

Golf and Sports Turf Management - ORH 5086

Spring 2025; Credits: 2

Catalog Description:

ORH 4223 - Golf and Sports Turf Management. *Credits: 2; Prereq: ORH3332C.* Strategies involved in golf course and athletic field operation including development of cultural practices, adherence to environmental regulations, personnel management, and budgeting.

Course Objectives:

To instill in student an understanding of management and maintenance of golf and athletic turfs, and to gain an appreciation for this segment of the turfgrass industry.

Course Format: Lecture: Tuesday 11:45-1:40 PSF5

Teaching Format:

Guest lectures will be utilized to augment lectures by instructors. Several short on-campus trips will be used to supplement content and to acquaint students with a variety of golf and athletic field management practices as well as those used in closely related industries.

UF E-Learning Website: <https://elearning.ufl.edu> Become very familiar with this website as assignments, assessments, etc. will be posted here.

Referenced Texts:

Beard, J.B. 2001. Turfgrass Management for Golf Courses, 2nd Ed. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Christians, N.E. 2007. Fundamentals of Turfgrass Management, 3rd Ed. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

McCarty, L., G. Miller, C. Waltz, and T. Hale. 2005. Designing, Constructing, and Maintaining Bermudagrass Sports Fields. IFAS pub. SP-361.

McIntyre, K. and B. Jakobsen. 2000. Practical Drainage for Golf, Sportsturf, and Horticulture. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Pira, E. 1997. A Guide to Golf Course Irrigation System Design and Drainage. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Puhalla, J., J. Krans, and M. Goatley. 1999. Sports Fields: A Manual for Design, Construction, and Maintenance. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Puhalla, J., J. Krans, and M. Goatley. 2003. Baseball and Softball Fields: Design, Construction, Renovation, and Maintenance. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Unruh, J. B. and M.L. Elliott (eds.). 1999. Best Management Practices for Florida Golf Courses, 2nd Ed. IFAS pub. SP-141.

Instructor:

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Office Hours:

By appointment, before and after class, or whenever you can find me. Voice mail and e-mail messages work well – I will return your messages.

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes because attendance is deemed necessary for proper instruction. The instructors assume no responsibility for providing notes or handouts issued during the student's unexcused absence. No make-up examinations will be given except in the case of extenuating circumstances.

Grading:**Point Distribution:**

Quizzes	50%
Participation (online & in class)	20%
Soil Analysis Report	10%
Journal Review	10%
EDIS Publication	10%

Scale:

A =	94 – 100%
A- =	90 – 93%
B+ =	86 – 89%
B =	83 – 85%
B- =	80 – 82%
C+ =	76 – 79%
C =	73 – 75%
C- =	70 – 72%
D+ =	66 – 69%
D =	63 – 65%
D- =	60 – 62%
F =	≤ 59%

Examinations: There will be no exams during this course. In lieu of exams you will be required to complete weekly quizzes that will be made available through in class or through the course website on Canvas.

Quiz Format: Quiz format will be a mixture of essay questions, short answer, and questions requiring mathematical calculations. Retention of specific material and ability to apply material in realistic situations will be required.

Resume / Cover Letter: Dr. Kruse is willing to evaluate and critique your resume prior to the Golf Industry Show or SportsTurf Managers Conference if you so desire. Please allow two to three weeks advance notice.

Soil Analysis Report: Students will be expected to view a brief video that illustrates how particle size analysis is conducted. Students will then be provided soil physical properties of a unique soil sample and they will provide a comprehensive written report describing the suitability of their sample as a media for growing turf. Similarly, students will receive a complete nutrient analysis of their soils sample after which they will provide a detailed nutrient management plan for bermudagrass grown as a golf course fairway or athletic field.

EDIS Publication Assignment (only for those registered for ORH 5086)

The University of Florida maintains an online database called [EDIS](#) (Extension Data Information Source) that contains more than 7,000 peer-reviewed documents written by UF specialists. County extension agents, landscape professionals, and members of the general public all use EDIS to stay up-to-date on various Extension-related topics including turfgrass science.

