ENY 4905 The Arachnids;
ENY 6905 Graduate Survey of the Arachnids;
Spiders and Their Relatives.
Class Arachnida

3 credit hours
Spring 2014

Instructor: Dr. William H. Kern, Jr.
Associate Professor and Extension Specialist
Entomology and Nematology Department
University of Florida/IFAS
Ft. Lauderdale REC
3205 College Ave.
Davie, FL 33314
Office phone: 954-577-6329
Fax: 954-475-4125
Email: whk@ufl.edu

Office Hours: Because this is a web-based course, please use email or office phone for questions. My office hours are held in Room 219 in the Davie West Building at the Ft. Lauderdale Research and Education Center, Davie, FL, but call for an appointment.

Course Website: Lectures can be accessed in Sakai, by downloading and opening the current version of Mozilla Firefox, and going to https://lss.at.ufl.edu. Students should view 2 narrated lectures each week to keep up with the schedule of topics, unless otherwise indicated. The student’s UF Gatorlink username and password are necessary to log into the system. Tutorials are available in Sakai under “Help,” if needed.
Required Reference:


Recommended References:


Additional Resources:

Included in the Resources section for this course in Sakai

Students will do a 30 species PowerPoint alternative to a traditional collection. You will need to have macro photography capability to obtain the required photos. Cameras with macro photography capability are not supplied by the instructor or the Entomology and Nematology Department.

Course Description: Identification, biology, behavior, and management of common members of the Class Arachnida; Spiders, Harvestman "Daddy-Long-Legs", Scorpions, Whip Scorpions, Tail-less Whip Scorpions, Sun Spiders, Mites and Ticks.

Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills:
At least one semester of a college-level Biology course is strongly encouraged, but not required.
Students should be self-motivated, and avoid procrastinating.
Students must have basic computer skills to navigate the course on Sakai.

Purpose of Course: This semester-long course was created to help students understand and better appreciate the members of the Class Arachnida. This large lineage of the Phylum Arthropoda is often given only brief coverage in either Invertebrate Zoology or Entomology courses. The ticks and mites will be discussed, but are covered in greater detail in Medical and Veterinary Entomology or Agricultural Acarology Courses.

Course Goals and/or Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize Arachnid arthropods by sight and written description to Order and/or Family.
- Be able to identify the internal and external anatomical features of members of the Class Arachnida.
- Understand the value of most Arachnids as predators within most ecosystem communities. Have a rational understanding of the few Arachnids that have some negative potential to humans, our pets and livestock, or our crops.

Test Policy:

- Tests are closed-book (i.e., working with others or phone/web/textbook/note use during quizzes and tests, and copying and/or sharing test questions/answers with others, are prohibited). You are bound by the UF Honor Policy.
- Tests will be open for 60 minutes after they have been started.
- If the test is not finished within the time period, it will be automatically submitted. DO NOT try to reopen it or start a new test – it will cause Sakai problems.
- Save your answers frequently, in case of power failure or software glitches. Caution: if you login to a test/quiz and then logout, Sakai will not let you back in and the test will be graded on the work that was done.
- A grade shown in Sakai upon submission of a test/quiz is only a partial score. Sakai doesn’t grade short answer or essay questions. Please allow the instructor a week for grading.
• Concerns about grades can be discussed privately after the assessment period has closed.

Make-up Policy: No make-up tests or quizzes will be given, unless the student made previous arrangements with the instructor or has an excused absence. Unexcused absences will receive a zero.

Assignment Policy: Late assignments will not be accepted without proper documentation of an emergency or technological problem. All written assignments must be submitted through TurnItIn so both the student and instructor will see the report generated.

Netiquette: Communication Courtesy: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. See http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf.

Course Technology: A computer that can view PowerPoint and pdf files, has adequate memory and speed, and meets the minimum standards for UF computer use is needed. The following website explains the University of Florida computer hardware and software policy: http://dell.techhub.ufl.edu/computer_requirement.html. The current version of Firefox (Mozilla) must be downloaded from the internet to access the course materials: http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/ie.html. Contact the UF Computing Help Desk (352-392-4357; helpdesk@ufl.edu) with any technological problems. You will be issued a ticket number – print and save this!

