

PLSC 438/538 Turfgrass Pathology

2/3 Credits Spring Semester

Instructor: Dr. Brandon Horvath

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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.

Week	Class	Topic
1	1W	Syllabus & Basic Pathology, Fungicide Deposition, Depletion, Mobility
	2R	Fungicide Activity- Modes of Action
	3T	Fungicide Activity- Modes of Action
2	4W	No class
	5R	Fungicide Activity- Modes of Action (Quiz 1)
	6T	Basics of Fungicide Resistance
3	7W	Dollar Spot
	8R	Anthracnose
	9T	Patch Diseases
4	10W	Fairy Ring (Quiz 2)
	11R	<i>Rhizoctonia</i> Diseases
	12T	<i>Rhizoctonia</i> Diseases
5	13W	<i>Pythium</i> disease management
	14R	<i>Pythium</i> disease management
	15T	Leaf Spots, Snow Molds (Quiz 3)
6	16W	Nematodes
	17R	Advanced Fungicide Resistance
	18T	Labels & Spraying Considerations
7	19W	Labels & Spraying Considerations
	20R	Building Fungicide Management Programs
	21T	FINAL EXAM

***Please note that this schedule is a proposed time table topics and examinations. Changes may be made to the above schedule as the semester progresses.**