

WELCOME TO ALS 6942
Principles of Plant Pest Risk Assessment and Management
3 credits
Fall 2015

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Office Hours:
Monday 8:30am-10:00am or by appointment

Course Website: University of Florida, Canvas e-learning system (<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>).

TEXTBOOK AND OTHER RESOURCES

Required Textbook: Plant Pest Risk Analysis: Concepts and Application, C. Devorshak (ed.), 2012, ISBN-13: 978-1-78064-036-5, CABI

Assignments

Weekly assignments will be provided to students within the UF e-learning Canvas website (<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>). Some assignments may require students to locate additional references or specific articles within UF libraries (<http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/>) or on the internet. Adobe Flash® player (<http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>) will be required for some lectures.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Integrated Principles of Biology 1 and Laboratory (BSC 2010 and 2010L) and Integrated Principles of Biology 2 and Laboratory (BSC 2011 and 2011L) or equivalent.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

From the weekly course assignments, students will gain an understanding of the following plant protection concepts:

- 1) An awareness of the role the IPPC, ISPMs, and NPPO in plant protection.
- 2) An awareness of trade issues and their relevance to plant biosecurity.
- 3) An awareness of pest lists and pest list prioritization issues.
- 4) An awareness of mitigation procedures.
- 5) An understanding of the mission of regional, federal, and state agencies in regulatory plant science.
- 6) An understanding of the mission of regional, federal, and state laboratories in regulatory plant science.
- 7) An understanding of the role of USDA-APHIS-PPQ in promoting safe trade in agricultural products and protecting agricultural resources and the environment.
- 8) An understanding of pest surveillance, detection, and identification processes.
- 9) An understanding of risk assessment, risk management, risk communication, and the safeguarding continuum.
- 10) An ability to assimilate information from reading materials into a pest risk assessment and a pest

survey plan.

GENERAL COURSE DETAILS

Credits: 3

Catalog Statement: "Applied training in the regulatory aspects of plant protection, using real-world case studies, scenarios and issues."

Location Offered: Online

COURSE OUTLINE

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC
1	8/24/15	Review Syllabus, Login to Canvas Plant Biosecurity and International Trade First Response for Week 1, Discussion 1 and 2 Due by 11:59 on Sunday, August 30, 2015
2	8/31/15	History of Plant Quarantine and the Use of Risk Analysis in the International Framework First Response for Week 2, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Final Response for Week 1, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Deadline: 11:59pm on Sunday, September 6, 2015
3	9/7/15	Terms and Basic Concepts for Pest Risk Analysis First Response for Week 3, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Final Response for Week 2, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Glossary of Terms Assignment Deadline: 11:59pm on Sunday, September 13, 2015
4	9/14/15	Economics and Types of Pest Risk Analysis First Response for Week 4, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Final Response for Week 3, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Deadline: 11:59pm on Sunday, September 20, 2015
5	9/21/15	Wood Packing Material and Firewood First Response for Week 5, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Final Response for Week 4, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Deadline: 11:59pm on Sunday, September 27, 2015

6	9/28/15	Commodity Example, Citrus First Response for Week 6, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Final Response for Week 5, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Deadline: 11:59pm on Sunday, October 5, 2015
7	10/5/15	Pest Lists and Pest Risk Assessment First Response for Week 7, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Final Response for Week 6, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Deadline: 11:59pm on Sunday, October 11, 2015
8	10/12/15	Surveillance First Response for Week 8, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Final Response for Week 7, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Deadline: 11:59pm on October 18, 2015
9	10/18/15	Surveillance in the US and Florida First Response for Week 9, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Final Response for Week 8, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Deadline: 11:59pm on Sunday, October 25, 2015
10	10/26/15	Pest Risk Management Background and Practice. First Response for Week 10, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Final Response for Week 9, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Deadline: 11:59pm on Sunday, November 1, 2015
11	11/2/15	Risk Communication and Various Terms Related to Risk Pest Risk Assessment First Draft First Response for Week 11, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Final Response for Week 10, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Deadline: 11:59pm on Sunday, November 8, 2015
12	11/9/15	Weed Risk Assessment First Response for Week 12, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Final Response for Week 11, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Deadline: 11:59pm on Sunday, November 15, 2015
13	11/16/15	Review Content for Exam, and Finalize Written Assignments Final Response for Week 12, Discussion 1 and 2 Due Survey and Response Plan Assignment Deadline: 11:59pm on Sunday, November 22, 2015
14	11/23/15	Happy Thanksgiving!

15	11/30/15	Exam (open book), 12/1/15-12/9/15. You will have 3 hours to complete the exam once you open it. Exam due by 11:59pm on Wednesday, December 9, 2015.
16	12/7/15	Pest Risk Assessment Final Submission (Arthropod Example) Graduate Student Pest Risk Assessment Due (Plant Pathogen Example) Deadline: 11:59pm by Wednesday, December 9, 2015

GRADING POLICY-ALS 6942

EVALUATION

Weekly Discussions (for 12 weeks of material) 240
 Glossary of Terms Assignment 50
 Survey and Response Plan 100
 Pest Risk Assessment, First Draft 50
 Pest Risk Assessment, Final Submission 150
 Graduate Student Pest Risk Assessment 100
 Exam 100

Total ALS 6942 790 points

Final Grading	Scale: Percentage
A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
E	0-59

INCOMPLETE GRADES

The application process for receiving an incomplete grade is the responsibility of the student. Students may download the CALS incomplete grade form at: <http://www.cals.ufl.edu/faculty-staff/docs/forms/incompleteGradeContract.pdf> The instructor must sign the application for an incomplete grade, but the student must initiate the paperwork process. The instructor will only approve an incomplete grade application if the following conditions are met:

- The student has completed a major portion of the course with a passing grade (“D” or better).
- The student is unable to complete course requirements because of documented circumstances beyond his or her control.
- The student and instructor have discussed the situation prior to the final exam (except under emergency conditions).
- The instructor will submit a final grade for the student on the date due (indicated below) whether or not all work is completed.

