

SEC - Science of Agricultural Environment Blueprints

The MS-CPAS2 Blueprint Summary indicates the number of assessment questions related to each unit on the assessment and indicates the relative emphasis placed on each unit. All of the listed competencies will appear on the assessment, but because of the length of the assessment, not every competency will be equally represented in the assessment.

The MS-CPAS Blueprint Summary includes a variety of information, which is explained below:

Course Code(s)	Test Code	Program Name	Supplemental Materials/Notes
991002	10170Y1-2010	Science of Agricultural Environment	

Curriculum	Perkins Assessment 2016-17		Teacher Evaluation Pilot 2016-17			
	Y1 Post-Test	Y2 Post-Test	Y1 Baseline	Y1 Post-Test	Y2 Baseline	Y2 Post-Test
Science of Agricultural Environment	MS-CPAS2*	NA*	NA*	NA*	NA*	NA*

* These assessments are subject to change based on funding and policy changes/updates.

Information for test coordinators will be disseminated on the ordering process for the national certification by the Research and Curriculum Unit at Mississippi State University.



MS-CPAS2 Blueprint Summary

Assessment: Science of Agricultural Environment
Test Code: 10170Y1-2010
CIP Code: 030104
Course Codes: 991002
Type: CP

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Terms and Definitions	
Assessment:	This signifies the name of the assessment, which corresponds with the name of the pathway or program.
CIP Code:	Developed by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), CIP codes are a federal coding system utilized for assessment and reporting of fields of study and program completions activity tracking.
Test Code:	A unique code that serves to numerically identify a specific assessment
DOK Levels:	Based on Webb's Depth of Knowledge (DOK), this signifies the assessment item difficulty factor to be expected in each unit. The three levels are as follows: <i>1 = Recall and Reproduction, 2 = Skills and Concepts, 3 = Short-term Strategic Thinking</i> Some postsecondary programs will not use DOK levels until the next revision.
Instructional	The total number of hours assigned to a unit per the pathway's curriculum
Total Items:	The total number of items assigned to each unit on the assessment. It is calculated as follows: <i>(Unit Instructional Hours / Total Instructional Hours) * Total Active Items</i>
Active Items:	The number of items on the assessment that will be graded
Field-test Items:	The number of items that are being field-tested, or piloted, to determine their eligibility for inclusion as an Active Item on future assessments. These items are not graded and, thus, will not impact the student's final score.
Total Assessed Items:	The total number of items on the given assessment. It is calculated as follows: <i>Active Items + Field-test Items</i>

For more information regarding this MS-CPAS2 Blueprint Summary, please contact the Mississippi Assessment Center by phone at 1.866.901.7433 or by e-mail at helpdesk@rcu.msstate.edu.



Assessment: Science of Agricultural Environment Test Code: 10170Y1-2010 CIP Code: 030104 Total Hours: 95	DOK Level(s)			Instructional Hours	Total Items
	1	2	3		
Unit 1: Not on CPAS					
Unit 2: Not on CPAS					
Unit 3: Living Organisms and Ecology	1	2		15	13
1. Investigate the role of living organisms in the environment. 2. Examine relationships of living organisms and the environment. 3. Discuss the impact of agricultural pests and pest control measures on the environment. 4. Examine principles of ecology as related to environmental quality. 5. Identify ecological diversity in agricultural and wildlife ecosystems.					
Unit 4: Land and Soil Management	1	2		10	9
1. Examine the process of planning for urban and rural land use. 2. Apply principles of soil and land management and use. 3. Assess the impact of agricultural, horticultural, and forestry practices on land and soil.					
Unit 5: Water Quality Management	1	2		10	9
1. Explore concepts of water usage and quality. 2. Describe important water management practices. 3. Describe how wastewater is treated to maintain water quality.					
Unit 6: The Atmosphere and Environmental Quality	1	2		10	8
1. Examine the relationship of the atmosphere to the earth's environment. 2. Use weather and climate information in making decisions about the environment. 3. Assess air quality and identify sources of air pollution.					
Unit 7: Forestry and the Environment	1	2		10	8
1. Examine basic principles of forest dendrology and mensuration. 2. Discuss the relationship of forestry to environmental quality and economic development.					
Unit 8: Wildlife and the Environment	1	2		10	8
1. Examine the relationship of wildlife well-being and environmental quality. 2. Investigate approaches in protecting and managing wildlife species.					
Unit 9: Environmental Stewardship	1	2		20	17
1. Discuss concepts of sustainable agriculture. 2. Explore the services of agencies and organizations that protect and maintain the environment. 3. Use appropriate procedures for management and disposal of solid waste. 4. Select appropriate procedures for managing hazardous waste materials.					
Unit 10: Issues in a Global Environment	1	2		10	8
1. Analyze issues related to the global environment. 2. Analyze issues that affect the global environment. 3. Investigate the design of alternative futures.					
Active Items					80
Field-Test Items					20
TOTAL ASSESSED ITEMS					100