

# TROPICAL ENTOMOLOGY

**ENY 3563/5566**

**Summer A**

**Credits: 3**

**Online Asynchronous**

## **INSTRUCTOR**

Dr. Nicole Quinn

Assistant Professor

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## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course provides students with an overview of the ecology, diversity, and agricultural and veterinary importance of insects in the tropics. Insects are the most diverse multicellular organisms in the tropics. Their roles in nature have diversified into most habitats where they are fungivores, herbivores, necrophages, coprophages, saprophages, parasitoids, parasites, and predators. They provide critical ecosystem services such as decomposition, nutrient recycling, pollination, and biological control. Tropical insects are used as bioindicators of ecosystem health and conservation needs.

In this course, students will synthesize information about the tropics, ecology, and entomology. By the end of this course, students will predict how changes to a tropical ecosystem might affect a given insect, and vice versa, with 90% accuracy.

## **COURSE FORMAT**

The narrated PowerPoint presentations form a series of **LECTURES** covering the basic themes listed above. All presentations are available in Canvas through UF eLearning ([elearning.ufl.edu](http://elearning.ufl.edu)). There are **READING ASSIGNMENTS** to provide a broader perspective of the course and provides opportunities for discussion. Participation in **DISCUSSIONS** (via Canvas and Packback) is a critical component of this course. It is recommended that lectures and readings are be viewed before participating in discussion. **STUDENT PRESENTATIONS** and **PEER REVIEW** of student presentations will allow students to engage with Tropical Entomology topics in more detail. **WRITING ASSIGNMENTS** will consist of an abstract for their presentations and for ENY 5566 only, a short review of a topic of interest.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Dates	Topic	Important Deadlines
1	5/15-5/21	Ecological Diversity and the Tropics	
2	5/22-28	Faunistic Richness of Insects in the Tropics	May 26: Presentation topic finalized
3	5/29-6/4	Factors contributing to insect decline and diversity	
4	6/5-6/11	Insects in Tropical Agriculture	June 5: Presentation abstract and references due
5	6/12-6/18	Medical and Veterinary Importance of Tropical Insects	June 19: Presentations due
6	6/19-6/26	Student Presentations	June 26: Peer reviews due; Last day of class and discussions; ENY 5566 ONLY: paper due

**NOTE: Participation in discussions is expected throughout the semester.**

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

None

## STUDENT PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS

### Discussion

#### **Packback Questions** (Grade Value: 100 points)

Participation is a requirement for this course, and the Packback Questions platform will be used for online discussion about class topics. Packback Questions is an online community where you can be fearlessly curious and ask open-ended questions to build on top of what we are covering in class and relate topics to real-world applications.

Packback Requirements:

Your participation on Packback will count toward 25% of your overall course grade in ENY 3563.

There will be a Weekly Monday at 11:59PM EST deadline for submissions. In order to receive full credit, you should submit the following per each deadline period:

- 1 open-ended Question every week with a minimum Curiosity Score of 65, worth 33.33% of each assignment grade
- 2 Responses every week with a minimum Curiosity Score of 65, worth 66.67% of each assignment grade

- Half credit will be provided for questions and responses that do not meet the minimum curiosity score.

## Writing

### Packback Deep Dives

Packback Deep Dives will be used to assess independent research skills and improve academic communication through long-form writing assignments such as essays, papers, and case studies. While completing the summative writing prompts on Deep Dives, you will interact with a Research Assistant that will help you gather your notes and cite your sources, and Digital Writing Assistant for in-the-moment feedback and guidance on your writing.

### Deep Dives Requirements:

Here are your Deep Dives assignments for this course:

#### All sections

Assignment Title: Presentation Abstract

Due Date: June 5th

Grade Value: 100 points

A maximum 250-word abstract with a list of at least five references (not cited in abstract) and no more than six should be delivered by **June 5th**. At least three journal articles or books must be included in the list and no more than four websites; provide the complete reference of all literature cited and the title and URL for all websites cited. Use of information gathered from Wikipedia is not allowed.

#### ENY 5566 ONLY

Assignment Title: Mini Review

Due Date: June 26th

Grade Value: 100 points

### How to Register on Packback:

#### **Note: Only access Packback through Canvas in order to ensure your grades sync properly**

1. Click "Packback" within Canvas to access the community.
2. Follow the instructions on your screen to finish your registration.
3. In order for your grade to be visible in Canvas, make sure to only access Packback via Canvas.

### How to Get Help from the Packback Team:

If you have any questions or concerns about Packback throughout the semester, please read their FAQ at [help.packback.co](http://help.packback.co). If you need more help, contact their customer support team directly at [help@packback.co](mailto:help@packback.co).

For a brief introduction to Packback Questions and why we are using it in class, watch this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OV7QmikrD68>

**Presentation** (Grade Value: 100 points)

The **ORAL PRESENTATION** is a synthesis of information from literature and/or experience on a topic directly related to any aspect of tropical entomology. The topic of the presentation will be decided by mutual agreement between Dr. Quinn and the student. The topic of the presentation must be finalized no later than **May 26th**. PowerPoint slides with recorded audio must be utilized as visual aids.

**Peer Review of Presentations** (Grade Value: 100 points)

**Students enrolled in ENY 5566 will write a short review of a topic relating to Tropical Entomology. A rubric will be provided at a later date.**

## STUDENT LEARNING ASSESSMENT

Assignment	ENY3563	ENY5566
Discussions	100 points	100 points
Presentation abstract	100 points	100 points
Oral presentation	100 points	100 points
Peer review of presentations	100 points	100 points
Mini Review	n/a	100 points
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>400 points</b>	<b>500 points</b>

**NOTE:** Students registered for ENY5566 have requirements different from those for ENY3563 students.

## GRADES

A = 100-93%	B+ = 89-87%	C+ = 79-77%	D+ = 69-67%	
A- = 92-90%	B = 86-83%	C = 76-73%	D = 66-63%	E = 59-0%
	B- = 82-80%	C- = 72-70%	D- = 62-60%	

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

## UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA POLICIES AND ASSISTANCE

### Absences and Make-Up Work

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work are consistent with university policies found at: [catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/](https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/).

### **Online Course Evaluation Process**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at [evaluations.ufl.edu](https://evaluations.ufl.edu). 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 are available to students at [evaluations.ufl.edu/results/](https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/).

### **University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities**

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/>

### **University Policy on Academic Conduct**

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>

### **Plagiarism**

The [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code](#) states that:

"A Student must not represent as the Student's own work all or any portion of the work of another.

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- Use of ChatGPT or other similar services
- Stealing, misquoting, insufficiently paraphrasing, or patch-writing.
- Self-plagiarism, which is the reuse of the Student's own submitted work, or the simultaneous submission of the Student's own work, without the full and clear acknowledgment and permission of the Faculty to whom it is submitted.
- Submitting materials from any source without proper attribution.
- Submitting a document, assignment, or material that, in whole or in part, is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment the Student did not author."

### **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.