Welcome! Today we will be discussing Agricultural Sciences. It's a broad multidisciplinary field that encompasses the parts of exact, natural, economic and social sciences that are used in the practice and understanding of agriculture.

Hello, my name is Jennifer Smith. I'm currently a student at Michigan State University majoring in Agriscience Education with minors in Social Studies and History. Michigan State University has one of the best education programs in the nation, as well as one of the top programs in Natural Resources. Which makes it perfect for obtaining my degree from MSU.

I grew up Walled Lake a small suburban town north west of Detroit. I grew up with my older sister, my dog and both of my parents. This community was small and very well knit and connected, but as time grew on the city grew along with the education system. My small town grew to hold one of the highest standards for teaching in the county, which made my education experience there very good. I took Agriscience for half the day in high school, which grew on me immensely, I loved all the hands on activities, the new experiences, and all the new people. I was involved in FFA and many competitions.
throughout the two years I was there. I won many awards and received certifications. My time in the class made me want to become an agriscience teacher, I had wanted to become a teacher but I didn’t know what I wanted to teach until that class.

There are many careers in Agriscience. MSU had now merged Agriscience and Environmental Studies together so there are more options available for the students to choose from. Within the major there is four concentrations: Communications, Community Engagement, Science and Policy and Teacher Certification. As you can see there is a lot of diversity of careers you can choose from in this major. Many wouldn't think such variety of jobs could come from this major but there are many opportunities out there.

My major concentration is in Teacher certification or what most call it, Agriscience Education. The degree is located in the College of Natural Resources, and within the College of Education. You have to dual enroll, you have to be accepted into both colleges to participate in this concentration of Agriscience. The degree certifies you to teach secondary education, which is middle and high school as well as in technical campuses. You will be teaching many subjects within
agriscience, you will be teaching plant nomenclature, animal sciences, natural resources, and environmental sciences. Many students that take your course will choose a concentration within the course, which may be floral design, vet tech assistant, greenhouse management, hydroponic systems, plant culture, or what concentrations your school district offer. You will also be a FFA advisor, make planned field trips for students, go over job interviewing skills, and resumes with your students. Which makes for a very busy schedule for an agriscience teacher.

There is a web link here to help you look further into the major, the link will take you to the web page where it spells out what you need for this specific major and concentration. If you have any questions that have to do with the actual course requirements for agriscience education please feel free to call the number listed.
The biggest area of interest in teaching for me is the students, how to communicate effectively. Different types of communication can get my objectives across to different students. Many students have a particular interest within their major and mine happens to be communicating with my students. I want to learn new ways that I can reach my potential students, different ways to get them involved. I want to reach every student no matter how they learn, whether it be hands on learning, oral learning, or visual learning. Being able to reach the majority of your students by using different forms of communication is important, everyone communicates and learns differently.

The different types of communication that I'm very interested in is communication like this PowerPoint, where it is visual and oral. They can see the notes and slides as well as them hearing me go through them at the same time. This can be an important tool utilized by teachers to get important points across as well as adding more to the PowerPoint for further learning. Hands on learning has an asterisk* on it because I feel like that’s is one of the most important forms of communicating in Agriscience. Agriculture is very hands on and is one of the many ways a lot of people learn and make memories in classes, is by hands on instruction. You are utilizing oral and visual learning when you do hands on instruction. Computer learning has become a very important part of education and to utilize all that the computer can do in a classroom would be helpful. They have great educational software, programs and tutorials on the computers that can be very helpful to students. The teacher
may learn some new things from their students as well. It’s a great tool that both teacher and student to communicate and learn with. I also feel that communication through written and visual projects can help students express themselves an really dig into a topic and become familiar with it. The communications of ideas in these ways helps the teacher learn about the student and the student learn about the topic. The cited sources helps them use many avenues to help them communicate there ideas.

Hands on as a said is very important. Many things you can learn from readings and seeing it done but the hands on experience helps you to really understand the topic and helps you remember it better because you did it. In the photo you can see the hands on experience shaving an alpaca, something you can read about and see but you really wouldn’t remember it three months from them. If you actually shaved part of an alpaca you would remember the experience for longer and have a better idea of what it really takes to do the work. Agriculture is very hands on subject, your dealing with live animals, plants, and people. To just read and write about the topics wouldn’t do any of them justice, you have to get the kids out there and really doing the topics you lecture on.
**Slide 10**

**Communication**
- It's very important in the classroom!
- Using many types of communication will reach a wider base of your student body.
- Having multiple options is cumbersome but can reach more students.

Communication in the classroom is key to success, you have to know what your students need and they need to know what you want from them. Using the different forms of communicating topics can be crucial in the classroom and making sure your students are learning effectively.

**Slide 11**

Thank you for listening to the short presentation, if you have any questions regarding anything on the PowerPoint please feel free to email me at smit1457@msu.edu. Have a great day!