

July 5, 2016

Dear Dr. Ruch:

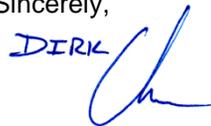
Please find below my evaluation of course *AGRI 275: Introduction to Precision Agriculture (Classroom)* offered by Lake Region State College.

As presented in the syllabus, the course content meets the stated objectives of providing students with knowledge and understanding of basic precision agriculture principles.

Please feel free to provide me feedback and/or questions on my review. You are welcome to email (charlsond@gmail.com) or call (479-445-4339) me.

Thank you for this opportunity to join you in promoting precision agriculture education, and I am looking forward to continuing our collaboration.

Sincerely,



Dirk Charlson, Ph.D.

## **Course Review**

### **Summary of Course:**

The *AGRI 275: Introduction to Precision Agriculture* course introduces students to the basic principles and practices of precision agriculture. The course provides in-depth discussions on satellite-based positioning systems, yield monitoring and mapping, soil sampling and analyses, remote sensing, geographic information systems, and variable-rate technology. The course concludes with students applying what they learned in the course through completion of a final project.

### **Commendations and Recommendations:**

#### **Syllabus:**

1. The syllabus for the course is thorough and provides clear expectations.
2. Class schedule facilitates student learning:
  - a. Students are given ample time to complete homework assignments.
  - b. Assignment deadlines and quiz/exam schedule are clear.
  - c. Appropriate amount of time is set-aside for exam review.
  - d. Students are given three weeks to work and develop their final projects.
3. The syllabus is well written and all necessary information is presented to the students to successfully complete the course.

### References/Textbooks:

The textbook provided for the course is excellent. The book truly meets it's subheading, "The nuts and bolts guide to "getting up to speed" fast and effectively..."

The PowerPoint lecture presentations provided for this review indicate students will be exposed to a high-level of detail, which is appropriate for a college level course, which will prepare students to be successful in starting their precision agriculture careers.

### Overall Evaluation:

This course provides excellent value to an agriculture program of study.

A. Learner Objectives and Interactions. The course learning objectives are clear and measurable, and at an appropriate level for college students entering the agriculture field.

B. Instructional Design. The course organization is logical, clear, and coherent, and supports development and understanding of various skills in precision agriculture.

C. Instructional Materials. The textbook is excellent and PowerPoint lecture presentations promote learning and support class interaction. The final project using FarmWorks software is appropriate. Although the textbook does not present the use of unmanned-aerial vehicles in remote sensing, I am confident the instructors will incorporate this recent advancement into the course.

D. Assessment and Measurement. The scheduled exams, quizzes, homework assignments, and final project support the learning objectives and appropriately assess a student's mastery of the course material.

**End of Review**