Description: An introduction to biological invasions including plants, animals, and microbes. Biology and ecology of invasive species and traits of invaded ecosystems. Role of humans in invasions, impacts of invasions on communities and ecosystems, management of invaded natural areas. Offered every fall term.

Biological invasions are a leading cause of global environmental change and are ranked second only to habitat destruction in causing declines in native species. In addition, monitoring, prevention, management, and impacts of invasions are a significant drain on the global economy. In this course, I will provide a broad overview of invasions with emphasis on invasive species in Florida. We will cover the stages of the invasion process, mechanisms that cause invasions, traits of invaded communities, impacts of invasions, and management approaches.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time and Location</th>
<th>T 9:35-11:30 (Period 3-4), R 9:35-10:25 (Period 3)</th>
<th>McCarty Hall B 3096</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Instructors:
- S. Luke Flory
  - Associate Professor
  - Agronomy Department, IFAS
  - University of Florida
  - Gainesville, FL 32611
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Office location: McCarty B 3127A
Office hours: by appointment
Cell: 352-231-2376
Office: 352-294-1581
Web: florylab.com
Office location: McCarty B 2015
Office hours: by appointment

Prerequisites: None, but some biology or ecology may be helpful. Appropriate for majors or non-majors.


Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Define invasive species and provide characteristics of common invasive species and invaded habitats.
2. Describe the stages of the invasion process.
3. Summarize the general hypotheses to explain what causes invasions.
4. Explain the effects of invasions on communities and ecosystems.
5. List possible management strategies for invasions and their pros and cons.
6. Name and describe some of the most ecologically damaging invasive species.
Attendance

You are expected to attend all classes and arrive on time. Your attendance is part of your participation grade. Please discuss planned absences with us ahead of time.

Grades

Your grade will be based on essays, two exams, participation in class and discussion, and a group presentation on an invasive species of interest.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essays</td>
<td>1-page essays on specific topics (3 total, 25 pts each)</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>Presentation on an invasive species of interest</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st exam</td>
<td>Covers the first half of the course</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd exam</td>
<td>Comprehensive – may include material from the entire semester</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Contribution to discussion, attendance</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>375</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grades will be assigned using the following scale:

94-100 = A; 90-93 = A-; 87-89 B+; 83-86 = B; 80-82 = B-; 77-79 = C+; 73-76 = C; 70-72 = C-; 67-69 = D+; 63-66 = D; 60-62 = D-; < 60 = E.

Participation

Your participation in class is worth 50 points (13% of course grade). 10 points will be based on sharing a relevant current event about invasive species with the class, details for this requirement will be available on Canvas. The remainder of the participation grade will be based on on-time attendance, asking questions during lectures, group discussions, and participation during student presentations.

Missed Assignments

Please contact us as soon as possible if you do not expect to complete assignments on time so that we can agree on a revised due date or schedule make-up work.

Grading policy

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found here: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

Academic Honesty

In 1995 the UF student body enacted an 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.

The Honor Pledge: 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."

Students should report any condition that facilitates dishonesty to the instructor, department chair, college dean, Student Honor Council, or Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution in the Dean of Students Office.
(Source: 2011-2012 Undergraduate Catalog)

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.

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 as appropriate.

Campus Resources: Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being 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.

1. University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/, Counseling Services, Groups and Workshops, Outreach and Consultation, Self-Help Library, Training Programs, Community Provider Database
2. Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu/

Students with Disabilities The Disability Resource Center 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. 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/