

## Course Focus

### AGSC 341 – Field Crop Production - Phil Bruckner



AGSC341 is a diverse class offered spring semester of alternate years focused on production of field crops using practical and applied crop management principles. Course objectives are to: 1) to develop an understanding of crop management principles (when, where, why, and what of cropping operations) and 2) to develop problem solving capabilities by application of appropriate management principles to problems encountered in production of field crops. The course is based on key concepts and principles rather than on the basis of individual crops. Important crops of Montana and United States are emphasized in examples, supporting materials, and lectures. The subject matter is very broad with lectures organized into two broad areas: Crop growth and development and Key crop management operations (e.g. crop rotation, planting, water management, soil nutrient management, weed control, etc.). Where possible and appropriate, subject matter “experts” are used as guest lecturers in their areas of expertise.

AGSC341 has a diverse enrollment with sophomores to seniors, approximately 10-12 majors, usually an international student or two, and sometimes a graduate student. Enrollment over the last five class offerings has averaged about 27 students per class, with enrollment trending upward due to the development of the Sustainable Food & Bioenergy program. Based on preregistration, enrollment will be about 45 for spring semester, 2012. Predominant majors of students taking AGSC341 are Sustainable Food & Bioenergy, Animal Science, Crop Science, and Agricultural Business.