

FRC1010 - GROWING FRUIT FOR FUN AND PROFIT (1 CREDIT)

SPRING 2016

Sections 2561

Period 5 (11:45am – 12:35 pm)
Fifield Hall – Rooms: 2318

Section 1247

Period 9 (4:05pm – 4:55pm)
Little Hall – Room: 109

INSTRUCTOR

Christian T. Christensen
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Office hours by appointment only

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Thomas Batts
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Horticulture is the part of agriculture that deals with the propagation, cultivation and improvement of high-value cash crops. This industry accounts for a significant part of the economy of the state of Florida, and is expected to grow in the coming decade. Nevertheless, students are increasingly unaware of the opportunities and challenges facing Florida Horticulture. As a consequence, the 2015 iteration of FRC1010 aims to expose students to the most relevant horticultural crops grown in the state, as well as some of the cutting-edge technologies currently used for their cultivation. Additionally, this course will cover hot-topic national issues like organic agriculture and genetically modified crops. A diverse selection of UF scientists will be invited to deliver talks about these topics in order to keep the lectures both current and topical.

COURSE GRADE

Attendance: 25%

Weekly Quizzes: 25%

Notebook: 25%

Short Project: 25%

Extra Credit: 5%

Attendance (25%)

Attendance will be taken every class period, based on assigned seating. To be marked “present,” a student must attend class, pay attention to the speaker, take notes, and refrain from engaging in disruptive behavior (see Course Policies). It is each student’s responsibility to check his/her attendance in Sakai. Students who wish to dispute an attendance grade must contact their section’s TA via e-mail within 1 week of the disputed event. If a dispute is not initiated within this time period, attendance grades are final.

Weekly Quizzes (25 %)

A 5-question weekly quiz will be posted in Sakai by 6pm on the day of each lecture. Quizzes will be available for 6 days, but once started each student must finish the quiz within 5 minutes. There will be a total of 13 quizzes in the semester, but only the highest 12 scores will be utilized to compute your quiz grade. No late quizzes will be given. Quizzes will cover material presented during the preceding lecture, with a focus on information that cannot be found on search engines. Students must neither give nor receive help in answering quizzes (see Course Policies).

Notebook (25%)

The notebook is a collection of each student’s notes from every lecture in the semester. Notebooks must be turned in by 5:00PM on April 16th. Late notebooks will not be accepted. Graded notebooks can be picked up at Fifield Hall (Office Number to be a) on April 23rd. Notebooks not picked up by May 1st will be discarded.

When preparing their class notebooks, students must keep in mind the following:

1. The class notebook must be a 3-ring binder.
2. At minimum, each student must have one full page (front and back) of notes for each lecture.
3. Notes must be handwritten, neat, and legible. Typed notes will not be accepted.

Notebooks must have:

1. Grading Rubric
2. Table of Contents
3. Syllabus
4. All handouts

5. Notebook pages must be numbered.

Notebooks will be graded according to the grading rubric provided in Handout 1.

Short Project (25 %)

The short project is the capstone assignment of this course. Students are expected to utilize information from in-class and out-of-class sources to produce a high quality deliverable that illustrates the impact of agriculture on their daily lives.

Additional details about this assignment, along with a grading rubric, are provided in Handouts 2.

Extra Credit (5 %)

Students can complete one of two optional assignments for extra credit.

1. Participate in a 15-minute long interview with the instructor about agricultural awareness. Interviews can be scheduled to happen between March 16th and March 20th in Fifield Hall.

- or -

2. Participate in a 10-minute long online survey between March 27th and April 10th.

Students who complete either one of the assignments will receive full marks for the extra credit. Students who choose not to complete any of the assignments will neither be penalized nor receive extra credit.

GRADING SCALE

A	90-100	C	70-74
B+	85-89	D+	65-69
B	80-84	D	60-64
C+	75-79	E	<60

COURSE WEBSITE

E-Learning at Sakai: <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>

Digital copies of this syllabus, and other handouts will be made available here. Students must familiarize themselves with the “Grade Book 2”, “Assessments” and “Announcements” tabs of the FRC1010 mini-site in the Sakai platform.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes. Students are required to e-mail the course instructor if they need to be excused. Note: Only 1 (one) excuse is allowed. Students are expected to arrive on time to class and have cell phones turned off. Students are also expected to be prepared to take notes and participate in the class discussions, ask questions and push for clarity.

