

Syllabus for AG 60: Organic Certification

Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2023

Course ID & Section #: AG-60-V5564

Instructor's name: Breauna DeMatto

Day/Time of required meetings: N/A (asynchronous online class content)

Location: Online

Course units: 1.0

Instructor Contact Information

Office location: Online

Office hours: By appointment

Phone number: 559-639-9603

Email address: breauna-dematto@redwoods.edu or message via Canvas

Catalog Description

A course studying the origins, application, regulation and technology of organic crop and livestock production. Theoretical and practical issues surrounding organic production from a cross-disciplinary perspective. Topics include the history of the organic movement, current regulation and certification, and field management practices and technologies.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. **Discuss historical milestones in the development of organic agriculture.**
2. **Define organic agriculture and related terms.**
3. **Distinguish between organic registration and organic certification.**

Textbook

No textbook - readings will be provided on Canvas

Evaluation & Grading Policy

Evaluation for this course is based on your performance of the following assignments (more details about each assignment are posted on Canvas):

Discussion Board Postings (6 postings at 10 points each) = 60 points

Quizzes (5 quizzes at 10 points each) = 50 points

Organic System Plan Parts 1-4 (25 points each) = 100 points

Final Exam = 40 points

Total Points = 250 points

Grades will be posted to Canvas in a timely manner after an assignment is completed. Please be sure to check your grades throughout the semester so that you can alert me of any discrepancies that you notice.

Semester grades will be based on the percentage of the total possible points earned over the semester. Letter grades will be broken down as follows:

90-100% = A
 80-89% = B
 70-79% = C
 60-69% = D
 50-59% = F

Course Outline

Below is a course outline with the topics we will cover each week, as well as a schedule of all assignments. **All assignments are due Sunday by 11:59pm unless otherwise noted.*

Week	Dates	Topic	Assignment*
1	8/19-8/27	An Overview of Organic Agriculture	Discussion Board #1
2	8/28-9/3	Historical Milestones in Organic Agriculture	Quiz #1
3	9/4-9/10	Organic vs. Conventional Agriculture	Discussion Board #2
4	9/11-9/17	Basics of Organic Certification	Quiz #2
5	9/18-9/24	Steps to Organic Certification	Discussion Board #3
6	9/25-10/1	Organic Crop Production Part 1	Quiz #3
7	10/2-10/8	Organic Crop Production Part 2	Discussion Board #4
8	10/9-10/15	Organic Livestock Production Part 1	Quiz #4
9	10/16-10/22	Organic Livestock Production Part 2	Discussion Board #5
10	10/23-10/29	Intro to the Organic System Plan (OSP)	Quiz #5
11	10/30-11/5	Organic System Plan Part 1	OSP Part 1 Forms
12	11/6-11/12	Organic System Plan Part 2	OSP Part 2 Forms
13	11/13-11/19	Organic System Plan Part 3	OSP Part 3 Forms
	11/20-11/26	<i>Fall Break: No Classwork</i>	
14	11/27-12/3	Organic System Plan Part 4	OSP Part 4 Forms
15	12/4-12/10	Maintaining Organic Certification	Discussion Board #6

16	12/11-12/15	Finals Week	Final Exam <i>Due Friday, 12/15 by 11:59pm</i>
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Class Policies

Class Overview

For a one-unit course, you can expect to spend about one hour per week completing “in-class” activities such as viewing lecture materials and videos, and about two hours per week completing “out-of-class” activities such as reading assigned materials, working on assignments, quizzes, and discussion board postings. Modules will open on Monday of each week and will conclude the following Sunday. *All assignments for the week are due by the end of Sunday at 11:59pm.*

Open Door Policy

I have an “open door policy,” meaning that you can approach me with any questions or concerns at any time. I am here to help you learn and to support you on your educational journey. I am available by email, phone, and Zoom. If you would like to talk by phone or Zoom, please send me an email ahead of time so that we can arrange a meeting time.

Late Policy

Please keep yourself apprised of the due dates for your assignments. Be sure to allot enough time to complete each assignment, while keeping in mind the fact that computers tend to malfunction, people tend to get sick, and life tends to get messy (i.e. plan ahead for the unexpected/don’t wait until the last minute). Points will be deducted for late submissions (please refer to the corresponding rubric for an assignment).

Excessive Absences

Excessive absences will lead to being dropped from the course: Up until the end of the tenth week of the semester, unexcused absence from labs for three total class days (3 weeks) will lead to your being dropped from the course. Please be aware as well that if you are not consistently attending class prior to the census date (09/05/23), this will lead to you being dropped from the course as well. For an online course, attendance is determined by your participation in the weekly assignments.

Educational Accessibility & Support

College of the Redwoods is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified students who could benefit from additional educational support and services. You may qualify if you have a physical, mental, sensory, or intellectual condition which causes you to struggle academically, including but not limited to:

- Mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, bipolar disorder, and ADHD
- Common ailments such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, and diseases
- Temporary impairments such as a broken bone, recovery from significant surgery, or a pregnancy-related disability
- A learning disability (e.g., dyslexia, reading comprehension), intellectual disability, autism, or acquired brain injury
- Vision, hearing, or mobility challenges

Available services include extended test time, quiet testing environments, tutoring, counseling and advising, alternate formats of materials (e.g., audio books, E-texts), assistive technology, on-campus

transportation, and more. If you believe you might benefit from disability- or health-related services and accommodations, please contact Disability Services and Programs for Students (DSPS). If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact DSPS for a consultation: dsps@redwoods.edu.

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, Student Services Building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, Main Building, near the library
- Klamath-Trinity: 707-476-4280

Student Support

Good information and clear communication about your needs will help you be successful. Please let your instructor know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. College of the Redwoods wants every student to be successful.

