Challenges in Plant Resource Protection
ALS 4163   Section: All Sections
Class Periods: Not Applicable
Location: Online in Canvas
Academic Term: Spring Semesters

Instructor:
Please contact instructor through Canvas website.
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Office Phone Number: (352) 273-3957
Physical Office Location: Room 3207 Steinmetz Hall, University of Florida, Entomology and Nematology
Department, Building 970, Gainesville, FL
Office Hours: Monday, 9:00am-11:00am or by appointment. Students will be notified of cancelled office hours for
a given week in Canvas e-mail.

Teaching Assistants:
Abigail Prohofsky
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DPM (Doctor of Plant Medicine) Graduate Student
Office Hours: Online and By Appointment

Course Description
Learners uniquely explore dynamic plant health regulatory issues through lectures, reading materials, engaging
assignments, one substantial written assignment, and two course exams. By the conclusion of the course, student
learners will be more familiar with policies and procedures related to plant health regulation, key case study
examples, and learners will have specifically developed their own pest risk assessment. This course will also
assist students in critical scientific thinking and the pursuit of career opportunities related to plant pest
regulation.

Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites
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
At the end of this course, students will be able to...
 1. Understand the importance of plant health, international trade, and plant pest regulation.
2. Explore invasive species issues related to plant health from a Florida, U.S., and international perspective.
3. Synthesize and relate plant pest regulatory concepts to real-world case studies.
4. Apply plant pest regulatory terminology to scenarios.
5. Apply terminology to problem-solving, pest risk assessment, and the development of a survey and a response plan.

Materials and Supply Fees
None

Required Textbooks and Software
Use of University of Florida, Canvas e-learning software is required. Use of the University of Florida library system
for access to literature is also required.

Required Textbook: Plant Pest Risk Analysis: Concepts and Application, C. Devorshak (ed.)., 2012, ISBN-13: 978-1-
78064-036-5, CABI. Some of the textbook chapters can be found on the WWW (via a Google search). You can also
read the textbook as an e-book through Kindle. The textbook is also available for purchase in the UF Bookstore.

Recommended Materials
Further instructions will be posted in the University of Florida, Canvas e-learning software system.

Course Schedule
Week 1:   Plant Biosecurity and International Trade
Week 2:   History of Plant Quarantine, Invasive Species, Use of Risk Analysis, and the International Framework
Week 3:   Terminology and Basic Concepts Related to Pest Risk Analysis
Week 4:   Economics and Types of a Pest Risk Analysis
Week 5:   Wood Packing Material and Firewood
Week 6:   Commodity Example: Citrus
Week 7:   Pest Risk Assessment, Pest Lists, and Pest Risk Analysis
Week 8:   Surveillance and International Standards in Florida and the U.S.
Week 9:   Additional Information about Surveillance Strategies
Week 10:   Pest Risk Management Background and Practices
Week 11:   Pest Risk Management Application, Practices, and Uncertainty
Week 12:   Weed Risk Assessment Issues
Week 13:   Uncertainty in Pest Risk Analysis
Week 14:   Risk Communication in Pest Risk Analysis

Additional new content for the week may be posted by **8am on Wednesday of every week**.

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy
This course is delivered through an asynchronous, online environment. Learners are expected to stay informed of the course material through self-paced learning. All excused absences, including missed assignment deadlines or exams, must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found in Attendance Policies.

Evaluation of Grades

Assignment	Total Points	Percentage of Final Grade
5 @ 20 points each	10 assignments with a point value ranging from 12 to 40 (319 total)	42.03%
Exams (two at 75 each)	75 each (150 total)	19.76%
Play Posit Questions	100	13.18%
Arthropod Pest Risk Assessment Draft	40	5.27%
Arthropod Pest Risk Assessment-Final	150	19.76%
	759	100%

Grading Policy

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
92.5-100.0	A	702.1-759.0
89.5-92.4	A-	679.3-702.0
86.5-89.4	B+	656.5-679.2
82.5-86.4	B	626.2-656.4

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
79.5-82.4	B-	603.4-626.1
76.5-79.4	C+	580.6-603.3
72.5-76.4	C	550.3-580.5
69.5-72.4	C-	527.5-550.2
66.5-69.4	D+	504.7-527.4
62.5-66.4	D	474.4-504.6
59.5-62.4	D-	451.6-474.3
59.4 or below	E	451.5 or below

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:
UF Graduate Catalog
Grades and Grading Policies

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students on the Gator Evals page.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

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. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see the Notification to Students of FERPA Rights.

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:
If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: counseling.ufl.edu/cwc, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or police.ufl.edu.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.

Library Support, Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints Campus

On-Line Students Complaints