TURFGRASS SCIENCE I  
HORT 3321 and HORT 3021  
Fall 2023

Name: Dr. Michael Maurer
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Office: Agriculture Bldg. Rm. 119
Office Hours: MW 9:00 to 9:50 pm, TR 8:00 to 10:00 am, or by appointment.
Department: Agriculture
Class meeting time and place: Lecture MW 8:00 to 8:50 a.m.; Agriculture Bldg. Rm. 118, Lab 3021 M 3:00 to 4:50 p.m. Agriculture Bldg. Rm. 118.

Course Description:
Principles of turfgrass production and selection; establishment and maintenance of turfgrass for residential and commercial landscape applications.

Course Justification:
HORT 3221 “Turfgrass Science I” (2 credits lecture, 1 credit lab). The lecture and lab are taken concurrently. The points for the lecture and lab are combined into one grade for the course. The class meets three times a week (two 50-minute lectures and one 110-minute lab) for 15 weeks and also meets for a 2.5-hour final exam. Students have weekly reading assignments and are required to complete, two semester exams, calculation final and a final examination. The laboratory requires three written reports with presentations, calculation problem sets plus a calculation exam and turfgrass identification exam. These requirements take at least 6 hours of out-of-class student work each week to complete.
HORT 3121 “Turfgrass Science I Lab” (2 credits lecture, 1 credit lab). The lecture and lab are taken concurrently. The points for the lecture and lab are combined into one grade for the course. The class meets three times a week (two 50-minute lectures and one 110-minute lab) for 15 weeks and also meets for a 2.5-hour final exam. Students have weekly reading assignments and are required to complete, two semester exams, calculation final and a final examination. The laboratory requires three written reports with presentations, calculation problem sets plus a calculation exam and turfgrass identification exam. These requirements take at least 6 hours of out-of-class student work each week to complete.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, the students will be able to:
1. Identify the different cool and warm-season turfgrasses.
2. Understand usage of cool and warm-season turfgrasses.
3. Basic understanding of cultural practices related to turfgrass management
4. Calculate rates for agricultural products using various types of application equipment.
Text and Materials:

Course Requirements:
Lecture (60%)
- Exam I 15%
- Exam II 15%
- Final 15%
- Calculation exam 19%

Laboratory (40%)
- Turfgrass cultivar report & presentation 5%
- Turfgrass insect report & presentation 8%
- Turfgrass pathogen report & presentation 8%
- Turfgrass and Seed I.D. 15%
- Total 100%

Course Calendar:
Topic (reading/chapter in text book).
Introduction:
- Turfgrass careers and functions (1)
- Turfgrass morphology (2)
- Turfgrass anatomy/classification (2)
- Climatic zones (2)

Turfgrass cultivars:
- Cool-season turfgrasses (3)
- Warm-season turfgrasses (4)

Turfgrass culture:
- Establishment (5)
- Fertilization (7)
- Irrigation (9)
- Mowing (8)
- Thatch, Cultivation and Topdressing (10)

Turfgrass weeds, diseases and insects:
- Weed management (11)
- Insect management (12)
- Turfgrass pathogens (13)
- Plant growth regulators (8)
Laboratory Schedule:
Lab 1  Seed id and planting
Lab 2  Seed, sprig and sod calculations
Lab 3  Cultivar presentations
Lab 4  Cool and warm season grasses
Lab 5  Exam I
Lab 6  Seed and turfgrass ID exam
Lab 7  Insect presentations
Lab 8  Fertilizer calculations
Lab 9  Irrigation calculations
Lab 10 Exam II
Lab 11 Pesticide and sprayer calculations
Lab 12 Disease presentations
Lab 13 Calculation practice/review
Lab 14 Calculation exam

Written Reports:
Turfgrass cultivar report & presentation  Sept. 11, 2023
Turfgrass insect report & presentation  Oct. 9, 2023
Turfgrass pathogen report & presentation  Nov. 13, 2023

Exam Schedule:
Turfgrass and Seed I.D.  TBA (Dec. 15, 2021)
Exam I  September 25, 2023
Exam II  October 30, 2023
Calculation exam  December 4, 2023
Final  Monday, December 11, 2023, 8:00 to10:00 a.m.

Grading Policy:
Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:
A = 90 - 100%
B = 80 - 89.9%
C = 70 - 79.9%
D = 60 - 69.9%
F < 59.9%

Classroom Behavior:
Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment which is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have an opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from eating in class, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in, minimally, a request to leave the classroom.
Disruptive, distracting, or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom.

**Responsible Use of Technology:**
It is expected that all students will only use cell phones, PDAs, laptop computers, MP3 players and other technology outside of class time or when appropriate in class. Answering a cell phone, texting, listening to music or using a laptop computer for matters unrelated to the course may be grounds for dismissal from class or other penalties.

**Attendance Policy**
Regular and punctual attendance is expected for all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which a student is registered. If a student has excessive absences, the instructor reserves the right not to give individual tutoring, special consideration regarding make-up work, or other help the student needs because of missing class. Attendance will also play a crucial role in decisions concerning borderline final grades.

**Excused Absences**
Students may be excused from attendance for certain reasons, among these are absences related to health, family emergencies, and student participation in certain university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance whenever possible for excusable absences.

Students are responsible for providing timely documentation satisfactory to the instructor for each absence. Students with acceptable excuses may be permitted to make up work for absences to a maximum of three weeks of a semester when the nature of the work missed permits. Whether excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. **Documentation for excused absences is due within 10 days of the absence.**

**Academic Integrity (4.1)**
The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.

Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a
test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one’s self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (5.5)**

Please copy and paste the following information regarding Withheld Grades into your syllabus. Add additional information as needed to meet your departmental or course needs.

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the coursework because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course to compute the grade point average. For additional information, go to [https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf](https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf).

**Students with Disabilities**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course
instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Student Wellness and Well-Being**
SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

**On-campus Resources:**
**The Dean of Students Office** (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)
[www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents](http://www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents)
936.468.7249
dos@sfasu.edu

**SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic** Human Services, Room 202
[www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)
936.468.1041

**The Health and Wellness Hub** “The Hub”
Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.

To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Services include:
- Health Services Updated: February 2023
- Counseling Services
- Student Outreach and Support
- Food Pantry
- Wellness Coaching
- Alcohol and Other Drug Education
[www.sfasu.edu/thehub](http://www.sfasu.edu/thehub)
936.468.4008 thehub@sfasu.edu

**Crisis Resources:**
- Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
- National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
- johCrisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741
Program Learning Outcomes:
1. The student will demonstrate entry level skills needed for success in horticulture, agronomy and other related fields in the area of a) plant physiology and anatomy, b) practical experience in plant management systems, c) basic knowledge of plant genetics and reproduction, d) identification and knowledge of crops and e) management of soils and soilless media.
2. The student will demonstrate quantitative competence related to horticulture and agronomy.
3. The student will exhibit problem solving skills based on quantitative and analytical reasoning.
4. The student will demonstrate effective communication skills
5. The student will exhibit leadership and other interpersonal skills needed for career placement and advancement.

Program learning outcomes 1 and 2 are addressed in this class.

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>PLO 1 Plant Science</th>
<th>PLO 2 Quantitative</th>
<th>PLO 3 Problem Solving</th>
<th>PLO 4 Communications</th>
<th>PLO 5 Leadership</th>
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<td>HRT 315</td>
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B-S Basic I-Intermediate A-Advanced M-Mastery