

PLPA 5060 and 6060
Plant Disease Management
 Spring, 2011
 1:00 – 3:50 Mondays; 114 Life Science Building

Syllabus

Instructors:

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Textbook : None required. Reading assignments will be placed on blackboard.

Course objectives:

The course is designed to instill in students the classical options for managing plant diseases. Management is stressed rather than complete disease control to emphasize that economically and environmentally some disease will always be present when crops or ornamentals are grown. After completion of the course, students will be competent to review current literature on disease management options and design a treatment regime for any plant disease that they encounter.

Grading System: Grades will be assigned based on the total number of points, where 90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; and 70-79% = C. The total number of points is different for undergraduate students and graduate students, as follows.

Undergraduate Students		Graduate Students	
Exam 1	200 pts.	Exam 1	200 pts.
Exam 2	200 pts.	Exam 2	200 pts.
Assignment 4	10 pts (Calibrations & plot design)	Assignment 1	10 pts (Literature Search)
Assignment 5	10 pts (Plot design)	Assignment 2	10 pts (Outline)
		Assignment 3	10 pts (Reference List)
		Assignment 4	10 pts (Calibrations)
		Assignment 5	10 pts (Plot design)
		Term paper	100 pts.
		Oral presentation	50 pts.
Total points	425 points	Total points	605 points

Exam number 2 will be given during the scheduled final exam; however, it will be a non-comprehensive exam on the material presented in class after the third exam.

For the term paper, **graduate students** will select one crop as the main subject. Start the term paper by discussing general aspects of the crop, such as its importance economically, geographical regions in which the crop is grown, and general agricultural practices. The paper will also discuss the main diseases of the crop, including (when possible) at least one disease caused by each of the following pathogens: bacteria, fungi, viruses, and nematodes. For each

disease, a complete description of the disease management options should be presented in a way that a recommended IPM system is given. The possible effect of management options on insect pests and weeds should also be discussed.

The term paper must be a minimum of 10 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman size 12 font. All references for the paper must be original published articles from journals and books. **No web pages can be used for obtaining information on the diseases.**

Assignments 1 – 3 are designed to monitor progress of graduate students in working on the term papers. Accordingly the following tasks and due dates are set for each assignment.

- Assignment 1: summary of literature search from CAB and AGRICOLA data bases.
- Assignment 2: outline of term paper.
- Assignment 3: complete reference list for term paper.
- Completed Term paper

Assignments 4 and 5 are practical applications of chemical control.

Graduate students will also make an oral presentation to the class on their term paper. Oral presentations will be PowerPoint talks with a **maximum length of 10 minutes.**

Academic honesty and plagiarism:

All registered students at Auburn University are bound by the Auburn University Oath of Honor, which states:

“In Accordance with those virtues of Honesty and Truthfulness set forth in the Auburn Creed, I, as a student and fellow member of the Auburn Family, do hereby pledge that all work is my own, achieved through personal merit and without any unauthorized aid. In the promotion of integrity, and for the betterment of Auburn, I give honor to this, my oath and obligation.”

In essence, by taking this oath, students are saying that they will not commit plagiarism.

The instructors are required to report any suspected or possible cases of plagiarism to the office of the provost.

The following definition of plagiarism and comments about it are taken from *The Technical Writer's Companion*, 3rd Edition, 2002, G.J. Alred, C.T. Brusaw, and W.E. Oliu, Bedford/St. Martin's, Boston.

“Plagiarism is the use of someone else's unique ideas without acknowledgement, or the use of someone else's exact words without quotation marks and appropriate credit. Plagiarism is considered to be the theft of someone else's creative and intellectual property and is not accepted in business, science, journalism, academia, and other fields.”

To avoid plagiarism when writing reports from literature sources, one **MUST** either paraphrase or use direct quotes, and one must provide the reference for information that is paraphrased or quoted. Paraphrasing is restating in your own words what is written in a literature source.