Disruptive Behavior

The use of electronic devices (laptops, tablets, and cellular phones) talking, sleeping, studying for other classes and eating during lecture time is considered disruptive behavior in

FRC1010. Students are not allowed to disrupt the lecture if not for participate and/or ask questions (e.g. protests against a topic, and songs, flowers, cards or gifts delivery). Students found engaging in these activities will be penalized with a deduction of ½ of the attendance grade for that class period. Students who repeatedly engage in disruptive behavior during a class period will be marked absent and/or asked to leave the room.

Academic Honesty

In 1995 the UF student body enacted a new honor code and voluntarily committed itself to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. When students enroll at the university, they commit themselves to the standard drafted and enacted by students.

In adopting this honor code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the university community. Students who enroll at the university commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the honor code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the honor code is bound by honor to take corrective action. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon community acceptance and enforcement of the honor code.

The Honor Code: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the university, the following pledge is either required or implied:

“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

The university requires all members of its community to be honest in all endeavors. A fundamental principle is that the whole process of learning and pursuit of knowledge is diminished by cheating, plagiarism and other acts of academic dishonesty. In addition, every

dishonest act in the academic environment affects other students adversely, from the skewing of the grading curve to giving unfair advantage for honors or for professional or graduate school admission. Therefore, the university will take severe action against dishonest students. Similarly, measures will be taken against faculty, staff and administrators who practice dishonest or demeaning behavior.

Students should report any condition that facilitates dishonesty to the instructor, department chair, college dean or Student Honor Court.

It is assumed all work will be completed independently unless the assignment is defined as a group project, in writing by the instructor. This policy will be vigorously upheld at all times in this course. Additionally, the instructor reserves the right to analyze student submissions with originality-checking software to detect any academic misconduct.

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 when appropriate.

Campus Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general wellbeing are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The UF Counseling and Wellness Center provides a wealth of confidential, free counseling services to enrolled students.

- Counseling and Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu

Additionally, on-campus resources are available for students who would like orientation on choosing a major or planning their career.

- Career Resource Center, CR-100 Reitz Union, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu

Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues.

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the DRC. The DRC will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodations.

- 0020 Reid Hall, 392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc

Diversity

Student, faculty, and staff interactions with others from varied backgrounds and experiences foster a superior educational environment and healthier, more accurate understanding of how the world works and contribute to valuable dialogue in our increasingly global and multicultural world. The University of Florida and this instructor place great emphasis on affirming the diversity of the student body.

Hence, students in FRC1010 are encouraged to engage in meaningful intra- and inter-culture dialogue and jointly support a climate that is grounded in respect and

Date	Lecture and Guest Speakers	Speakers	Deliverables Deadlines
Jan 7th	Course Introduction	Christian Christensen	
Section 1. Introduction to Horticulture			
Jan 14th	Horticultural Sciences at UF and Beyond	Dr. Rebecca Darnell	Weekly quiz starts - Quiz 1
Jan 21nd	Postharvest Technology	Dr. Steven Sargent	Sign up for permanent seat Quiz 2
Jan 28th	Greenhouse Production and Hydroponics	Christian Christensen	Quiz 3
Feb 4th	Horticulture Nutrient Management	Dr. David Liu	Quiz 4
Feb 11th	Horticulture Irrigation Management	Dr. Lincoln Zotarelli	Quiz 5
Feb 18th	Chemical Application and Vegetable Production	Dr. Peter Dittmar	Quiz 6
Feb 25th	Organic Agriculture	Dr. Danielle Treadwell	Quiz 7
Mar 3th	No class this week (Spring Break)		
Section 2. Horticultural Crops of Florida			
Mar 10th	Crop Domestication	Dr. Folta	Quiz 8
03/16 to 03/20 - Extra Credit Interview			
Mar 17th	Peaches, Plums and Nectarines	Dr. Mercy Olmstead	Quiz 9
03/23 to 03/25 - Short Project clinic			
Mar 24th	Blueberries	Dr. Jim Olmstead	Quiz 10
03/27 to 04/10 - Extra Credit Online Survey			
Section 3. Topics in Modern Agriculture			
Mar 31st	Genetically Engineering	Dr. Kevin Folta	Quiz 11
Short project deliverable due by 11:59PM			
Apr 7th	Plants and Spaceflight Environment	Dr. Anna-Lisa Paul	Quiz 12

Apr 14th

Precision Agriculture

Charles Barrett

Last weekly quiz posted –
Quiz 13

Notebooks due by 5:00 PM

04/21 by 5:00 PM - Notebook must be picked up at Fifield Hall 1127 (Notebooks not picked up by May 1st will be discarded).