

HOS 6545 – Advanced Citriculture – Offered each fall

Syllabus – Fall 2024

Instructor: Christopher Vincent

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Virtual Office Hours: On Zoom Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday by appointment. Let me know at least 24hrs in advance if you would like to meet to ensure that I'm able to make the appointment.

Class meeting time: Asynchronous, online

Course description: 3 credits.

This course should provide you with an understanding of the biological and ecological processes involved in citrus production, with consideration of economic factors. Upon completion of the course you should:

- Understand the major challenges facing citrus producers today.
- Have an understanding of citrus crops' unique biological characteristics and Florida's unique ecological characteristics, and their importance in management.
- Have sufficient knowledge of management to make recommendations regarding basic management decisions and be able to find relevant and trustworthy information for advanced management decisions.

This course is delivered online through asynchronous modules.

Format

Class will consist of lectures that can be viewed asynchronously, except that a single live virtual meeting will be held via Zoom the Monday of the first full week (time to be determined based on time zones of students). For all other modules, topical discussion among students will be online based on weekly reading and lecture assignments. A new module will be made available each week and students will have 1 week to complete the lecture, quiz, and discussion, and another week for continued discussion associated with that module.

Schedule

Topics may change order depending on content availability

Order	Topic
1	Introductions
2	Citrus origins and evolution
3	General citrus biology
4	Flowering
5	Root biology
6	Global citrus production
7	Canopy management
8	Crop load management
9	Rootstock-scion interactions
10	Huanglongbing
12	Nutrition: Macronutrients
13	Nutrition: Micronutrients
14	Sustainability: Social and ecological implications and impacts

Reading Materials: The course reading will focus on the primary literature related to each of the above topics. PDF versions of the required reading will be provided prior to each lecture.

Grading: Grades will be determined by discussion and lecture quizzes (10%), online discussion participation (30%), extension publication (group assignment; 30%), and an academic term paper (30%).

Online discussion participation:

Every student is expected to contribute each week to the discussion of the weekly topic. This is probably the most enriching and interesting part of the course. Contribution consists in writing a thoughtful response to the prompt or to the reading and lecture. Feel free to bring in other sources of literature or ideas! In addition to your own post, you will also respond to at least one post of your classmates. Each of these contributions will be graded based on the values of mutual respect, critical thinking, and synthesis of ideas. The goal is not to re-state the lectures or the literature, but rather to examine them critically and develop applications of the ideas, or even alternate interpretations of the evidence. The rubric for grading will be:

%	100	70	30	0
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Quality	Appropriate comments: thoughtful, reflective, and respectful of others' postings	Appropriate comments and responds respectfully to other's postings	Responds, but with minimum effort. (e.g. "I agree with Tracy")	No posting
Relevance	Posts topics related to discussion topic; prompts further discussion of topic	Posts topics that are related to discussion content	Posts topics which do not relate to the discussion content; makes short or irrelevant remarks	No posting
Contribution to the learning community	Aware of needs of community; attempts to motivate the group discussion; presents creative approaches to topic	Attempts to direct the discussion and to present relevant viewpoints for consideration by group; interacts freely	Does not make effort to participate in learning community as it develops	No feedback provided to fellow student.

Extension document:

Students will be expected to develop EDIS document on a specific production topic. This document will be developed in a group of 3-4 students. Topics will be supplied by extension specialist, and chosen for each student group, based on topic of interest as much as possible. *I recommend submitting a draft to me for feedback. **Final draft due November 15.*** Grading of document will be based on:

- Organization and clarity (15%):
 - Presentation should guide the audience through the topic clearly and methodically
- Writing style and grammar (30%):
 - Student should speak clearly and include the audience in the presentation
- Thoroughness (20%):
 - The presentation should provide sufficient understanding to growers to

enable improved decision-making on the topic.

- Accuracy and evidence-based approach (35%):
 - The information presented should be based on verifiable evidence, and the nature of the evidence should be available in the presentation.

Term paper (Literature review):

If you are in the proposal development stage of your research, the paper should be in the form of a proposal, and either coincide or overlap with your own work. If you are in or nearing the stage of thesis/dissertation writing, the paper should be in the form of a literature review. This should be more than 4 and less than 6 pages (single spaced, not including references). **Final draft due October 11.** Grade will be based on:

- Organization and clarity (15%):
 - The paper should guide the reader through the topic clearly and methodically
- Writing style and grammar (30%):
 - Student should speak clearly and include the audience in the presentation
- Thoroughness (20%):
 - The presentation should provide sufficient understanding to growers to enable improved decision-making on the topic.
- Accuracy and evidence-based approach (35%):
 - The information presented should be based on verifiable evidence, and the nature of the evidence should be available in the presentation.

