

PLSC 241 Intro to Turf Lab

1 Credit Fall Semester

Instructor: Dr. Brandon Horvath

Email: bhorvath@utk.edu,

Office hours: Please make appointment

Phone: 974-2975

Student learning outcomes: After completing PLSC 241 students will be able to:

1. **Identify** grasses and seeds used in turfgrass management.
2. **Design** appropriate turfgrass establishment plans.
3. **Calculate** problems associated with fertilizer and chemical use.
4. **Solve** basic turfgrass management scenarios and **discuss** potential solutions.

Course schedule: Wednesday 4:45 PM to 6:50 PM, South Greenhouse (SGH) Room 124

Book: Christians, NE, and Agnew, ML. 2008. The Mathematics of Turfgrass Maintenance, 4th ed. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Hoboken, NJ.

Grades will be based upon the following structure:

ID Exam	35%
Final Exam	40%
Quizzes	25%
Total	100%

The instructor reserves the right to award extra credit beyond that listed for pop-quizzes (attendance), special projects, etc.

Classroom Policies:

Notes/outline: Students are responsible for taking advantage

of the various materials that are supplied through the Canvas course site. These materials are provided to you to review prior to class in order to prepare for that day's topic. All provided materials are fair game for quiz and exam questions.

Covid-19 Related Information: 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.

We will display flexibility when it comes to situations associated with COVID-19 related issues, and will adjust as needed. I encourage you all to not take advantage of this flexibility, and also to take your responsibilities seriously.

Late assignments: Lose 25% per each day late (Max. 2 days late).

Missed quizzes/exams: No makeup exams/quizzes will be scheduled without verifiable documentation of an extreme circumstance (e.g. death in immediate family).

No makeup quizzes will be allowed-this includes, misses due to athletics, school trips, etc.

Class participation: Participation in class is encouraged, and will make for more meaningful discussions. Respect of fellow classmates ideas and statements will be expected, lack of respect will not be tolerated. Also, note that participation, while not graded may help push a student to the next higher grade in the event of a borderline grade.

Academic honesty required: At no time will cheating on 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 can be committed unintentionally by quoting or copying others' works without providing the proper credit (literature citations). Ask for help if you are unsure about plagiarism. Refer to University websites (<http://www.lib.utk.edu/instruction/plagiarism/>) on plagiarism, and academic dishonesty (<http://judicialaffairs.utk.edu/students/academic.php>) for more information.

Lab Schedule*

Lab	Topics
1	Turf Tour @ ETREC Plant Sciences Unit, Intro to ID; Different Grasses- A Warm and Cool Season
2	Key Differences- Ligules, Auricles, and Venation (Quiz 1)
3	Taking Ownership of ID Skills (Quiz 2)
4	All the Grasses! (Quiz 3)
5	Seed Identification, Turfgrass Establishment Calculations (Quiz 4)
6	Establishment Project Start (ORCC)
7	Turfgrass Establishment, Area, Seeding, & Fertility Calculations
8	Establishment Project Visit (ORCC)
9	FLEX DATE
10	Establishment Project Final Assessment (ORCC)
11	Sprayer Calibration & Calculations (Quiz 5)
12	Sprayer Calibration & Calculations (Quiz 6)
13	Advanced Area Assessments
14	FINAL EXAM

***Please note that this schedule is a proposed time table for lab topics and examinations. Changes may be made to the above schedule as the semester progresses.**