

PLSC 456/556 Turfgrass Weed Science
Spring 2021
Spring Block
2 credits

Instructors:

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Graduate Teaching Assistant

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Meeting Times:

Tuesday/Thursday - 2:50 – 4:05 pm

Location: TBD

Office Hours: Conducted via Zoom on Tuesday/Thursday from 1:00-2:30 pm
<https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/92636561098>

This is a hybrid course that incorporates pre-recorded and live video modules, in asynchronous and synchronous modes, with face-to-face (in-person) instruction. Face-to-face instruction will be conducted on Thursdays in accordance with University of Tennessee policy. ***Some weeks will have asynchronous modules for students to complete each week prior to the live instruction portion.***

Course website in Canvas: TBD

Supporting Materials: **There is no required textbook for this course**

UT Turfgrass Weed Science Website- tnturfgrassweeds.org
Missouri Weed Identification Guide- weedid.missouri.edu
Mobile Weed Manual- mobileweedmanual.com
Herbicide Resistance Action Committee – hracglobal.org

Learning Objectives:

- ***“Know Your Enemy”*** - Students will learn how to identify key weeds of both warm- and cool-season turfgrass stands on golf courses, athletic fields, lawns, and other mowed turfgrass stands.

- **“Know Your Weapons”** – Students will learn effective options for controlling key turfgrass weeds, including all herbicidal mode-of-action groups labeled for pre- and postemergence weed control in turfgrass.
- **“Defend Your Turf”** – Students will learn how to build effective weed management programs for warm and cool-season turfgrass. These programs will incorporate appropriate use of chemical control options in accordance with state and federal regulations along with timely turfgrass cultural practices.

Requirements

Students are required to have a device (laptop, tablet, smartphone) to access course content posted to Canvas, as well as to engage in course activities via Zoom using a reliable internet connection, camera and microphone. If you do not have a reliable internet connection at your residence, campus OIT may be able to provide a “hot spot”. Alternatively, multiple locations with high speed wireless connectivity are available on campus.

Grading

A	950 – 1000 pts	C+	775 -800 pts
A-	900 – 950 pts	C	750 – 775 pts
B+	875 - 900 pts	C-	700 – 750 pts
B	850 – 875 pts	D	600 -700 pts
B-	800 – 850 pts	F	< 600 pts

Assignments

Grading rubrics for all assignments are posted on the course site within Canvas.

Introduction Video Upload (25 pts) – Students will be required to post a 3-minute introduction video. In the video, students are expected to provide information about their background, career goals, what they hope to learn in this class, etc. Students may prepare their video as a recorded power point slide set if they wish.

In-person Weed ID Exercise (100 pts) – Students will be challenged to identify 25 key weeds of turfgrass systems. The format for this exercise will be in-person (with live plant samples).

Virtual Herbarium Exercise (100 pts)- Students will need to find examples of 15 weeds in the field and photograph the plant sufficiently to ensure accurate identification of the species. High quality images are essential. Students will create a virtual herbarium using Microsoft PowerPoint. This slide set will include weed photos (1 weed species per slide)

and details regarding the weed specimen and the location where it was found. More than one slide per weed species may be used if needed. Submit the file into Canvas using the student's last name as part of the filename (e.g., WeedColl-Horvath.pptx).

Program Video Exercise (200 pts) – Students will watch a 15-minute video about herbicide programs being researched at the University of Tennessee. They will select two programs and then provide a breakdown of the components. They will be expected to identify active ingredients, MOA group, use rates compared to label maximums, as well as strengths and weaknesses. Students will submit more as a Microsoft Word Document (.docx) file.

Virtual Discussion Boards (75 pts)

Each week, students will be required to participate in a virtual discussion on Canvas. Discussion prompts related to course content will be provided or students may present an original discussion idea. Students must post a discussion thread (100-200 words by 12 pm on Wednesdays) and comment (minimum 50 words) on at least one other student's post **prior** to the Thursday class meeting each week.

