

Chelsea Hatch, Assistant Professor of Practice

Spencer A Wells Faculty Award for Creativity in Teaching

TTU Alumni Association New Faculty Award

Chelsea Hatch joined the Agricultural Education and Communications Faculty as an Assistant Professor of Practice in April of 2022. With her experience within the secondary education classroom, Mrs. Hatch seamlessly transitioned into higher education and made her mark as an excellent teacher and mentor to future educators.

Mrs. Hatch's expertise is in agricultural education and teacher certification. As an Assistant Professor of Practice, she teaches courses in the undergraduate teacher certification concentration. Chelsea Hatch has an extensive background in teaching secondary agriculture education and has experience as an assistant principal. With this, she uses her real-world experience along with engaging classroom activities in order to educate students on what the classroom will be like upon graduation. Mrs. Hatch exudes excitement for teaching and brings an energy to the classroom that students appreciate. This student comment from her course evaluations captures this sentiment exactly: "Mrs. Hatch was always very helpful and interactive with the class. She always made class fun and entertaining. I always wanted to learn in her class."

Chelsea Hatch brings a new perspective within the department. The creativity that she brings to the department is par to none, with the development of a new summer course and with the revamping of the current courses taught. It is not uncommon for Mrs. Hatch's classes to be outside, or to be using lots of hands-on teaching techniques that are directly related to teaching agricultural education within the middle and high school setting.

In her first year at Texas Tech University, Chelsea Hatch created a Professional Development and Supplemental Instruction in School-Based Agricultural Education course for the summer II semester. This course is an experiential learning course where students attend the State FFA Convention and get to experience the convention as a professional and future agricultural science teacher. This course also attends the Agricultural Teachers Association of Texas Conference where students get to actively participate in the professional development opportunities at the conference as well as start networking for their futures in agricultural education. These two events are highly attended and required as agricultural science teachers and these students are being fully prepared to attend and take full advantage of these opportunities not only for themselves but also for their future students.

Mrs. Hatch's commitment to teaching students extends way past the bare minimum. She is fully committed to giving every student the best learning experience possible. As states in a comment from one of her course evaluations: "Professor Hatch was a wonderful teacher to have this semester. She was very helpful and provided a good learning experience to me. One of the best teachers I have had in my life" and "This instructor is very inclusive and adjusts her lectures to her students and how they learn". As you can see, Chelsea Hatch fully represents the ideals of what a great faculty is at Texas Tech.