

## ALS 3923 – Honors Orientation (1 credit)

### **Class Time & Location:**

Wednesday 5:10-6:00pm McCarty Hall B 3096.

**The class will meet live and in person.** This course is offered to distance students via Zoom.

Students are expected to participate in the live class. Students should communicate with Dr. Goss prior to the start of the course and regarding any technical or logistical difficulties connecting to the course.

### **Instructor**

Dr. Erica Goss, Professor

Plant Pathology & Emerging Pathogens Institute

Fifield Hall Room 2415, 2550 Hull Road

Phone: 352-273-4650

Email: emgoss@ufl.edu

Office hours: Tuesday 3-4 pm, Friday noon-1pm in person or on Zoom.

**Course Description:** 1 Credit. Introduces the CALS honors program and the skills needed to complete an honors thesis on a creative, scholarly project. Activities in and out of class, discussion, guest-speakers, writing and oral presentation are used to accomplish the learning objectives.

**Course Objectives.** At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain the requirements and expectations for an honors thesis
2. Find and critically evaluate scholarly literature
3. Begin to develop a thesis and/or a creative scholarly project
4. Complete a preliminary literature review and introduction for a thesis topic
5. Communicate the societal or scientific importance of their research

**Text and resources:** Course materials are on the Canvas E-Learning website. It contains the assignments, readings, links to resources, and more.

**E-learning with Canvas:** All students must use Canvas for this course. Syllabus, assignments, resources, grades, and other materials will be posted on the course Canvas page throughout the semester.

**Attendance and Participation:** Because this course relies heavily on classroom discussion and interaction, attendance is crucial to your success and that of your classmates. Only

documented university excused absences will be honored. Students are expected to be present for all class meetings and actively participate in discussion. If a student has an excusable absence, arrangements should be made prior to the class date for opportunities to make up the missed discussion topics and/or work. However, because of the nature of this course, it is imperative that students not miss class meetings.

Attendance will be taken each class. If you miss a class for an absence that is not university excused, you will lose 2 points per class toward your final grade.

Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for enrolled students who have a university excused absence. I will verbally notify the class when I am recording. Students who participate on these days are agreeing to have their video, image, and/or voices recorded. Online students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared.

Requirements for class attendance and 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>.

**Grading Scale** [this course does not use the +/- grading system; if final score is less than 0.1 % from next grade, it will be rounded up.]

A = 90% to 100%

B = 80-89.9%

C = 70-79.9%

D = 60-69.9%

E = < 60%

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see

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

14	4/23	Perspectives of finishing/past CALS Honors Students	<b>Introduction Revision; Presentation self-critique</b>
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### **In-Class Recording**

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

### **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. 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.a.a.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.bluer.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Should you have any complaints with your live or distance experience in this course that cannot be resolved by the instructor, please visit:

- Residential Course: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>
- Online Course: <https://distance.ufl.edu/state-authorization-status/#student-complaint>

### **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 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:**

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 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

### Course Assignments & Grading Value

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Points Possible</u>
Mentor Selection Sheet	10
Library Orientation	5
Reference Management	5
Peer Review of Thesis	10
Annotated Bibliography	5
Ten Relevant References	20
Introduction	30
Introduction Revision	15
Presentation	20
Attendance & Participation	30
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<b>Total Points</b>	<b>150</b>

Assignments are graded individually (listed above and in **bold** in the weekly schedule) or contribute to your attendance and participation grade.

Late Assignments Policy: Assignments due dates and times are as indicated on the course Canvas site. Some assignments are due prior to class time. An assignment submitted after the deadline will receive a **10% deduction per day, up to four days** for late assignments.

**Schedule:** Dates are subject to change at instructor's discretion – monitor Canvas site

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Class Preparation or Assignment Due</b>
1	1/15	Introductions, overview of program, contacting mentors	
2	1/22	Q & A with Director of CALS Honors Program, Dr. Wysocki	Bring questions; Contact potential mentors
3	1/29	Mentor status update; Research expectations	Reading and 3 mentor exercise; Continue to talk to potential mentors

4	2/5	Searching for references with librarian Suzanne Stapleton	<b>Library Orientation; Mentor selection</b>
5	2/12	Building a strong thesis	<b>Reference management exercise</b>
6	2/19	Peer review of thesis	<b>Peer review of thesis</b>
7	2/26	Reading scholarly articles; Writing your introduction	<b>Annotated Bibliography; Reading the literature discussion</b>
8	3/5	Writing your introduction; Communicating your research	<b>Ten Relevant References</b>
9	3/12	Introduction workshop	<b>Introduction Workshop</b>
	3/19	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
10	3/26	Presenting your research	<b>Thesis Introduction</b>
11	4/2	Presentations	<b>Presentation</b>
12	4/9	Presentations	<b>Presentation</b>
13	4/16	Presentations	<b>Presentation</b>

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 Resources**

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.

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, [www.counseling.ufl.edu/](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/)*
  - Counseling Services
  - Groups and Workshops
  - Outreach and Consultation
  - Self-Help Library
  - Wellness Coaching

- Crisis intervention is available 24/7 from Alachua County Crisis Center: (352) 264-6789.

**\*\*\*\*\* Do not wait** until you reach a crisis to come in and talk. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

*U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

*Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

*University Police Department:* [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

*UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

### **Academic Resources**

*E-learning technical support:* Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

[Career Connections Center](https://career.ufl.edu/): Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. <https://career.ufl.edu/>  
Career assistance and counseling services.

*Student Success Initiative*, <http://studentsuccess.ufl.edu>.

[Library Support](#): Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

[Teaching Center](#): Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420.  
General study skills and tutoring.

[Writing Studio](#): 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

*Student Complaints On-Campus*: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.](#)

*On-Line Students Complaints*: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process.](#)