

# **Integrated Field Crop Science**

AGR 5215

Agronomy Department - University of Florida

Spring Semester, 2024

**Instructors:**

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**Class Schedule:**

This is an online course, but **NOT** a go-at-your-own-pace course. Students are expected to watch the lectures and complete the accompanying assignments (quizzes, discussion posts, etc.) during their assigned week.

**Course Website:**

Course material and communication will be provided through the Canvas site at <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>. For technical issues associated with the course material and delivery, please contact the instructor or <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>

**Course Description:**

This 3 credit course focuses on the production aspects of large-acreage agronomic crops. Principles including breeding and seed selection, row spacing, planting, fertility management, tillage and implements, irrigation, and biotic stressors and their management will be covered. An in depth overview of the major agronomic crops will also be discussed.

**Course Prerequisites:**

Plant Physiology and Plant Science - helpful but not required.

**Course Objectives:**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Explain how basic agronomic principles are used to develop a production system for the major agronomic crops.
- 2) Explain how mechanization and tillage implements are used in the production of field crops.
- 3) Explain how irrigation, soil fertility and pests are managed in a typical agronomic production system.
- 4) Identify and be able to discuss the growth cycles of the major agronomic field crops.

**Office Hours:**

By appointment – send an email to schedule a time. For those students located off-campus, phone or video conference will be arranged.

**Class Participation:**

Students are expected to participate in discussion boards with other students and the instructor.

*Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:*

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

**Textbooks:**

None required, but links to important websites and readings will be provided.

**Assessments and Grading:**

There will be a total of 1500 points for the course. There will be 13 quizzes on the lecture material and each quiz will be worth 100 points (100 x 13 = 1300 points for quizzes). These will be on the canvas site and will be open over a 6-7 day period (Monday through Sunday) – quiz length will be 45 minutes. See last page for quiz schedule. There will be an additional 200 points for pictures and associated discussion posts for the crops you will be assigned to growth throughout the course. Details are posted on the canvas site under assignments section.

**Course Grading Scale:**

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points This may be achieved by including a link to the web page:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

The following grading scale will be used in this class.

Point range (%)	Letter Grade
93.0 – 100	A
90.0 – 92.9	A-
87.0 – 89.9	B+
83.0 – 86.9	B
80.0 – 82.9	B-
77.0 – 79.9	C+
73.0 – 76.9	C
70.0 – 72.9	C-
67.0 – 69.9	D+
63.0 – 66.9	D
60.0 – 62.9	D-
< 60	E

**Course Evaluation:**

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality

of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

**Student Disabilities:** “Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.”

**Academic Honesty:** UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

**Cell Phone, Laptop, etc. Policy:**

Please restrict the use of these devices for classwork unless taking notes. Taking pictures of slides is strictly forbidden and considered an infringement of copyright.

**UF Counseling Services and Student Resources:**

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general wellbeing are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance. For Health and Wellness the following are available:

**U Matter, We Care:**

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

**Counseling and Wellness Center:**

<https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

**Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)**

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

**University Police Department** - <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>  
392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

**Academic Resources:**

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu). <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://career.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints On-Campus:

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honorcode-student-conduct-code/>

On-Line Students Complaints:

<http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/>

**Software Use:**

All faculty, staff and students of the University of Florida 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.

*We, the members of the University of Florida, pledge to hold ourselves and peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.*

**Class Outline:**

<u>Module</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Week</u>	<u>Quiz Due*</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Assignment Due</u>	<u>Points</u>
1	History of Agriculture	January 6-17	January 21	100		
2	Overview of Crop Production and Review of Plant Basics	January 18-24	January 27	100	Pictures of Seed	25
3	Soils 101 and Fertility	January 25-31	February 3	100		
4	Tillage and Implements	February 1–7	February 10	100	Crop Pictures and Discussion	25
5	Crop Growth from Seed to Seed	February 8-14	February 17	100		
6	All Things Water – Drought and Irrigation	February 15-21	February 24	100	Crop Pictures and Discussion	25
7	Abiotic and Biotic Factors Affecting Crop Growth	February 22-28	March 2	100	Crop Pictures and Discussion	25
-----	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	<b>March 2-6</b>	<b>No quiz</b>	---	<b>No assignment</b>	---
8	Cereals/Small Grains	March 7-13	March 16	100	Crop Pictures and Discussion	25
9	Soybean and Beans	March 14-20	March 23	100		
10	Corn and Rice	March 21-27	March 30	100	Crop Pictures and Discussion	25
11	Potato and Sugar	March 28 - April 3	April 6	100		
12	Peanuts and Cotton	April 4-10	April 13	100	Crop Pictures and Discussion	25
13	Forages and Other Crops	April 11-17	April 20	100	Crop Pictures and Discussion	25
				1300		200

\* Quizzes will be open and available for the entire week during the section time with 30 to 45 minutes allowed to take the quiz.