



# THE INSECTS

ENY 2040 (3 CREDITS) | Summer and Fall

## INSTRUCTOR

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## TA

TBA

## COURSE DETAILS

- Asynchronous online
- No pre-requisite courses
- No textbook

## REQUIRED STUFF

Life in the Undergrowth DVD  
(NOT THE BOOK!)  
BBC Home Entertainment,  
2006. Available for less than  
\$20 via Amazon Streaming

Butterfly rearing kit. \$25  
(see Assignment link to  
order)

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Insects is an introduction to insect biology, insect-other organism interactions, and insect associations with people. The course features discussion of basic biological principles and concepts using insects as examples. The Insects is conducted entirely online and features a combination of online lectures, videos, hands-on activities, readings, and discussions of these topics.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe the characteristics and key biological features of the major arthropod classes.
- Describe the scope of global insect diversity.
- Name the orders to which common insects belong.
- Associate key life history characteristics and development type with the major orders of insects.
- Describe structural and chemical adaptations that insects use to carry out various vital functions.
- List the roles insects play in different ecological communities.
- Explain the beneficial and destructive impacts of insects on man.
- Discuss the importance of insects in science, technology, the media, and popular culture.

## GEN ED PURPOSE OF COURSE STATEMENT

Gen Ed courses in the biological sciences introduce students to the basic concepts of science and the scientific method and enhance awareness of scientific developments and their impact on society and the environment. This area provides students with an understanding of basic scientific terms, concepts, and theories and the ability to formulate testable hypotheses from the study of living things.

## IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

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1. Assignments, Quizzes, and Discussions are due Sundays at midnight.
2. Exams open on Sundays at 7 am and close Mondays at midnight.
3. Full points on the reading (Perusall) assignments cannot be earned if you wait until the last minute. You must space your participation out over the week..
4. All due dates are listed in this syllabus and in the calendar on Canvas from the first day of the semester and will not change.

## MAKE UP POLICY

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Requirements for make-up exams, assignments, and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Assignments lose 10% for each day they are late. Discussions and quizzes cannot be completed after the associated deadline.

Technical Difficulties: Any student who has technical trouble with an exam must first contact the UF Computing Help Desk (<http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>) and obtain a ticket number. Please do this before contacting the instructor. Requests to reopen an assessment without an IT Help Desk Ticket number will not be considered.

## EVALUATION AND GRADING SCALE

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Course grades are based on quizzes, assignments, Perusall readings, and exams. The grading scale is based on **270 possible points**. Grades are absolute. There will NOT be additional extra credit at the end of the semester or rounding of grades beyond the extra credit offered posted in the Announcements during the semester.

Grade are potsed in the online Gradebook on Canvas. If you have questions about grades that have been posted, please email us using "Teachers" as the recipient in the Canvas email tool with your question or schedule an appointment to meet.

EXAM 1	30
EXAM 2	30
EXAM 3	60
14 QUIZZES (DROP 2)	72
3 ASSIGNMENTS	45
PERUSALL READINGS	30
Introduce Yourself	3
TOTAL POINTS.	270

Grade	Min.Points Needed
A	251
A-	243
B+	235
B	224
B-	216
C+	208
C	197
C-	189
D+	181
D	170
D-	162
E	<162

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

## ASSIGNMENT, QUIZ, DISCUSSION, AND EXAM DETAILS

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**QUIZZES:** There are 14 OPEN NOTE quizzes worth 6 points each. The lowest quiz score is dropped so only 12 quizzes count towards your grade.

**ASSIGNMENTS:** There are three, 15-point, assignments over the course of the semester. One involves purchasing a kit to rear butterfly larvae. These animals take a significant amount of time to develop so make sure you check out the instructions for that assignment on the course site and purchase your butterfly kit immediately. **You are required to provide proof that you completed the assignment by providing an image of your photo ID with the developing larvae.** If neither a photo or proof of purchase can be provided, you will receive a zero for that assignment. The other two assignments involving observing insects and taking pictures so do not wait until the last minute. I post them at the beginning of the semester to give you ample time to complete them.

