

PLSC 442/542 – Spring 2021

TURFGRASS ROOT-ZONE CONSTRUCTION & MANAGEMENT

Monday & Wednesday 10:30 AM – 12:25 PM

PBB 113

Instructor: Dr. John C. Sorochan
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Office hours: 9:55-10:55 Mo, Tu, or by appt.

Objectives:

- 1) To develop an understanding in soils with respect to managing turf in structured and unstructured soils.
- 2) Develop an integrated management plan for a turf site (golf course, athletic field, etc.)

Texts:

Required text:

Turfgrass Soil Fertility and Chemical Problems. R.N. Carrow, D.V. Waddington, and P.E. Rieke. 2001. Wiley Press.

Optional Text:

Turfgrass: Science and Culture. J.B. Beard. 1973. Prentice-Hall, Inc. (optional)

Grading: Grades will be based on quizzes, exams, and class assignments. ***Make-up quizzes/exams will not be provided except under extenuating circumstances (e.g., death in the family).***

Grading scale (%):

Grade	Percent		Grade	Percent
A	> 93%		C	73 – 76%
A -	90 – 92%		C-	69 – 72%
B+	87 – 89%		D+	64 – 68%
B	83-86%		D	61 – 63%
B-	80 – 82%		D-	58 – 61%
C+	77 – 79%		F	< 58%

Turfgrass Root-zone Management & Construction – Proposed Lecture Schedule

Date	Lecture	Topic
1-20	1	Turfgrass Soils
1-25	2	Soil Physical Analysis & Soil Testing
1-27	3	Drainage
2-1	4	Putting Green Construction
2-3	5	Athletic Field Construction
2-8	6	Thatch, Cultivation, & Topdressing
2-10	7	Exam 1 (Lectures 1 – 5)
2-15	8	Localized Dry Spot (LDS) & Wetting Agents
2-17	9	Soil Amendments & Black Layer
2-22	10	Sports Turf Research for Performance & Safety
2-24	11	TBD
3-1	12	Exam 2 (Lectures 7 – 10)
3-3	13	Summer Internship Lecture* & Quiz 1
3-8	14	No class

*** Attendance Absolutely Required for Summer Internship Lecture!!!**

NOTE: Lectures are not final, and are likely to change as the semester progresses.

POLICIES!!!!

Lecture notes/outline: Students are responsible for taking their own lecture notes. An outline will also be provided on Blackboard to download prior to each lecture.

Late assignments: Lose 50% of points; not accepted if more than 2 days late.

Missed quizzes/exams: No makeup exams or quizzes will be scheduled except for extremely extenuating circumstances (e.g., death in family). No makeup quizzes will be allowed for lecture.

Class participation: Class participation is encouraged and may help decide borderline grades in the students' favor.

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 is a crime in addition to being academically dishonest and will not be tolerated. Plagiarism can be committed unintentionally by quoting or copying others' works without providing the proper credit (literature citations). Ask me for help if you are unsure about plagiarism.

Cell Phones: Please turn off, and refrain from text messaging.

"This syllabus is subject to change. The most current course syllabus will be available within the Course Canvas site."

"Unusual circumstances may result in a change of teaching modality."

SOCIAL DISTANCING & COVID-19 PROCEDURES:

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.