Principles of Plant Pest Risk Assessment and Management
ALS 6942   Section: All Sections
Class Periods: Not Applicable
Location: Online in Canvas
Academic Term: Spring 2022

Instructor:
Please contact instructor through Canvas website.
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Department, Building 970, Gainesville, FL
Office Hours: Monday, 10am-12pm unless or by appointment. Students will be notified of cancelled office hours
for a given week in Canvas e-mail.

Teaching Assistants:
Sarah Birkmire
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Physical Office Hours Location: Room 3205 Steinmetz Hall, University of Florida, Entomology and Nematology
Department, Building 970, Gainesville, FL
Office Hours: TBD or by appointment. Students will be notified of cancelled office hours for a given week in
Canvas e-mail.

Course Description
Learners uniquely explore dynamic plant health regulatory issues through lectures, reading assignments, course
discussion, class assignments, two substantial written assignments, and course exams. By the conclusion of the
course, student learners will be more familiar with policies and procedures related to plant health regulation,
and learners will have specifically developed their own pest risk assessment and survey and response plan. This
course will also assist students in the pursuit of career opportunities related to plant pest regulation.

Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites
Enrollment in graduate school at the University of Florida or enrollment in the Certificate of Plant Pest Risk
Assessment and Management. Integrated Principles of Biology 1 and Laboratory (BSC 2010 and 2010L) and
Integrated Principles of Biology 2 and Laboratory (BSC 2011 and 2011L) or equivalent.

Course Objectives

1. Learners will develop an understanding of the terminology, acronyms, and trade implications associated
    with international, federal, and local plant protection policies and be able to apply problem-solving skills to
    real-world scenarios.
2. Knowledge of key plant health regulatory pests of concern will be gained through lectures, interactive
    activities, and the application of knowledge through two substantial written assignments, a pest risk
    assessment and a survey/response plan.

Materials and Supply Fees
None

Required Textbooks and Software
Use of University of Florida, Canvas e-learning software is required. Use of the University of Florida library system
for access to literature is also required.

Required Textbook: Plant Pest Risk Analysis: Concepts and Application, C. Devorshak (ed.)., 2012, ISBN-13: 978-1-78064-036-5, CABI. Some of the textbook chapters can be found on the WWW (via a Google search). You can also read the textbook as an e-book through Kindle. The textbook is also available for purchase in the UF Bookstore.

Recommended Materials
Further instructions will be posted in the University of Florida, Canvas e-learning software system.

Course Schedule
Week 1:   Review Syllabus, Plant Biosecurity, and the International Trade
Week 2:   History of Plant Quarantine in the U.S. and the Use of Risk Analysis in the International Framework
Week 3:   Terms and Concepts for a Pest Risk Analysis
Week 4:   Economics and Types of a Pest Risk Analysis
Week 5:   Wood Packing Material and Firewood
Week 6:   Pest Lists, Prioritization, and Pest Risk Analysis
Week 7:   Commodity Example: Citrus
Week 8:   Commodity Example: Ornamental Plants and Plant Propagative Material
Week 9:   Commodity Example: Wheat, Corn, Cotton and Rice
Week 10:   Commodity Example: Non-Citrus Fruits and Vegetables
Week 11:   Surveillance in the U.S. and Florida
Week 12:   Pest Risk Management, Background, and Practice
Week 13:   Risk Communication and Various Terms Related to Risk
Week 14:   Weed Risk Assessment
Week 15:   Career Opportunities and Concluding Concepts

Additional new content for the week may be posted by **8am on Wednesday of every week**.

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy
This course is delivered through an asynchronous, online environment. Learners are expected to stay informed of the course material through self-paced learning. All excused absences, including missed assignment deadlines or exams, must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found in Attendance Policies.

Evaluation of Grades

Assignment	Total Points	Percentage of Final Grade
5 @ 20 points each	20 each (100 total)	16.13%
Exams (two at 75 each)	75 each (150 total)	24.19%
Survey and Response Plan	80	12.90%
Arthropod Pest Risk Assessment Draft	40	6.45%
Plant Pathogen Risk Assessment Oral Presentation Draft	20	3.23%
Arthropod Pest Risk Assessment-Final	150	24.19%
Plant Pathogen Risk Assessment Oral Presentation	80	12.90%
	620	100%

Grading Policy

The following is given as an example only.

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
92.5-100.0	A	572.8-620.0
89.5-92.4	A-	572.9-554.2
86.5-89.4	B+	554.3-535.6
82.5-86.4	B	535.7-510.8
79.5-82.4	B-	510.9-492.2
76.5-79.4	C+	492.3-473.6
72.5-76.4	C	473.7-448.8
69.5-72.4	C-	448.9-430.2
66.5-69.4	D+	430.3-411.6
62.5-66.4	D	411.7-387.0
59.5-62.4	D-	386.9-368.9
59.4 or below	E	368.8 or below

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:
UF Graduate Catalog
Grades and Grading Policies

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations. 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 of these assessments are available to students on the Gator Evals page.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students 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." The Honor Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

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. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see the Notification to Students of FERPA Rights.

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:
If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: counseling.ufl.edu/cwc, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or police.ufl.edu.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.

Library Support, Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints Campus

On-Line Students Complaints