In order to remain useful, the articles and information in EDIS must constantly be revisited. As new information is brought to light, existing publications are edited and new articles are written.

Your assignment is to write a publication that would be suitable for EDIS and that fills a gap in the existing body of knowledge. Follow the general format of other EDIS documents, and use recent peer-reviewed journal article(s) as the basis for your publication. Outstanding articles that are deemed worthy will be submitted to the EDIS editors for review and possible publication.

For additional information about EDIS visit [Ask IFAS - Powered by EDIS](#)

Course Policies:

Attendance and Make-up Policy

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

- *UF Attendance policy*, <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Zoom Etiquette

Students are expected to be respectful learners. As such, you should arrive to and leave from class on time. Your camera must be turned on for the duration of our class, but your microphone can be muted. You should be ready to answer questions using your microphone. The chat feature must be used exclusively for course-related communication. Links and files should be shared and transferred using Canvas and email as appropriate (Zoom is not an acceptable method for assignment submission).

Challenging a Grade

All discrepancies in grading must be resolved within 7 days of the grade being posted in canvas. The instructor's memory is frail. Thus, grade disputes older than 7 days old will not be entertained unless proper excuse is provided (see attendance policy).

Written Communication

Effective written communication is essential for student and professional success. Whether you go on to become a horticulturist, an accountant, or a CEO, written communication will be a critical skill in your toolbox. Thus, I place great emphasis on coaching and participating in professional, context-specific written communication. Proper spelling, grammar, and punctuation are expected in all course assignments. You are encouraged to use the resources provided by the UF Writing Studio to develop or enhance your writing skills. Free one-on-one tutoring (live and online) is available to enrolled students.

- *UF Writing Studio*, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138, www.writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/

Email

Email will be the main means of communication between us. Hence, it is critical that all course-related emails are polite, professional, and as different from a text message as possible. You must use your Gator Link email. Canvas messages will not be answered. I will reply to all emails within 2 business days of receiving them. For additional recommendations, consult:

- *Email etiquette*, <https://www.inc.com/business-insider/email-etiquette-rules.html>

Academic Honesty

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity." You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, 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 assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of

your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action.

- For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see:
<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>

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 when appropriate.

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

- *Disability Resource Center*, 0001 Reid Hall, (352) 392-8565, www.disability.ufl.edu

Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- *Counseling and Wellness Center*, 3190 Radio Road, 392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu
 - Counseling Services
 - Groups and Workshops
 - Outreach and Consultation
 - Self-Help Library
 - Wellness Coaching
- *U Matter We Care*, www.umatter.ufl.edu
- *Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)*, Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.
- *University Police Department*, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), www.police.ufl.edu

Additionally, if you would like orientation on choosing a major, finding an internship, or planning your career, I encourage you to use the university's on-campus resources.

- *Career Resource Center*, CR-100 Reitz Union, 392-1601, www.career.ufl.edu

Course Evaluation Process

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at:

- www.gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/

Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>.

Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at:

- www.gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/

Student Complaints

You can file and resolve any complaints about your experience in this course in the following site:

- *Student complaints in online courses*, www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process

In-class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

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14-Jan	Class Introduction / Golf Course Operations and Management
21-Jan	Golf Course Operations and Management continued
28-Jan	Athletic Field Operations and Management
4-Feb	Drainage
11-Feb	Drainage
18-Feb	Irrigation
25-Feb	Putting Green Construction Principles
4-Mar	Athletic Field Layout and Marking
11-Mar	Golf Site Visit
18-Mar	Spring Break
25-Mar	Cultural (Hands-on Activity)
1-Apr	Maintenance Facilities
8-Apr	Managing Soil Compaction (Demo/Hands-on)
15-Apr	Artificial Turf
22-Apr	Indoor Practice Facility – Site Visit