Fall 2023 Dates

- **August 18th: Last day to register for classes (day before the first class meeting)**
- **August 19th: Classes begin**
- **August 25th: Last day to add a class**
- **September 1st: Last day to drop without a “W” and receive a refund**
- **September 4th: Labor Day Holiday (All Campuses Closed)**
- **September 5th: Census Date (20% of class)**
- **October 26th: Last day to petition to graduate**
- **October 27th: Last day for student initiated withdrawal (62.5% of class)**
- **October 27th: Last day for faculty initiated withdrawal (62.5% of class)**
- **November 11th: Veterans Day (All Campuses Closed)**
- **November 20th-25th: Thanksgiving break (no classes)**
- **November 22nd-24th: No Classes, all campuses closed**
- **December 9th-15th: Final Examinations**
- **December 15th: Last day to file for P/NP option**
- **December 15th: Semester Ends**
- **December 22nd: Grades due**
- **January 5th: Grades available**

Academic Dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board

policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Disruptive Behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

Setting Your Preferred Name in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact [Admissions & Records](#) to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. This does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

Canvas Information

Canvas will be utilized for this class. Our Canvas class page will be where you can find the syllabus, lecture content, assignments, articles, grades, announcements, and is also a great way to message myself or your classmates. Grades will be logged into Canvas throughout the semester so that you are able to keep track of your progress. *Be sure that you set your Canvas settings to allow you to receive notifications when announcements and messages are sent.*

Log into Canvas at <https://redwoods.instructure.com>

Password is your 8 digit birth date

For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160

Canvas Help for students: <https://webapps.redwoods.edu/tutorial/>

Canvas online orientation workshop: [Canvas Student Orientation Course \(instructure.com\)](#)

Community College Student Health and Wellness

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges [Health & Wellness website](#).

[Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email counseling@redwoods.edu.

Emergency Procedures / Everbridge

College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system called Everbridge. In the event of an emergency on campus you will receive an alert through your personal email and/or phones. Registration is not necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Check to make sure your contact information is up-to-date by logging into WebAdvisor <https://webadvisor.redwoods.edu> and selecting 'Students' then 'Academic Profile' then 'Current Information Update.'

Please contact Public Safety at 707-476-4112 or security@redwoods.edu if you have any questions. For more information see the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#).

In an emergency that requires an evacuation of the building anywhere in the District:

- Be aware of all marked exits from your area and building
- Once outside, move to the nearest evacuation point outside your building
- Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel

Do not leave campus, unless it has been deemed safe by the campus authorities.

Del Norte Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the [Crescent City campus emergency map](#) for campus evacuation sites, including the closest site to the classroom (posted by the exit of each room). For more information, see the Redwoods Public Safety Page.

Eureka Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the [campus emergency map](#) for evacuation sites, including the closest site to this classroom (posted by the exit of each room). For more information on Public Safety go to the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#). It is the responsibility of College of the Redwoods to protect life and property from the effects of emergencies within its own jurisdiction.

In the event of an emergency:

1. Evaluate the impact the emergency has on your activity/operation and take appropriate action.
2. Dial 911, to notify local agency support such as law enforcement or fire services.
3. Notify Public Safety 707-476-4111 and inform them of the situation, with as much relevant information as possible.
4. Public Safety shall relay threat information, warnings, and alerts through the Everbridge emergency alert system, Public address system, and when possible, updates on the college website, to ensure the school community is notified.
5. Follow established procedures for the specific emergency as outlined in the College of the Redwoods Emergency Procedure Booklet, (evacuation to a safe zone, shelter in place, lockdown, assist others if possible, cooperate with First Responders, etc.).
6. If safe to do so, notify key administrators, departments, and personnel.
7. Do not leave campus, unless it is necessary to preserve life and/or has been deemed safe by the person in command.

Klamath Trinity Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the responsibilities of, and procedures used by, the College of the Redwoods, Klamath-Trinity Instructional Site (KTIS) to communicate to faculty, staff, students and the general public during an emergency. It is the responsibility of College of the Redwoods, Klamath-Trinity Instructional Site (KTIS) to protect life and property from the effects of emergency situations within its own jurisdiction.

1. In the event of an emergency, communication shall be the responsibility of the district employees on scene.
 - a. Dial 911, to notify local agency support such as law enforcement or fire services.
 - b. If safe to do so, notify key administrators, departments, and personnel.
 - c. If safe to do so, personnel shall relay threat information, warnings, to ensure the school community is notified.
 - d. Contact 530-625-4821 to notify of situation.
 - e. Contact Hoopa Tribal Education Administration office 530-625-4413
 - f. Notify Public Safety 707-476-4111.
2. In the event of an emergency, the responsible district employee on scene will:
 - a. Follow established procedures for the specific emergency as outlined in the College of the Redwoods Emergency Procedure Booklet.
 - b. Lock all doors and turn off lights if in lockdown due to an active shooter or similar emergency.
 - c. Close all window curtains.
 - d. Get all inside to safe location Kitchen area is best internal location.
 - e. If a police officer or higher official arrives, they will assume command.
 - f. Wait until notice of all is clear before unlocking doors.
 - g. If safe to do so, move to the nearest evacuation point outside building (Pooky's Park), directly behind the Hoopa Tribal Education Building.
 - h. Do not leave site, unless it has been deemed safe by the person in command.

Student Support Services

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:

- [CR-Online](#) (Comprehensive information for online students)
- [Library Articles & Databases](#)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)

[Counseling](#) offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Academic Support Center](#) for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams. Includes the Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center
- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides services to eligible income disadvantaged students including: textbook award, career academic and personal

counseling, school supplies, transportation assistance, tutoring, laptop, calculator and textbook loans, priority registration, graduation cap and gown, workshops, and more!

- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)
- The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821