**PERUSALL READINGS:** There are 3 PERUSALL ASSIGNMENTS (10 pts. ea.) Perusall is a social annotation tool that helps you master readings faster & understand the material better. To achieve this goal, you will be collaboratively annotating 3 assigned readings with others in your class. The help you'll get and provide your classmates (even if you don't know anyone personally) will get you past confusions quickly and will make the process more fun. You can start a new annotation thread in Perusall by highlighting text, asking a question, or posting a comment; you can also add a reply or comment to an existing thread. Each thread is like a chat with one or more members of your class, and it happens in real time. Your goals in annotating each reading assignment are to stimulate discussion by posting good questions or comments and to help others by answering their questions.

**EXAMS:** There are three non-cumulative, closed book (no use of notes or other resources), online exams. These exams are timed and proctored via Honorlock. The first two exams have 30 questions and must be completed in 30 minutes. The third exam has 60 questions and must be completed in 60 minutes. The exams open at 7 am on a Sunday and close at midnight on Monday. **Study Tips:** Review each lecture topic via the ungraded review quizzes that are provided under the Quizzes tab. Use the learning objectives at the beginning of each lecture to guide your study efforts.

## EVALUATING THE COURSE

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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. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

For an online course, students can report complaints to:  
<https://distance.ufl.edu/getting-help/student-complaint-process/>

## ACADEMIC HONESTY

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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 any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. 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/process/student---conduct---honor---code>.

## SOFTWARE USE

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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

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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. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/>

## CAMPUS HELPING RESOURCES

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Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general wellbeing 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.

• University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575,

[www.counseling.ufl.edu](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu)

Offers Counseling Services, Groups and Workshops, Outreach and Consultation, Self-Help Library, Wellness Coaching

- U Matter We Care, [www.umatter.ufl.edu/](http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/) • Career Connections Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, <https://career.ufl.edu/>.
- Student Success Initiative, <http://studentsuccess.ufl.edu>.

## Schedule

Week - Fall	Week - Summer	Course Material Covered	Deliverables due Sunday at Midnight unless noted
1	1	Module 1: Course Introduction: Why Study Insects Nomenclature and Classification LIU Episode 1, Part 1	Introduce Yourself Quiz 1
2		Module 2: Arthropods and Arachnids LIU 3: Silk Spinners	Quiz 2
3		Module 3: Insect Structure, Development, & Molting LIU 2: Taking to the Air	Quiz 3 Assignment 1
4	2	Module 4: Insect Orders 1 & 2 <b>Exam open Sunday &amp; Monday</b>	Quiz 4 <b>Exam 1 (Modules 1-4)</b>
5		Module 5: Insect Orders 3 & 4	Quiz 5 Perusall Reading 1
6		Module 6: Chemical Communication & Social Insects	Quiz 6
7	3	Module 6 (continued): Relatedness LIU 5: Super Societies	Quiz 7
8		Module 7: Phylogenetics Natural Selection & Speciation	Quiz 8
9		Module 7 (continued): Adaptive Coloration & Mimicry <b>Exam open Sunday &amp; Monday</b>	Quiz 9 <b>Exam 2 (Modules 5-7)</b>
10	4	Module 8: Pollination Biology 1 & 2 LIU 4: Intimate Relations	Quiz 10 Perusall Reading 2
11		Module 9: Reconsidering the Scientific Method Model Organisms	No quiz due Assignment 2
12		Module 9 (continued): Invasive Species	Quiz 11
13	5	Module 10: Insects and Disease	Quiz 12 Perusall Reading 3
14		Module 11: Insects as Weapons	No quiz due- holidays
15	6	Module 11 (continued): Insects in Art Insects in Industry	Quiz 13 & 14 Assignment 3
16		No new topics <b>Exam 3 open Sun – Wed</b>	<b>Exam 3 (Modules 8 - 11) and all orders</b>