PLSC 438/538 Turfgrass Pathology
2/3 Credits Spring Semester

Instructor: Dr. Brandon Horvath

Email: bhorvath@utk.edu

Office hours: TBD, Please make appointment

Phone: 865-974-2975

Canvas Site: Will be listed as PLSC 438 ‘Turfgrass Pathology’

Course description: Learn the background of turfgrass diseases, understand their basic biology, and use this information to guide problem solving skills to effectively manage them in a turfgrass setting.

General Course objectives:
After completing PLSC 438/538, the student will be able to:
List the various turfgrass diseases, and their causal agents
Discuss the factors that contribute to an increase or decrease in a particular disease
Apply their background knowledge to develop a comprehensive management program that doesn’t just rely on chemical approaches.
Design a fungicide program for a turfgrass area that focuses on using appropriate modes of action for various turfgrass diseases that will occur in that area.

Course schedule: T/R 8:10-9:25 AM & W 3:30-4:20 PM

Grading: Standard University Grading Scale
3 Quizzes, One Class Project, and Final Exam
Quizzes: 35%
Class Project: 25%
Final Exam: 40%

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.

Classroom Policies:

**Quizzes/Exams:** You will have access to the learning objectives for which you will be
held accountable. Those objectives will be used to develop the quizzes and exam. Handouts
and other instructional materials will be posted to Canvas as needed during the course of the
semester. There is not a required text for this course, so any and all materials presented that
you come into contact with in and out of class (i.e. quizzes, handouts, reading material) will be
fair game on the exam at the end of the semester.

**Missed quizzes/exams:** There will not be make-up exams scheduled without verifiable
documentation of an extreme circumstance (e.g. death in family). No make up quizzes. In the
event of a COVID-19 related issue, see guidance above about flexibility.

**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.

**Academic honesty required:** At no time will cheating on quizzes/ 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.
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1W</td>
<td>Syllabus &amp; Basic Pathology, Fungicide Deposition, Depletion, Mobility</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2R</td>
<td>Fungicide Activity- Modes of Action</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3T</td>
<td>Fungicide Activity- Modes of Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4W</td>
<td>No class</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5R</td>
<td>Fungicide Activity- Modes of Action <em>(Quiz 1)</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>6T</td>
<td>Basics of Fungicide Resistance</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>7W</td>
<td>Dollar Spot</td>
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<td>8R</td>
<td>Anthracnose</td>
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<td>9T</td>
<td>Patch Diseases</td>
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<td>10W</td>
<td>Fairy Ring <em>(Quiz 2)</em></td>
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<td>11R</td>
<td><em>Rhizoctonia</em> Diseases</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12T</td>
<td><em>Rhizoctonia</em> Diseases</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>13W</td>
<td><em>Pythium</em> disease management</td>
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<td>14R</td>
<td><em>Pythium</em> disease management</td>
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<td>15T</td>
<td>Leaf Spots, Snow Molds <em>(Quiz 3)</em></td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>16W</td>
<td>Nematodes</td>
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<td>17R</td>
<td>Advanced Fungicide Resistance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18T</td>
<td>Labels &amp; Spraying Considerations</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>19W</td>
<td>Labels &amp; Spraying Considerations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>20R</td>
<td>Building Fungicide Management Programs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>21T</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM</strong></td>
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*Please note that this schedule is a proposed timetable topics and examinations. Changes may be made to the above schedule as the semester progresses.*