PLS 455 Turfgrass Management

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2013

Instructor: Curtis A. Jones, Ph.D
Assistant Professor – Plant and Soil Science
Office Location: AgIT 145
Office Hours: 9:00 am – 10:50 am Wednesday and Friday
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

*Textbook(s) optional*

Turfgrass management. Turgeon
The Complete Guide To Texas Lawn Care. Knoop
Best Golf Course Management Practices. McCarty

Course Description:

Establishment and maintenance of turfgrasses in lawns, sports fields, and golf courses.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Select the proper warm or cool season turfgrass for a particular site.
2. Know how to plant, establish, and properly mow turfgrass.
3. Interpret a fertilizer label and apply the proper types and rates of fertilizers for turfgrass.
4. Use knowledge of soil physical, chemical, and biological properties to properly grow turfgrass.
5. Identify and control major turfgrass insects, weeds, and diseases.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

Exams: Three 150 point exams, one 200 point final exam

Student Learning Outcomes 1 - 5
Assessment: Vocabulary, Multiple Choice, True/False, and Short Answer Exam

Presentation/Project/Extension Bulletin: To be approved by Instructor.

Student Learning Outcomes: 1 - 5
Assessment: Graded according to the presentation rubric

Lab: Lab experiments, reports, paper and presentation.
(Described in detail in lab syllabus.)

Student Learning Outcomes: 1 - 5
Assessment: Assessed according to rubric

Testing Dates
February 15, 2012
March 27, 2012
April 29, 2012
Dates are subject to change.

Other important Dates

February 5, 2015 Last Day to drop with 100% refund
February 6, 2015 Last day for Graduation Application
March 16 – 20, 2015 Spring Break
April 24, 2015 Last day to drop with a Q
May 11 – 15, 2015 Finals Week Grading
TBD Field Trips (mandatory)

Grading

Exams (3) 300 points
Participation and attendance 100 points
Presentation 100 points
Project 100 points
Extension Bulletin 100 points
Final Exam 200 points
Lab 300 points
Total 1200 points

A 90% or greater
B 80 to 89.99%
C 70 to 79.99%
D 60 to 69.99%
F < 60% =
TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

To be successful in the course, you will be provided access to university computers and facilities. The following items are available on university computers for your use.

1. Access to T: drive
2. MS Word
3. MS PowerPoint

These items will be helpful for you, should you need to work at home.

1. Flash drive
2. MS Office or compatible software
3. High-speed internet for access to Web Soil Survey at home.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures:

You may bring drinks to class. Please finish any meals before class begins. The use of tobacco products during class time is strictly prohibited.

Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. Copying of others’ work, use of disallowed material on exams, plagiarism in assignments or cheating in any other form as defined by the instructor will result in a grade of zero for that assignment. Multiple infractions will result in a grade of ‘F’ for the course and possible expulsion.

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:
Student Conduct

Students are expected to respect the rights of others in the class. Cell phones and other electronic equipment should be turned off prior to the beginning of class. Use of these items during class time, or any other unwarranted classroom disruption, will result in your immediate excusal from class for the remainder of the period.

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).