ALS4161, Exotic Species and Biosecurity Issues

Fall
Online Asynchronous, 3

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Course Description

Studies U.S. policies and programs affecting agricultural biosecurity as applied to current agricultural and extension regulatory programs. Emphasizes policies and procedures used to detect and report non-indigenous species. Develop the analytical capabilities to assess the consequences of agricultural biosecurity threats.

Course Learning Objectives

1. Describe the importance of invasive species to U.S. agriculture and natural areas.
2. Evaluate trade issues and their relevance to agricultural biosecurity.
3. Explain the principles and basic practices of pest exclusion, eradication, and management tactics for invasive species issues.
4. Describe the research, extension, and regulatory components of invasive species issues.
5. Appraise and appreciate early detection and correct identification of new and emerging pest problems.
6. Evaluate news and developments reported in the popular and scientific media on issues affecting the subject matter of the course.
7. Communicate research on exotic species and biosecurity issues using written skills.

Course Prerequisites

BSC 2010/2010L and BSC 2011/BSC2011L, or equivalent.

Textbooks, Learning Materials, and Supply Fees

Clout, M. & Williams, P. (2013). *Invasive Species Management: A Handbook of Principles and Techniques.* Oxford University Press.

Technical Support

UF Computing Help Desk & Ticket Number: All technical issues require a UF Helpdesk Ticket Number. The UF Helpdesk is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/ | 352-392-4357

Weekly Course Schedule

All due dates represent 11:59 ET in 2025. Due dates also occur directly in Canvas with Assignments.

Week	Topic	Assessment	Due Dates
1	Course Orientation Module	Course Introduction Quiz, Introduce yourself discussion	August 22
2	Module 1: Biosecurity and Quarantine for Preventing Invasive Species	Making the Most of Learning with Perusall, Module 1 PlayPosit Quiz	August 26, 29
3	Module 2: Risk Assessment of Invasive Species	Module 1 Perusall Discussion, Module 1 Quiz, Module 2 PlayPosit Quiz	September 2, 4, 5
4	Module 3: Detection and Early Warning of Invasive Species	Module 2 Perusall Discussion, Module 2 Quiz, Module 3 PlayPosit Quiz	September 9, 12, 12
5	Module 4: Eradication of Invasive Species: Progress and Emerging Issues in the 21st Century	Module 3 Perusall Discussion, Module 3 Quiz, Module 4, PlayPosit Quiz	September 16, 18, 19
6	Module 5: Principles of Containment and Control of Invasive Species	Module 4 Perusall Discussion, Module 4 Quiz, Module 5 PlayPosit Quiz	September 23, 25, 26
7	Module 6: Biological Control of Invasive Species **Exam 1: Available September 24-October 2, 2025. Due October 1, 2025.**	Module 5 Perusall Discussion, Exam 1, Module 5 Quiz, Module 6 PlayPosit Quiz	September 30, October 1, 2, 3

Week	Topic	Assessment	Due Dates
8	Module 7: Public Participation in Invasive Species Management	Module 6 Perusall Discussion, Module 6 Quiz, Module 7 PlayPosit Quiz	October 7, 9, 10
9	Module 8: International Legal Instruments and Frameworks for Invasive Species	Module 7 Perusall Discussion, Module 7 Quiz, Module 8 PlayPosit Quiz	October 14, 17, 18
10	Module 9: Management of Invasive Plants	Module 8 Perusall Discussion, Module 8 Quiz, Module 9 PlayPosit Quiz (2 at 2.5 points each)	October 21, 23, 24
11	Module 10: Management of Invasive Invertebrates	Module 9 Perusall Discussion, Module 9 Quiz, Module 10 PlayPosit Quiz	October 28, 30, 31
12	Module 11: Management of Terrestrial Vertebrate Pests **Exam 2: Available: October 29, 2025-November 6, 2025. Due November 5, 2025.**	Module 10 Perusall Discussion, Exam 2, Module 10 Quiz, Module 11 PlayPosit Quiz	November 4, 5, 6, 7
13	Module 12: Management of Invasive Fish	Module 11 Perusall Discussion, Module 11 Quiz, Module 12 PlayPosit Quiz	November 12, 13, 14
14	Module 13: Marine Biosecurity: Management Options and Response Tools	Module 12 Perusall Discussion, Module 12 Quiz, Module 13 PlayPosit Quiz	November 18, 20, 21
15	Module 14: Management of Interacting Invasives: Ecosystem Approaches/Other Topics in Invasive Species Management	Module 13 Perusall Discussion	November 25

Week	Topic	Assessment	Due Dates
16	N/A **Exam 3: Available from November 21, 2025-December 8, 2025. Due December 3, 2025.**	Module 14 PlayPosit Quiz (4 with variable points), Module 14 Perusall Discussion, Module 13 Quiz, Module 14 Quiz, Exam 3	December 1, 2, 2, 2, 3

Grading Policy

Course grading is consistent with UF grading policies.

Course Grading Structure

[Required, methods by which students will be evaluated and their grade determined.]

Assignment Type	Point Value	Percent of Final Grade
Introduce Yourself	5	1%
Orientation Quiz	5	1%
Quizzes (12 at 5 points each)	60	14%
Discussions (14 at 10 points each)	140	33%
Playposit (14 at 5 points each)	70	16%
Exams (3 at 50 points each)	150	35%
Total	430	100%

Grading Scale

[scale is required; plus and minus grades may be used but are not required]

Grade	Points	Percentage
A	93.0-100	4.00
A-	90-92.9	3.67
B+	87.0-89.9	3.33
B	83.0-86.9	3.00
B-	80.0-82.9	2.67
C+	77.0-79.9	2.33
C	73.0-76.9	2.00
C-	70.0-72.9	1.67

Grade	Points	Percentage
D+	67.0-69.9	1.33
D	63.0-66.9	1.00
D-	60.0-62.9	0.67
E	<59.9	0.00

Academic Policies and Resources

Academic policies for this course are consistent with university policies. See
https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/

Campus Health and Wellness Resources

Visit https://one.uf.edu/whole-gator/topics for resources that are designed to help you thrive physically, mentally, and emotionally at UF.

Please contact UMatterWeCare for additional and immediate support.

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.

Privacy and Accessibility Policies

[required for online courses, list all technology used]

- Instructure (Canvas)
    - Instructure Privacy Policy
    - Instructure Accessibility
- Zoom
    - Zoom Privacy Policy
    - Zoom Accessibility

Additional information

[Optional: Instructors may choose to clarify in their syllabus their teaching philosophy, expectations for classroom behavior, utilization of e-learning, grading rubrics, and other information that will help students succeed in the course.]