



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII®  
**WINDWARD**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**AG 202 Agriculture, Environment, and Society**

AG 202 (CRN 62284) – 3 credits

Dates: 01/08 – 05/10

Online, unscheduled asynchronous course; tuition waved through the 'Ao Kahi grant

**INSTRUCTOR:** Thomas Bleazard  
**OFFICE:** Uluwehi B103  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Mondays 10am – 11pm or by appointment  
**TELEPHONE:** 808-236-9245      EMAIL: [bleazard@hawaii.edu](mailto:bleazard@hawaii.edu)  
**EFFECTIVE DATE:** spring/2024

**WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT**

*Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai'i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide the Ko'olau region of O'ahu and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.*

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

AG202: The goal of this course is to establish foundational knowledge of agroecosystems. Emphasis is on the interrelationship among the crop plants, essential plant nutrients, social factors, and cultural practices. Key goals are to introduce students to the broad range of topics covered within agroecosystems, as well as technical writing in agricultural science, and oral discussion and argument.

**Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other than Class Times**

Optional field trips might be offered for extra credit.

## **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

As a result of taking the AG 202 course, students can expect to attain the following outcomes:

1. Analyze and interpret information from technical and non-technical sources, with an emphasis on scientific articles.
2. Discuss interrelationship between plants and animals, and the socio-economic importance of them to humans.
3. Describe the relationship(s) between agriculture, society and the environment.
4. Describe the concept of agroecosystems and form critical questions for in-class discussion.

### **Course Textbook:**

*Specialty Crops for Pacific Islands*, edited by Craig R. Elevitch  
Instructor has hard copy books for lending during the semester.

## **COURSE TASKS**

Each week students will complete 4 tasks:

1. Textbook reading,
2. View slides or instructor video,
3. Participate in discussion question,
4. Complete an assignment or quiz.

Students are expected to devote between 3-5 hours total per week to these 4 tasks. If you are spending more than 5 hours each week on this course, please contact the instructor to discuss how tasks can be completed within the expected time frame. Everybody's time is valuable, so please feel free to reach out to the instructor for guidance on how to succeed in this course.

As a final project, students will choose a cultivated plant species of their choice, research facts and/or stories about this species, and complete either a paper, poster, video, song/poem, or artwork to share with the class.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

This course uses weekly plant case studies of commonly cultivated Pacific Island crops to draw connections between people, plants, and the environment. The crops listed below are a small segment of Pacific Islands crops, but we use these examples to help us learn about how people, plants, and the environment are intricately intertwined. At the end of the semester, each student will select a crop not yet studied, and create a final project in the form of a paper, poster, video, song/poem, or art project.

Week 1: Introductions, course overview, and expectations  
Week 2: Breadfruit  
Week 3: Sweet Potato  
Week 4: Moringa  
Week 5: Cacao  
Week 6: Taro (Field Trip this week depending on weather and student availability)  
Week 7: Coconut  
Week 8: Chili pepper  
Week 9: Ginger  
Week 10: Kava  
Week 11: Macadamia nut  
Week 12: Pumpkin  
Week 13: Banana  
Week 14: Vanilla  
Week 15: Coffee  
Week 16: Student Projects

### **ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING**

View instructor slides and/or videos (16 times) = 30%

Participation in weekly discussion questions (16 times) = 30%

Complete weekly assignments or quizzes (16 times) = 30%

Complete final project = 10%

Corresponding letter grades are as follows:

A = 100 – 90 %

B = 89 – 80 %

C = 79-70 %

D = 69-60 %

F = 59 and below

## **DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS**

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Accessibility Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Roy Inouye can be reached at (808) 235-7448, [royinouy@hawaii.edu](mailto:royinouy@hawaii.edu), or you may stop by Hale Kāko‘o 106 for more information.

## **SEX DISCRIMINATION AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RESOURCES (TITLE IX)**

Windward Community College is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, WCC has staff and resources to support and assist you. To report an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence, as well as receive information and support, please contact one of the following:

Jojo Miller, Confidential Advocate

Phone: (808) 348-0663

Email: [advocate@hawaii.edu](mailto:advocate@hawaii.edu)

Office: Hale Kāko‘o 110

Desrae Kahale, Mental Health Counselor & Confidential Resource

Phone: (808) 235-7393

Email: [dkahale3@hawaii.edu](mailto:dkahale3@hawaii.edu)

Office: Hale Kāko‘o 101

Karen Cho, Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Phone: (808) 235-7404

Email: [kcho@hawaii.edu](mailto:kcho@hawaii.edu)

Office: Hale ‘Alaka‘i 120

As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and I cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about how your case will be handled. My goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.

For more information regarding sex discrimination and gender-based violence, the University's Title IX resources and the University's Policy, Interim EP 1.204, go to [manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/](https://manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/)

### **ALTERNATE CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you are unable to contact the instructor, have questions that your instructor cannot answer, or for any other issues, please contact the Academic Affairs Office:

- Location: Alaka'i 121
- Phone: (808) 235-7422