Section 1: About this course

Your textbook is:

Pest and Vector Control
Cambridge University Press. 349 pp.
(order from any bookstore or Amazon.com)

Supplementary readings from various sources also are provided. You should print them off and read them as prompted in the class syllabus.

The goals of this course are:

1. to provide a broad overview the philosophy of pest management, including the ecological and economic basis for attainment of pest status, and
2. to discuss the techniques available to pest managers, including the advantages and disadvantages of each.
Grading for the course:

• The course grade is based on your performance on 2 essay exams plus a project (paper). You will have one week to complete the exams. They should be submitted electronically.

• The final grade will be assigned as:
  A=93% or greater, A-=90.0-92.9, B+=87.0-89.9%,
  B=83.0-86.9%, B-=80.0-83.9, C+=77.0-79.9%,
  C=73.0-76.9%, C-=70.0-72.9, D+=67.0-69.9%,
  D=63.0-66.9%, D-=60.0-62.9, E= less than 60%

• You should be able to answer the questions provided in each of the lessons. They are provided to help you focus on important aspects of the course.

Project requirement

• You are to select a pest management issue (either a specific management technique [e.g., pheromone traps] or problem [e.g., deer fly management]) of interest to you, but not something you are already researching (e.g., your thesis project). I provide some examples in the syllabus. Pick such a topic and send it to me for approval. I don’t want you to attempt too broad a topic, but there needs to be some available literature to review, so that is why I want to approve your idea before you start.

• Develop a 5-10 page review of the topic, including citations to the scientific literature.

• Do a literature search of the scientific literature (entomology journals). Don’t depend solely on Google, which tends to pull up ‘popular’ treatments; use Google Scholar or Agricola, for example, to find more appropriate journal articles.

• You may be able to access the original literature directly from these databases, but if not, you can usually access the journal that you want through the UF library if you select the ‘online journals’ section of catalog. You may have to sign in using your Gatorlink account using ‘remote access’ if you are working from home or away from campus. Not all journals or years are available in this manner, but most are accessible.
• Provide a synopsis of the ‘issue’ including the current status. Do not plagiarize. Summarize the information you find in your own words.

• Cite your information sources using standard citation methods. There is no universal agreement on how journal articles are cited, but select a journal, see how they cite journals, books, and book chapters, and use that method consistently. Or follow the Chicago Style Manual. I’m less concerned with the specific method you use than seeing a consistent approach to citation.

• This report can be submitted in either electronic or hard copy form, and must be received by the instructor at least 2 weeks before the end of the semester (1 week before end of classes). Late submissions automatically will receive one lower letter grade.

• I will acknowledge your submission of exams and the report. You should assume that I did not receive your submission of exams/report unless I acknowledge receipt. Be sure to contact me promptly if you do not receive acknowledgment.

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Academic honesty

• The University requires all members of its community to be honest in all endeavors. Cheating, plagiarism, and other acts diminish the process of learning. When students enroll at UF they commit themselves to honesty and integrity. Your instructor fully expects you to adhere to the academic honesty guidelines you signed when you were admitted to UF.
Academic honesty

- As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement:

  “I understand the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”

  Furthermore, on work submitted for credit by UF students, 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 to be assumed that all work will be completed independently unless the assignment is defined as a group project, in writing by the professor.

- This policy will be vigorously upheld at all times in this course.

Software use and copies

- 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.
Campus helping resources

• Students experiencing crisis or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. Both the Counseling Center and Student Mental Health provide confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal or lacking clear career and academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance. The Counseling Center is located at 301 Peabody Hall (next to Criser Hall). Student Mental Health is located on the second floor of the Student Health Services in the Infirmary.

Specific points of contact include:

1. University Counseling Center, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575; personal and career counseling: www.counsel.ufl.edu

2. Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center, 392-1171, personal counseling: www.hsc.ufl.edu/shcc/smhs.htm

3. Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual assault counseling; and

4. Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development

Students with disabilities act

• The Dean of Students Office coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes the registration of disabilities, academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services, and mediating faculty-student disability related issues.

Dean of Students Office, 202 Peabody Hall, 392-7066, www.dso.ufl.edu