Note that the paperwork for receiving an incomplete will also include deadlines for remaining assignments due. The instructor will not consider incomplete requests after the last day of classes.

EXTRA CREDIT

No extra credit will be assigned.

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments

Please login to the University of Florida, Canvas E-learning website and review assignment instructions. Remember to review grading rubrics for individual assignments, including class discussions. New weekly discussion questions will be posted prior to 8am on Monday morning during the course week. Course discussions are based on the assigned materials under 'Modules' within the Canvas E-learning system.

EXAM INFORMATION

One exam worth 100 points will be administered during the semester. The exam will be open notes, but exams will be checked for plagiarism. Students are expected to provide exam answers in his/her own words. The exam will be open book/notes and essay-based. The exam will be available from **December 1, 2015 until December 9, 2015**. Once you open the exam, the exam will be time-limited to three hours for completion. The exam is due at **11:59pm on December 9, 2015**.

MISSED EXAMS

Make-up exams will only be allowed due to clearly documented medical excuses or a death in your immediate family (spouse, sibling, parent, child, or grandparent). You will need to provide the instructor with clear documentation, and contact details to verify the excuse.

E-MAIL/GATORLINK ACCOUNT REQUIREMENTS

You will be required to get a Gatorlink computer account through the university. This service is free to all students. Using this account, you will be able to send and receive e-mail and access the World Wide Web from home or school. Instructions for getting a Gatorlink account can be found at <http://www.gatorlink.ufl.edu/> **You must correspond through this e-mail account.**

POLICY STATEMENTS: ACADEMIC HONESTY, PLAGIARISM, SOFTWARE USE, UF COUNSELING SERVICES, SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In 1995, the UF student body enacted a new honor code and voluntarily committed itself to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. When students enroll at the university, they commit themselves to the standard drafted and enacted by the students.

In adopting this honor code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the university community. Students who enroll at the university commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the honor code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the honor code is bound by honor to take corrective action. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon community acceptance and enforcement of this honor code.

The Honor Code: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the university, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

The University requires all members of its community to be honest in all endeavors. A fundamental principle is that the whole process of learning and pursuit of knowledge is diminished by cheating,

plagiarism and other acts of academic dishonesty. In addition, every dishonest act in the academic environment affects other students adversely, from the skewing of the grading curve to giving unfair advantage for honors or for professional or graduate school admission. Therefore, the university will take severe action against dishonest students. Similarly, measures will be taken against faculty, staff and administrators who practice dishonest or demeaning behavior.

Students should report any condition that facilitates dishonesty to the instructor, department chair, college dean or Student Honor Court.

It is assumed all work will be completed independently unless the assignment is defined as a group project, in writing by the instructor. This policy will be vigorously upheld at all times in this course.

PLAGIARISM INFORMATION FROM THE ENTOMOLOGY AND NEMATOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Plagiarism is a serious problem in academia today, especially with the ease of obtaining information from the World Wide Web. Plagiarism is defined as representing the words or ideas of another person as one's own, without attribution to the source. All words and ideas must be attributed to a source unless they are considered common knowledge (i.e., widely known by many people and found in many different sources). There are many kinds of plagiarism, as you will read on the Guide to Plagiarism website referenced below.

Plagiarism is unethical, unacceptable in science, and prohibited by the UF Student Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>). The consequences for plagiarism while at the University of Florida range from receiving a grade of zero for the plagiarized assignment or a failing grade for the course, to, for repeated offenses, expulsion from the university. Plagiarism after graduate training calls into question one's scientific integrity and can lead to banning of publication in journals and the loss of jobs/careers.

In some countries, it is an acceptable practice to write in a manner that faculty members at the University of Florida consider to be plagiarism. Students studying in our university and with plans to publish their research in the English language need to know what plagiarism is and how to avoid it.

Students who plagiarize will be caught and consequences will be applied. Many faculty in our department check all written assignments using an anti-plagiarism software called Turnitin®. You may wish to customize this section and put in your plans to use Turnitin and your consequences for plagiarism.

For further information and examples of plagiarism, I strongly suggest that you please read the George Smathers' Library Guide to Plagiarism at <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>

Please understand that our purpose in bringing to your attention the matter of plagiarism is to help train you to be ethical scientists, not to impugn your character.

SOFTWARE USE: All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

CAMPUS HELPING RESOURCES: Students experiencing crisis or personal problems that interfere with their general wellbeing are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. Both the Counseling Center and Student Mental Health provide confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal or lacking clear career and academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance. The Counseling Center is located at 301 Peabody Hall (next to Criser Hall). Student Mental Health is located on the second floor of the Student Health Services in the Infirmary.

1. *University Counseling Center*, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575; personal and career counseling:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>

2. *Student Mental Health*, Rm. 245 Student Health Care Center, 392-1171, personal counseling:

<http://shcc.ufl.edu/>

Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program (ASAP)

Center for Sexual Assault/Abuse Recovery & Education (CARE)

Eating Disorders Program

Employee Assistance Program

Suicide Prevention Program

3. *Career Resource Center*, DR-100 J.W.Reitz Union, 392-1602, career development assistance and counseling.

Students with Disabilities: The Disability Resource Center Coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. 0001 Reid Hall, 392-8565,

www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/