ALS 6031 - PROJECT TEAM RESEARCH
SPRING 2020
BUILDING SKILLS IN AGROBIOLOGY CONTROL FOR INVASIVE IN THE GALAPAGOS ISLAND, ECUADOR

INSTRUCTORS
Dr. Gerardo Celis, Lecturer, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Agronomy Department; celis@ufl.edu, 352-273-2215. Thursday 2-3pm or by appt.

Dr. James Estrada, Lecturer, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Agronomy Department; estradaj@ufl.edu, 352-294-1588.

Dr. Chris H. Wilson, Assistant Professor, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Agronomy Department; chwilson@ufl.edu, 352-273-2217.

Office hours by appointment if none indicated.

PREREQUISITES
None

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Hands-on experience in addressing a real-world problem faced by an agricultural industry partner. Production of a detailed plan, project design, and preliminary data for evaluating and solving the problem. Offered every term.

JUSTIFICATION
This course is designed to address the need for broad training in agricultural fields as food production systems become more complex with interdisciplinary challenges. Hands-on experience solving specific problems faced by industry representatives is also critical for employment preparation and competitive standing. This course will emphasize acquiring/refining skills within the following areas: professionalism; project management; working in interdisciplinary teams; effective communication (written and oral) with peers and mentors; tackling complex projects through creative and novel approaches, and formulating, designing, and presenting methodologies to solve problems.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon the completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Develop and demonstrate coping skills for managing uncertainty and risk
2. Design a plan of action with a prioritized task list, group member responsibilities, and a detailed timeline with project deadlines
3. Establish a foundation of broadly applicable, effective communication skills
4. Recognize the importance of professionalism and respect for others
5. Develop a sense of personal responsibility that emphasizes standards for quality
6. Identify group success as a personal accomplishment
7. Implement points 1-6 in successful collaboration with an outside organization
CLASS FORMAT

The class will meet for one, 1-hour time period plus one 2-hour time period weekly. Each meeting will be held in person and by video for students not on campus. During class, we will cover professional development and team-work content, plus provide live guidance in developing semester research project. As the semester progresses, students are expected to take independent initiative in organizing use of their time within the 2-hour class period, with progressively less oversight from instructors. Moreover, additional group or sub-group meetings may be added as needed once the project progresses.

LOCATION AND TIME
Tuesday 8-9 (3:00-4:55) and Thursday 9 (4:05-4:55) TBD and WEB via CANVAS

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan 7-9</td>
<td>Course introduction</td>
<td>Building a Team</td>
<td>Marshmallow Challenge</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jan 14-16</td>
<td>Project Management</td>
<td>POA</td>
<td>Develop and commit to a POA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jan 28-30</td>
<td>Teamwork</td>
<td>Project Work</td>
<td>Escape Room, Personality</td>
<td>POA (1/29: 11pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Feb 4-6</td>
<td>Conflict Resolution, Bias</td>
<td>Project Work</td>
<td>Bias Scorecard</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Feb 11-13</td>
<td>Effective Writing &amp; Presentations</td>
<td>Developing Your Pitch</td>
<td>Quick Write, Quick Present</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Feb 18-20</td>
<td>Effective Presentations</td>
<td>Practice Presentation</td>
<td>Practice Pitch Presentation</td>
<td>Written Pitch (2/21: 11pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Feb 25-27</td>
<td>Industry Pitch</td>
<td>Pitch to Product</td>
<td>Industry Pitch</td>
<td>Pitch Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mar 3-5</td>
<td>Spring break – no class</td>
<td>Spring break – no class</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mar 10-12</td>
<td>Building Your Outline</td>
<td>Finalizing Your Outline</td>
<td></td>
<td>Paper Outline (3/13: 11pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mar 17-19</td>
<td>Draft 1 Workshop</td>
<td>Project Work</td>
<td>Writing Workshop</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mar 24-26</td>
<td>Finalizing Draft 1</td>
<td>Presentation Pondering</td>
<td>Progress Check</td>
<td>Paper Draft 1 (3/27: 11pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Mar 31 -Apr 2</td>
<td>Prepping Draft 2</td>
<td>Building Your Presentation</td>
<td>Review Draft 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Apr 14-16</td>
<td>Practice Presentation 1</td>
<td>No Class</td>
<td>Presentation 1</td>
<td>Final Draft (4/17: 11pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Apr 21-23</td>
<td>Practice Presentation 2</td>
<td>No Class</td>
<td>Presentation 2 w/audience</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
TEXTBOOK AND ASSIGNED READINGS

None required. Readings and videos will be assigned for each week of the course. Additional readings from literature will be chosen throughout the semester in support of the project question. These will be based on additional information required for the design or implementation of the project.

Assigned weekly readings will be posted in Canvas or emailed each week.

SPECIAL SOFTWARE

None required

E-LEARNING

E-learning Canvas. The entire course will be managed through e-learning using Canvas. All materials and content will be available fully on-line delivered in E-Learning Canvas, the centrally-supported course management system at UF. Canvas is the on-line source for the majority of your learning resources and assignments in this course. For a link to the tutorial regarding E-Learning Canvas functionality, go to the class home page on canvas. Students enrolled in the course should login to Canvas on the first day of the course at: http://lss.at.ufl.edu. You will use your Gatorlink name and password to login to Canvas. Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints to submit a complaint.