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

Absences 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>.

Additional information:

Academic Honesty:

All assignments will be processed through Turnitin or iThenticate to detect plagiarism. Please be

sure that your assignment will not be considered plagiarized. The University of Florida requires all members of its community to be honest in all endeavors. Cheating, plagiarism, and other acts diminish the process of learning. When students enroll at UF they commit themselves to honesty and integrity. Your instructor fully expects you to adhere to the academic honesty guidelines you signed when you were admitted to UF. As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: *“I understand the University of Florida expects it students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”* Furthermore, on work submitted for credit by UF students, 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 to be assumed all work will be completed independently unless the assignment is defined as group project, in writing by the professor. This policy will be vigorously upheld at all times in this course.

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.

Campus Helping Resources:

Students experiencing crisis or personal problems that interfere with their general wellbeing are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. Both the Counseling Center and Student Mental Health provide confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal or lacking clear career and academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance. The Counseling Center is located at 301 Peabody Hall (next to Criser Hall). Student Mental Health is located on the second floor of the Student Health Services in the Infirmary. 1. *University Counseling Center*, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575; personal and career counseling: www.counsel.ufl.edu

2. *Student Mental Health*, Student Health Care Center, 392-1171, personal counseling: www.hsc.ufl.edu/shcc/smhs.htm 3. *Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)*, Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual assault counseling; and

4. *Career Resource Center*, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career assistance and counseling.

Students with Disabilities Act:

The Dean of Students Office coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes the registration of disabilities, academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services, and mediating faulty-student disability related issues. *Dean of Students Office*, 202 Peabody Hall, 392-7066, www.dso.ufl.edu.

Absences

Students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. Absences count from the first class meeting. In general, acceptable reasons for absence from class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused. Other reasons also may be approved.

You cannot attend classes unless you are registered officially or approved to audit with evidence of having paid audit fees. The Office of the University Registrar provides official class rolls to instructors. If you do not attend at least one of the first two class meetings of a course or laboratory in which you are registered, and you have not contacted the department to indicate your intent, you can be dropped from the course. You must not assume that you will be dropped, however, if you fail to attend the first few days of class. By posting a notice in the department office, the department will notify you if you have been dropped from the course or

laboratory. You can request reinstatement on a space-available basis if you present documented evidence. The university recognizes the right of the individual professor to make attendance mandatory. After due warning, professors can prohibit further attendance and subsequently assign a failing grade for excessive absences.

Religious Holidays

The Florida Board of Education and state law govern university policy regarding observance of religious holidays. The following guidelines apply:

- Students, upon prior notification to their instructors, shall be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious holy day of their faith.
- Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence.

- Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances.

If a faculty member is informed of or is aware that a significant number of students are likely to be absent from class because of a religious observance, the faculty member should not schedule a major exam or other academic event at that time. A student who is to be excused from class for a religious observance is not required to provide a second party certification of the reason for the absence. Furthermore, a student who believes that he or she has been unreasonably denied an education benefit due to religious beliefs or practices may seek redress through the student grievance procedure.

Illness Policy

If you are absent from classes or examinations because of illness you should contact your professors. You should contact your college by the deadline to drop a course for medical reasons. After the college petition deadline, you can petition the University Committee on Student Petitions to drop a course for medical reasons. The university's policy

regarding [medical excuse](#) from classes is maintained by the Student Health Care Center.

Twelve-Day Rule

Students who participate in athletic or extracurricular activities are permitted to be absent 12 scholastic days per semester without penalty. (A scholastic day is any day on which regular class work is scheduled.) Instructors must be flexible when scheduling exams or other class assignments.

The 12-day rule applies to individual students participating on athletic or scholastic teams. Consequently, a group's schedule that requires absence of more than 12 days should be adjusted so that no student is absent from campus more than 12 scholastic days. If you previously have been warned about absences or unsatisfactory work you should not incur additional absences, even if you have not been absent 12 scholastic days. It is your responsibility to maintain satisfactory academic performance and attendance.