

**ENY-3222C, Biology and Identification of Urban Pests, 3 credits
Syllabus, Fall 2020**

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Office: Urban Entomology Building, Bldg 1278
Office Hours: Weekdays 8:00-5:00
Canvas Website: <http://lss.at.ufl.edu> (login with UF Gatorlink username and password)

Email: Each student must have an active email account. The University of Florida requires that you obtain a student ID# and a Gatorlink email account as part of your registration process. The instructor may post class notices to your Gatorlink email account. While many of you already have independent email accounts, you must also obtain a University of Florida Gatorlink email account for use as a registered student.

Course Objectives:

This course will cover the biology, life cycles, and ways of identifying the major urban pest groups, including wood destroying insects and their damage, cockroaches, blood-sucking insects, pest ant species, flies, stinging insects, and stored food pests. Preferred foods and sources of infestation for each pest group will be discussed. The main urban pest species and their effect on human health and well-being will be covered.

Critical Thinking and Evidence Collection: Urban pests are found in many situations and are difficult to recognize. Students will be expected to locate and identify at least 15 insect pests and record their findings on iNaturalist. Pictures or other evidence can be uploaded to the class iNaturalist site. Observations about the pests should be recorded, such as: recognizing the damage they cause, how to prevent infestations based on the pest's biology. Students will be required to observe the reports of other students and provide additional guidance to them.

Text: Mallis, Arnold. *Handbook of Pest Control*. 10th Edition. 2011 Mallis Handbook Co., Cleveland, OH. ISBN: 978-1-890561-02-4. Library of Congress Catalogue Card No.: 2010928977

Grading: The exams will be timed exams taken on Canvas. The final exam will be comprehensive of all lectures. The course is based on a total of 1500 points:

Exam 1	200 points
Exam 2	200 points
Final exam	400 points
Critical Thinking & Evidence Collection	200 points
Laboratory Assignments	200 points
Laboratory exams	300 points

Grading scale (%):

94-100 A
90-<94 A-
87-<90 B+
83-<87 B
80-<83 B-
77-<80 C+
74-<77 C
70-<74 C-
67-<70 D+
64-<67 D
60-<64 D-
<60 E

Specific Evaluations: Your grade in the course will be based on the points you earn and determined by the percentage breakdown of points earned. The percentage is then applied to the grading scale. Exams 1 & 2 and identification exams are not comprehensive and will be timed exams located on Canvas. Final exams (lecture and laboratory) will be comprehensive and also located on Canvas. Your “critical thinking & communication document” will be graded by evaluating the critique of the 5 sections of the downloaded research paper on a scale of 40 points per section.

Grades and Grade Points

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Lecture Notebook: Print this on your own. You can have it printed/bound at a copy store if you desire.

Laboratories: Assignments are laboratory activities located at the Canvas website. The site is restricted to only students officially enrolled in the class. Assignments must be completed on or before the date listed.

Course Technology

The course is administered in E-learning through Canvas. Students will need a Gatorlink account to access the course web site (<http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/self-help/>). All students should have unlimited access to a computer with either Windows 7 or Mac OS X operating systems. Students should make sure to have access to a back-up computer in case of equipment failure. A high-speed Internet connection is highly recommended. Students will need speakers, microphone, and headphones to hear and record presentations. Microsoft Office PowerPoint is recommended for the presentation assignment but OpenOffice (freeware) may suffice <http://www.openoffice.org/>.

Plagiarism

The purpose in bringing to your attention the matter of plagiarism is to help train you to be an ethical person, not to impugn your character. 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. One of the most common forms is insufficient paraphrasing. Even with attribution, you may be guilty of insufficient paraphrasing because your sentence too closely follows the content and structure of the cited author's sentence.

Plagiarism is unethical, unacceptable, and prohibited by the UF Student Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/scer/honorcodes/honorcode.php>). The consequences for plagiarism at the University of Florida range from receiving a grade of zero for the plagiarized assignment or a failing grade for the course, to expulsion from the University for repeated offenses. Plagiarism after schooling calls into question one's 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 as plagiarism. Students studying at 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. I check all written assignments using anti-plagiarism software called Turnitin® (http://turnitin.com/en_us/products/originalitycheck). Students who plagiarize will receive a grade of zero on the assignment. The second instance of plagiarism in the course will result in an automatic failing grade in the course. For further information and examples of plagiarism, read the George Smathers' Library Guide to Plagiarism at <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/07b/students.html> UF Policies Academic Honesty As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."

You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit 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."

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report to appropriate personnel any condition that facilitates academic misconduct. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/SCCR/honorcodes/honorcode.php>.

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.

Services for Students with Disabilities

The University of Florida is committed to providing academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, a student should present his/her accommodation letter to me supporting a request for accommodations. The University encourages students with disabilities to follow these procedures as early as possible within the semester. See the website at www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

Netiquette: Communication Courtesy

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats.

<http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

Online Course Evaluation Process

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open for students to complete during the last two or three weeks of the semester; students will be notified of the specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

Getting Help

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up. Other resources are available at

<http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability Resource Center
- Dean of Students Office
- Online Library Help Desk Complaints

Each online distance learning program has a process for, and will make every attempt to resolve, student complaints within its academic and administrative departments at the program level. See <http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> for more details

Lecture Subjects

1. Overview of Urban Entomology
2. Orders of Arthropods that are Urban Pests
3. Cockroaches
4. Cockroaches (Problems)

5. Cockroaches (Blattellidae)
6. Cockroaches (Blattidae)
7. Composition and Structure of Wood
8. Termites
9. Subterranean termites
10. Non-Subterranean termites
11. Wood-boring Beetles
12. Wood Decay & Other WDOs
13. Pests in Damp Locations
14. Delusory Parasitosis
15. Biting flies & Mosquitoes
16. Lice & bugs
17. Bedbugs
18. Fleas
19. Ticks and Mites
20. Pests of Fabric
21. Pests of Paper
22. Ants
23. Pest Ants
24. Wasps
25. Bees
26. Spiders and Scorpions
27. Envenomization
28. Stored Food Pests
29. Filth Flies & Small Flies (Gnats)