GRADING

ASSIGNMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Grade Pts (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POA</td>
<td>Plan of action</td>
<td>5 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Pitch</td>
<td>Final draft of pitch</td>
<td>10 (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pitch Present</td>
<td>Stakeholder pitch</td>
<td>15 (15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Outline</td>
<td>Outline of final paper</td>
<td>5 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Draft 1</td>
<td>Rough draft</td>
<td>5 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Draft 2</td>
<td>More polished draft</td>
<td>5 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Draft</td>
<td>Final product</td>
<td>25 (25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Present</td>
<td>Final presentation to partners</td>
<td>30 (30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (100)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GRADING SCALE
We will use the following grading for the course:

- **A**: 94 – 100%
- **A-**: 90 – 93.99%
- **B+**: 87 – 89.99%
- **B**: 83 – 86.99%
- **B-**: 80 – 82.99%
- **C+**: 77 – 79.99%
- **C**: 73 – 76.99%
- **C-**: 70 – 72.99%
- **D+**: 67 – 69.99%
- **D**: 63 – 66.99%
- **D-**: 60 – 62.99%
- **E**: < 60%

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

PROJECT

Students will work in interdisciplinary teams to evaluate, research, and create solutions for an existing problem facing an industry partner. The research teams will work cooperatively with faculty and industry mentors to create a detailed research plan and design and collect necessary data to identify the most effective solution to the industry problem. The final project will consist of a written report that will be submitted to the faculty instructor and a group presentation to the industry representatives.

PARTICIPATION

Your active participation is critical to your success and the quality of your project and experience in this course. Class participation will be graded on attendance, participation in class discussions and team activities, and willingness to collaborate with team members and industry mentors.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE AND DEMEANOR

Students are expected to arrive for class on time. Cell phones must be muted during class.

ABSENCES AND MAKE-UP WORK

Attendance and Make-Up Work Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx.

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION PROCESS

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.
SYLLABUS CHANGES

This syllabus is subject to change and other handouts in this course. Any changes will be announced well in advance of deadlines.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following 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.” You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit 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."

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code.

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.

SERVICES FOR 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. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation

0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

GETTING HELP

For issues with technical difficulties for e-Learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor or TA within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.
Students 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.

- University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu
  Counseling Services
  Groups and Workshops
  Outreach and Consultation
  Self-Help Library
  Wellness Coaching
- U Matter We Care, www.umatter.ufl.edu/
- Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu/next-level
- Student Complaints:

HARASSMENT

UF provides an educational and working environment that is free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment for its students, staff, and faculty. http://www.hr.ufl.edu/eeo/sexharassment.htm

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR

Faculty, students, administrative and professional staff members, and other employees (hereinafter referred to as ‘member(s)’ of the university), who intentionally act to impair, interfere with, or obstruct the mission, purposes, order, operations, processes, and functions of the university shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by university authorities for misconduct, as set forth in the applicable rules of the Board of Regents and the university and state law governing such actions. Be advised that you can and will be dismissed from class if you engage in disruptive behavior. For more information: http://regulations.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/1008.pdf

TWELVE-DAY RULE

Students who participate in official athletic or scholastic extracurricular activities are permitted twelve (12) scholastic day absences per semester without penalty. In any case, it is the student’s responsibility to maintain satisfactory academic performance and attendance.

STUDENT COMPLAINTS

- Online Course: http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process

ASSIGNMENTS: READINGS AND VIDEOS

ASSIGNMENTS – you are expected to have viewed or read any materials prior to the class meeting time for the week. The first part of the class will involve the discussion of this material.

• Julian Treasure, How to speak so people want to listen, Ted Talks, June 2013, TEDGlobal 2013.  
  https://www.ted.com/talks/julian_treasure_how_to_speak_so_that_people_want_to_listen

• Quiet – Chapter 3


• Rory Vaden, How to multiply your time, Ted Talks, June 1, 2015  
  https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=y2X7c9TUQJ8

• Extreme Ownership (Chapter 2)

• Korenman, S.G. Professionalism in Science.  
  https://ori.hhs.gov/education/products/ucla/chapter1/page03.htm

• Margaret Heffernan, Dare to disagree, Ted Talks, June 2012, TEDGlobal 2012.  
  https://www.ted.com/talks/margaret_heffernan_dare_to_disagree

• Melissa Marshall, Talk nerdy to me, Ted Talk, June 2012, TEDGlobal 2012.  
  https://www.ted.com/talks/melissa_marshall_talk_nerdy_to_me#t-90573

• Scitable, Effective Writing, NatureEducation, English Communication for Scientists, Unit 2.2.  
  https://www.nature.com/scitable/topicpage/effective-writing-13815989

• Myers, How to overcome our biases?  
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYyvbglNZkQ

• Kristen Pressner, Are you biased?  
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bq_xYSOZrgU

• Chris Anderson, TED’s secret to great public speaking, Ted Talks, March 2016, TED Studio.  
  https://www.ted.com/talks/chris_anderson_teds_secret_to_great_public_speaking#t-336004

• Nancy Duarte, The secret structure of great talks, Ted Talks, November 2011, TEDxEast  
  https://www.ted.com/talks/nancy_duarte_the_secret_structure_of_great_talks#t-855068

• Ben Goldacre, Battling bad science, Ted Talks, July 2011, TEDGlobal 2011  
  https://www.ted.com/talks/ben_goldacre_battling_bad_science