405 or concurrent enrollment; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

SCSC 410 International Agricultural Systems
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Contrast modern agriculture systems with those in developing countries; emphasis on natural resources and technologies interacting with economic and social development on a global scale.
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification, or approval of instructor.

SCSC 411 Biotechnology for Crop Improvement
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Use of biotechnology to improve agricultural, horticultural and forest crops; techniques and methods used and case studies where biotechnology has been used to alter traits such as pathogen resistance, protein or oil consumption, ripening, fertility and wood properties.
Prerequisite: BIOL 111 or equivalent.
Cross Listing: MEPS 411 and GENE 411.

SCSC 420 Brazilian Agriculture and Food Production Systems
Credits 3 to 6. 3 to 6 Lecture Hours.
Comparison and study of Brazilian and U.S. agriculture and culture related to soil, water, and forest conservation and management in Brazil; tour and learn about Amazon River, rain forest, Brasilia, farm, ranch, and floral production systems, agricultural cooperatives and research, sugar and alcohol production, phosphate mining and production; visit points of interest.
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

SCSC 421 International Agricultural Research Centers - Mexico
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
International agricultural research; CIMMYT interaction; modern and underdeveloped tropical agricultural systems; introduction to Mexican culture; critical evaluation of complex and international agricultural issues and research programs.
Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification and approval of instructor.

SCSC 422 Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrient Management
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Chemical and biological reactions in soils that influence nutrient availability to plants; environmental aspects associated with nutrient availability and fertilization, especially for nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P).
Prerequisites: SCSC 301, junior or senior classification, or approval of instructor.

SCSC 427 Sports Field Construction
Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.
Development of knowledge, skills, and experiences for the design and construction of a turfgrass-based sports field; case studies and visits to model fields, guest lectures from sports field owners, designers, and construction company managers; hands-on construction of a small-scale sand-based sports field.
Prerequisites: SCSC 309, junior or senior classification, or approval of instructor.

SCSC 428 Advanced Turf Ecology and Physiology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examination of how environmental stresses, genetics, and cultural management practices influence the growth, development, and physiology of turfgrasses; exploration of how turf communities function within urban landscapes; introduction to environmental, social, and political issues encountered when managing these areas.

SCSC 429 Turf Management Systems
Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Development of turf management plans for large turfgrass sites including parks, golf courses and sports facilities; use of case studies to critically analyze turf management programs.
Prerequisite: SCSC 428.

SCSC 430 Turfgrass Maintenance
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Effective leadership and management strategies, organizational structures, human resource management, employee training and motivational strategies, effective professional communication approaches with clientele, employees and within a leadership team within a turfgrass facility framework; emphases on ethics, professional development and life-long learning.
Prerequisite: SCSC 429 or approval of instructor.
SCSC 432 Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrient Management Laboratory  
Credit 1. 3 Lab Hours.  
Methods used in soil testing, fertilizer recommendations, chemical and physical properties of soils, and determination of specific characteristics of a collected and analyzed soil sample.  
Prerequisite: SCSC 301; SCSC 422 or registration therein, junior or senior classification, or approval of instructor.

SCSC 441 Advances in Agronomic Sciences  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Synthesis, integration and extension of agronomic and related concepts for understanding the functioning and management of agricultural cropping systems.  
Prerequisite: Senior classification or approval of instructor.

SCSC 444 Forage Ecology and Management  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Investigation of multidisciplinary approaches toward the development of integrated forage, livestock, and wildlife production systems that are economically feasible and environmentally sustainable.  
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

SCSC 446 Weed Management and Ecology  
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.  
Practical information related to weed management and ecology for various vegetative systems to include turf and agronomic crops; calibration of applicators, herbicide labels, mode of action of herbicides, herbicide-resistant weed management.  
Prerequisites: BIOL 111, BIOL 101 or BIOL 113, junior or senior classification.

SCSC 453 Essentials for Weed Systematic Identification and Management in Agronomy  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Fundamental understanding and hands-on training on the basics of plant weed identification and management; relevant to agronomy, turf, horticulture and rangeland science and vegetation identification and management.  
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.

SCSC 455 Environmental Soil and Water Science  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Discussion of physical, chemical, and biological properties of soil and water and the impact on productivity and sustainability of various ecosystems; application of the knowledge of properties and soil processes to develop and evaluate strategies for protecting and/or improving soil and water quality.  
Prerequisite: SCSC 301 or approval of instructor.

SCSC 458 Watershed, Water and Soil Quality Management  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Land use impact on surface and ground water chemistry; legislation impacting water quality; surface and groundwater impairment and restoration.  
Prerequisite: CHEM 119 or equivalent or approval of instructor; junior or senior classification.

SCSC 481 Senior Seminar  
Credits 2. 2 Lecture Hours.  
Capstone course bringing together student experiences, exams, and exercises necessary for completing and assessing curriculum program learning outcomes.  
Prerequisite: Senior classification.

SCSC 484 Internship  
Credits 0 to 4. 0 to 4 Other Hours.  
Practical on-the-job experience in the student’s area of specialization.  
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification; approval of instructor; 2.0 or better GPR in major and overall.

SCSC 485 Directed Studies  
Credits 0 to 4. 0 to 4 Other Hours.  
For advanced undergraduates to permit field or laboratory investigation or study of subject matter not included in established courses.  
Prerequisite: 10 hours of junior and senior agronomy or approval of instructor.

SCSC 489 Special Topics in...  
Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Lecture Hours. 0 to 4 Lab Hours.  
Selected topics in an identified area of agronomy. May be repeated for credit.  
Prerequisite: Approval of department head.

SCSC 491 Research  
Credits 0 to 4. 0 to 4 Other Hours.  
Research conducted under the direction of faculty member in agronomy. May be repeated 2 times for credit. Registration in multiple sections of this course are possible within a given semester provided that the per semester credit hour limit is not exceeded.  
Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification and approval of instructor.