

GENAG 712
Occupational and Agricultural Injury Prevention
3 Credit Hours (Graduate or Undergraduate)

Syllabus, Fall 2012

- Time/Location:** This is a Web-based course, with all content accessible through K-State Online. Although there are no mandatory class meetings, students are expected to keep up with the weekly schedule.
- Instructor:** Dr. Mitch Ricketts
105D Waters Hall; 785-532-7068; mrickett@k-state.edu
Office hours: I am usually in my office during normal business hours. However, my job involves lots of travel, and I am also responsible for responding to unexpected emergencies. This means it is best to call first or make an appointment before stopping by my office. E-mail is also a great way to get in touch with me.
- Text / Resources:** There is no textbook. Weekly readings and videos will explore scientific findings, practical applications, and contemporary issues in work-related injury prevention.
- Course description:** GENAG 712 explores traumatic injuries and their prevention in occupational and agricultural settings. Topics include falls, workplace violence, animal handling, mobile equipment, stationary machines, work tools, electrical hazards, fires, and explosions. This is a distance course.
- Technology requirements:** It is recommended that students have access to a computer that meets the standard K-State Online requirements: <http://public.online.ksu.edu/support/requirements/> In addition, for the required class project presentation, students must be able to either send a video of their presentation or come to class to make a live presentation. Students may submit written assignments in Microsoft Word (preferred), Adobe pdf, Word Perfect, Open Office, or a similar format if approved by the instructor. Alternatively, paper copies of assignments may be submitted. Regardless of format, all work must be received by the instructor by the due date.
- Objectives:** Upon completing this course, each student should be able to:
1. Identify traumatic injury hazards in occupational and agricultural settings.
 2. Describe the effects of traumatic injuries on workers, employers, and society.
 3. Evaluate broad-based, interdisciplinary interventions to

eliminate or control hazards.

4. Discuss the importance of contemporary societal issues that relate to occupational and agricultural safety.

Tentative schedule:

1. Scope of occupational and agricultural safety
2. Falls:
 - a. Same-level falls
 - b. Falls from elevations (including falls from structures, stairs, ladders, and scaffolds)
3. Mobile equipment (including highway vehicles, ATVs, agricultural tractors, harvesting equipment, and forklifts)
 - a. Roll overs
 - b. Collisions
 - c. Run overs
 - d. Entanglements
4. Machinery and tools
 - a. Stationary industrial equipment (including stationary processing and conveying equipment)
 - b. Work tools
 - i. Construction tools (including power saws and nailers)
 - ii. Chain saws
5. Workplace violence
6. Injuries to livestock handlers (including injuries to handlers of cattle, horses, and swine).
7. Engulfment in grain and silage
8. Fires and explosions
 - a. Flammable liquids
 - b. Combustible dust
 - c. Hot work
9. Electricity
 - a. Facility wiring
 - b. Portable electrical equipment
 - c. Power lines
 - d. Lightning
10. The following concepts will be incorporated throughout the course:
 - a. Emerging occupational and agricultural injury risks
 - b. Safety needs of diverse and vulnerable populations

Evaluation Procedures: 55% of grade: Weekly assignments. Due by 5:00 PM every Monday.
Credit for revisions to weekly assignments: If misunderstandings are apparent in your work, you will have one week to revise and re-submit. If you submit revisions, your final score for that week's assignment will be the average of your two attempts.

10% of grade: Participation in weekly "Message Board" discussions. Each week, the instructor will post a question for group discussion. To receive full credit, you must post at least two thoughtful comments pertaining to the discussion each week. Specifically, you will post one comment in response to the instructor's question, and one comment in response to another student.

25% of grade: Written injury-hazard project. Each student will analyze an occupational or agricultural injury hazard and develop a useful document such as an analysis of a hazard that affects you, a report to management, a research proposal, a worker training program, a web-based decision tool, etc.

10% of grade: Oral presentation of injury-hazard project. Since this is a distance-based course, students may elect either of the following options: (1) submit a video presentation to be posted temporarily on the course website, or (2) make a live presentation on campus at an optional seminar for class participants.

Penalty for late submissions: There will be a grading penalty of 5% per day for assignments that are not received by the due date.

Grading scale: A = 90%; B = 80%; C = 70%; D = 60%; F = 50%

Course Policies: To be successful in distance education, students must be self-motivated and able to study independently. If these characteristics do not describe you, then you should consider dropping this course for a more traditional classroom setting. Since this course already includes many assignments, there will be no opportunities for extra credit. Instead, the instructor will provide lots of feedback on your work to help you improve.

Academic Honesty: Kansas State University has an Honor System based on personal integrity, which is presumed to be sufficient assurance that, in academic matters, one's work is performed honestly and without unauthorized assistance. Undergraduate and graduate students, by registration, acknowledge the jurisdiction of the Honor System. The policies and procedures of the Honor System apply to all full

and part-time students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate courses on-campus, off-campus, and via distance learning. The honor system website can be reached via the following URL: www.ksu.edu/honor. A component vital to the Honor System is the inclusion of the Honor Pledge which applies to all assignments, examinations, or other course work undertaken by students. The Honor Pledge is implied, whether or not it is stated: "On my honor, as a student, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work." A grade of XF can result from a breach of academic honesty. The F indicates failure in the course; the X indicates the reason is an Honor Pledge violation.

Students with Disabilities: Any student with a disability who needs a classroom accommodation, access to technology or other academic assistance in this course should contact Disability Support Services (dss@k-state.edu) and/or the instructor. DSS serves students with a wide range of disabilities including, but not limited to, physical disabilities, sensory impairments, learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, depression, and anxiety.

Classroom Conduct: All student activities in the University, including this course, are governed by the Student Judicial Conduct Code as outlined in the Student Governing Association By Laws, Article VI, Section 3, number 2. Students who engage in behavior that disrupts the learning environment may be asked to leave the class.

Separate Supplement to the Syllabus. Please refer to the separate document entitled *Injury Hazard Project* for additional details about the written project and oral presentation.