Getting Help:
For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Sakai, 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 me within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.
# Course Schedule

ENY 4905 The Arachnids;  
ENY 6905 Graduate Survey of the Arachnids;  
Spiders and Their Relatives, the **Class Arachnida**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Lesson</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Intro to Arachnids especially of Florida</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Scorpiones - scorpions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Uropygi (Thelyphonida) – whipscorpions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Amblypygi (whipspiders)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 5      | Pseudoscorpiones (false scorpions)  
Schizomida (small whipscorpions)  
Palpigradi (micro whipscorpions) |          |            |            |
| 6      | Solifugae (sunspiders) |          |            | Test 1     |
| 7      | Opiliones (harvestmen) |          |            |            |
| 8      | Acari (mites) |          |            |            |
| 9      | Acari (ticks) |          |            |            |
| 10     | Ricinulei |          |            | Test 2     |
| 11     | Araneae (spiders) Introduction to spiders |          |            |            |
| 12     | Mygalomorphae or Orthognatha –  
Tarantulas, trapdoor spiders, purse-web spiders, etc. |          |            |            |
| 13     | Araneomorphae |          |            |            |
| 14     | Venomous spiders |          |            |            |
| 15     | Household spiders |          |            |            |
| 16     | Yard and Garden Spiders |          |            |            |
| 17     | Active hunting spiders |          |            | Final Exam |
Final Exam:   *No comprehensive final is given for this course.*

**Disclaimer:** This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As the semester progresses, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

**Grade Determination:**

The requirements are 1) a thirty species PowerPoint presentation of Arachnids that you have photographed (macrophotography in required) and 2) three Exams spaced throughout the semester 3) a preapproved Feature Creature Article required of graduate students in ENY6905.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENY 4905</th>
<th>ENY6905</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A thirty species PowerPoint presentation</td>
<td>40 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Semester examinations</td>
<td>20% each 60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A preapproved Feature Creature article</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Collecting Arachnids:** All arachnids collected for your personal collection and study should be preserved in 70-85% ethanol.

**PowerPoint Presentation:** Requirements for your thirty species PowerPoint presentation of Arachnids you have photographed. Macrophotography is required in order to see enough detail for identification. Try to limit yourself to 60 slides. Each species should include Family, *Genus species*, common name, and natural history notes. Place an identification marker in each photo for confirming its originality as your work.
Featured Creature Article: Graduate students must write a new Featured Creature article (for examples, see: http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/creatures). You may select either an Arachnid species for which no Feature Creature Article exists and obtain approval by the instructor. The format for each article must conform to the headings and type of information found in most Featured Creature articles (a separate file with instructions and due dates will be posted under Assignments).

After I approve your topic, you will upload a first draft through Assignments and TurnItIn to determine its originality. I will edit and grade the draft, return it, and you must submit a final draft through Sakai in Assignments. Students must request permission for use of any illustrations. You may pursue publishing a high quality Featured Creature online, if the article is reviewed again by an entomology faculty member, and submitted with a resume or CV. This would likely occur after this class is completed and is the student’s responsibility.

Grading scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63-66 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60-62 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>&lt; 60 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The UF Grading Policy is at: http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html.

Plagiarism

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® (http://www.at.ufl.edu/~turnitin/about.html).

For further information and examples of plagiarism, I strongly suggest that you please read the George Smathers' Library Guide to Plagiarism at http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/services/tutorials/plagiarism/student_intro.html

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.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct: In 1995 the UF student body enacted an 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 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 the honor code.

The Honor 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.

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. (Source: 2012-2013 Undergraduate Catalog)

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.

**Copyrighted Materials and 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 against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken, as appropriate.

**University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities:** Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation before submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance. Other resources are available at http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help

**UF Counseling Services:** Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals that interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:

1. University Counseling Center, & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, (http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/).
- Counseling Services
- Groups and Workshops
- Outreach and Consultation
- Self-Help Library
- Training Programs
- Community Provider Database


Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course, please visit [http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints) to submit a complaint.