Mid-term exam (250 pts)

Final exam (250 pts)

Pesticide Licensing Exam (1:1 Bonus pts) Students will have the ability to take the Tennessee Department of Agriculture exam to be a certified pesticide applicator in turfgrass (C03). Their score on this exam will be added to their point total for this course. Example: A score of 75 points on the pesticide applicator exam = 75 bonus points in the class.

Students must notify Devon Carroll **no later than February 4th** if they would like to complete the pesticide licensing exam for bonus points. Students are responsible for coordinating exam scheduling with Dr. Darrell Hensley (dhensley@utk.edu; 974-7658) and submit grade to Devon Carroll no later than March 9th in order to receive bonus points. There is a \$25 fee to take the exam that students will coordinate with Dr. Hensley.

Late Work Policy: Students are required to provide notice of excused absences or inability to complete work on time to course instructors. Notice should be provided **prior** to missing class or an assignment submission date. Late assignments without an approved excuse will be penalized 10% per day late.

Academic Integrity

Students are reminded of the UT Academic Integrity Statement: *“An essential feature of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville is a commitment to maintaining an atmosphere of intellectual integrity and academic honesty. As a student of the university, I pledge that I will neither knowingly give nor receive any inappropriate assistance in academic work, thus affirming my own personal commitment to honor and integrity.”* Each paper, lab report, review or similar written assignment needs to be original work. Other course materials are not acceptable because each course has different course objectives and learner outcomes.

Academic Dishonesty

Students found cheating or receiving unauthorized assistance will have their exams or papers confiscated at the time of the infraction; they may be subject to an "F" for the course, and the matter will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. Students should refer to Hilltopics for University policies and procedures.

Attendance

Students are expected to submit the daily health self-screening prior to coming to class – this is available through selfscreen.utk.edu or the Tennessee app. Attendance in all face to face and online meetings is expected unless a student is ill. If you are ill, and/or do not receive a green check mark after submitting your self-screening questionnaire, DO NOT come to class! Instead, contact your instructor to make other arrangements. You should still attend online meetings if you feel sufficiently well to do so.

Weekly Agenda

Week #	Date	Topic	Delivery	Lead	Assignment
1	21 Jan	Course and Resources Overview Weed Science Basics	Face-to-face	Brosnan Stier Carroll	
2	26 Jan	Turfgrass Identification Module Summer Weed Identification Module Winter Weed Identification Module	Online - asynchronous	Brosnan	Personal Video Upload (3 min)
	28 Jan	Indicator Weeds and Weed Ecology	Face-to-face	Stier	Discussion board comments due
3	2 Feb	Preemergence Herbicide Module Group 3	Online- asynchronous	Brosnan Carroll	

	4 Feb	Weed Identification Exercise	Face-to-face	Brosnan Carroll	Virtual Herbarium Exercise Due/ Discussion board comments due
4	9 Feb	Preemergence Herbicide Module Group 14 Group 27 & 29 Other MOA groups	Online- asynchronous	Brosnan Carroll	
	11 Feb	Mid-Term EXAM	Face-to-face	Carroll	Discussion board comments due
5	16 Feb	Postemergence Herbicide Module Group 1 Group 2	Online- asynchronous	Brosnan Carroll	
	18 Feb	Resistance Management and Programming	Face-to-face	Brosnan Carroll	Discussion board comments due
6	23 Feb	Postemergence Herbicide Module Group 4 Other MOA Groups	Online- asynchronous	Brosnan Carroll	
	25 Feb	Laws and Regulations	Face-to-face	Stier	Discussion board comments due
7	2 Mar	Integrated Weed Management	Online- synchronous	Stier	Program Video Exercise Due
	4 Mar	Capstone Lecture- Make or Break Weeds in Turf	Face-to-face	Brosnan Carroll	Discussion board comments due
8	9 Mar	In-field programming exercise at Three Ridges Golf Course	Face-to-face	Brosnan Carroll Stier	
	11 Mar	Final EXAM	Face-to-face	Carroll	