



PLSC 240 Turf Management

3 credits Fall 2020



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 Office hours: by Zoom appointment

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Course description: Survey of turfgrass industry including golf course, lawn and landscape, athletic field, and sod production.

- Course objectives:**
- 1) History, uses, and adaptation of turfgrass
 - 2) Turfgrass identification and use
 - 3) Learn principles of turfgrass establishment and management
 - 4) Identification of common turfgrass pests (weeds, diseases, & insects)
 - 5) Basic turf pest management principles and practices
 - 6) Environmental influences on turf growth and management

Course schedule:
 Lecture: 8:10-9:25 A.M. Tuesday's & Thursday's, Rm 160 Plant Biotech Building

Required text: Fundamentals of Turfgrass Management. 3rd ed. N.E. Christians
 Available at the UT Bookstore

- Reference texts:**
- 1) Turfgrass Identification: Cool Season Grasses. 2013. J.C. Sorochan (iBooks store)
 - 2) Turfgrass Management. 1998. 6th ed. A.J. Turgeon
 - 3) Turfgrass: Science and Culture. 1973. J.B. Beard

Grading scale (%): The grading scale may be curved to bring a student's grade up.

Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent
A	> 93%	C	73 – 76%
A -	90 – 92%	C-	69 – 72%
B+	87 – 89%	D+	64 – 68%
B	83-86%	D	61 – 63%
B-	80 – 82%	D-	58 – 61%
C+	77 – 79%	F	< 58%

Grading will be based upon the following structure:

<u>Lecture</u>	
Exam I	150 pts
Exam II	150 pts
Exam III	150 pts
Exam IV	150 pts
Quizzes (4)	80 pts
Pop Quizzes (7)	35 pts
Exam V	150 pts (cumulative)
Subtotal	865pts

Lectures will include 4 quizzes worth 20 pts each and 7 pop quizzes worth 5 pts each for a total of 11 lecture quizzes.

POLICIES!!!!

Lecture notes/outline: Students are responsible for taking their own lecture notes. An outline will also be provided on Blackboard to download prior to each lecture.

Late assignments: Lose 50% of points; not accepted if more than 2 days late.

Missed quizzes/exams: No makeup exams or quizzes will be scheduled except for extremely extenuating circumstances (e.g., death in family). No makeup quizzes will be allowed for lecture.

Class participation: Class participation is encouraged and may help decide borderline grades in the students' favor.

Academic honesty required: At no time will cheating on quizzes/exams be tolerated. Depending on the situation, the quiz/exam may receive zero points, the student may be asked to leave the class, or the student may be subjected to further disciplinary action at the university level (e.g., hearing with possible dismissal from the university). Plagiarism is a crime in addition to being academically dishonest and will not be tolerated. Plagiarism can be committed unintentionally by quoting or copying others' works without providing the proper credit (literature citations). Ask me for help if you are unsure about plagiarism.

Cell Phones: Please turn off, and refrain from text messaging.

"This syllabus is subject to change. The most current course syllabus will be available within the Course Canvas site."

"Unusual circumstances may result in a change of teaching modality."

SOCIAL DISTANCING & COVID-19 PROCEDURES:

Students are required to wear face masks at all times and maintain social distancing (6 feet between individuals in traditional classrooms, or, in instructional laboratories and similar settings, only a few minutes in closer proximity when absolutely necessary to achieve learning objectives). Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, or a higher than normal temperature will be excused from class and should stay at home.

Instructors have the right to ask those who are not complying with these requirements to leave class in the interest of everyone's health and safety. In the event that a student refuses to comply with these requirements, the instructor has the right to cancel class.

Additionally, following other simple practices will promote good health in and out of the classroom, such as frequent and thorough hand washing, wiping down desks and seats with disinfectant wipes whenever possible, not sharing personal items such as pens and cell phones, and avoiding crowded hallways and other enclosed spaces.

The Volunteer Creed reminds us that we bear the torch in order to give light to others. As Volunteers, we commit to caring for one another and for the members of the communities in which we live, work, and learn. This semester, the University asks that we all demonstrate the Volunteer spirit by following these and other health guidelines and requirements.

PLSC 240 – 2020 Lecture Schedule[†]

Dates	Topics
20 Aug	Introduction Turfgrass Industry
25 Aug	Turfgrass Benefits & Turfgrass History
27 Aug	Turfgrass Adaptation, & Quality
1 Sep	Turf Selection & Cool Season Turfgrasses
3 Sep	Cool Season Turfgrasses
8 Sep	Cool Season Turfgrasses – Quiz 1
10 Sep	Cool Season Turfgrasses
15 Sep	Exam I (everything up to and including season turfgrass)
17 Sep	Warm Season Turfgrasses
22 Sep	Warm Season Turfgrasses
24 Sep	Warm Season Turf & Turfgrass Establishment
29 Sep	Turfgrass Establishment – Quiz 2
1 Oct	Turfgrass Establishment & Review
6 Oct	PCP – Irrigation
8 Oct	Exam II (warm season turfgrass & establishment)
13 Oct	PCP – Mowing
15 Oct	PCP – Fertilization – Quiz 3
20 Oct	PCP – Cultivation
22 Oct	Exam III (irrigation, mowing, fertilization, & cultivation)
27 Oct	PCP – Pests (Weeds)
29 Oct	PCP – Pests (Diseases)
3 Nov	PCP – Pests (Insects)
5 Nov	Turfgrass & the Environment – Quiz 4
10 Nov	Turfgrass & the Environment
12 Nov	Exam IV (weeds, insects, diseases, & Turf and the environment)
17 Nov	Turfgrass Jeopardy
19 Nov	Exam V (Cumulative)
24 Nov	No Class
26 Nov	No Class – Thanksgiving
12 December	No Final Exam

[†] Please note that this schedule is a proposed timetable is for lecture topics, examination, and quizzes. **Changes** may be made to the above schedule as the semester progresses.