

**GROWING FRUIT FOR FUN AND PROFIT**

**FRC1010 - 1 CREDIT**

**SPRING 2013**

**INSTRUCTOR**

Gerardo Nunez

[frc1010@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:frc1010@ifas.ufl.edu)

Office hours by appointment only

**TEACHING ASSISTANTS**

Al Kovaleski, Zilfina Rubio

sections 2560, and 2561      Fifield Hall

[frc1010fif@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:frc1010fif@ifas.ufl.edu)

Bruno Casamali, Joel Reyes-Cabrera

section 1247      New Physics Building

[frc1010npb@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:frc1010npb@ifas.ufl.edu)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Horticulture is the part of agriculture that deals with the propagation, cultivation and improvement of high-value cash crops. This industry accounts for a significant part of the economy of the state of Florida, and is expected to grow in the coming decade. Nevertheless, students are increasingly unaware of the opportunities and challenges facing Florida Horticulture. As a consequence, the 2013 iteration of FRC1010 aims to expose students to the most relevant horticultural crops grown in the state, as well as some of the cutting-edge technologies currently used for their cultivation. Additionally, this course will cover hot-topic national issues like organic agriculture and genetically modified crops. A diverse selection of UF scientists will be invited to deliver talks about these topics in order to keep the lectures both current and topical.

**COURSE GRADE**

**1. Attendance**

**25 %**

Attendance will be taken every class period based on assigned seating. To be marked "present" a student must attend class, pay attention to the speaker, take notes and refrain from engaging in disruptive behavior (see Course Policies). It is each student's responsibility to check his/her attendance in Sakai. Students who wish to dispute an attendance grade must contact the section's TA via e-mail within **1 week** of the disputed event. If a dispute is not initiated within this time period, attendance grades are final.

**2. Weekly Quizzes**

**35 %**

A 10-question weekly quiz will be posted in Sakai by 6pm on the day of each lecture. Quizzes will be available for 6 days, but once started each student must finish the quiz within 15 minutes. There will be a total of 13 quizzes in the semester. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. No late quizzes will be given.

Quizzes will cover material presented during the preceding lecture, with a focus on information that cannot be found on search engines. Students must neither give nor receive help from others in answering quizzes (see Course Policies).

### 3. Notebook

25%

The notebook is a collection of each student's notes from every lecture in the semester. Notebooks must be turned in by 5:00PM on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Late notebooks will not be accepted. Graded notebooks can be picked up from outside of Fifield Hall 1127 on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Notebooks not picked up by May 1<sup>st</sup> will be thrown away.

When preparing their class notebooks, students must keep in mind the following:

- The class notebook must be a 3-ring binder.
- At minimum, each student must have one full page (front and back) of notes for each lecture.
- Notes must be handwritten, neat, and legible. Type-written notes are not allowed.
- Notebooks must have:
  - Grading Rubric
  - Table of Contents
  - Syllabus
  - All handouts
- Notebook pages must be numbered.

Notebooks will be graded according to the grading rubric provided in Handout 1.

### 4. Hot Topic Paper

15 %

On March 14<sup>th</sup>, links to three different articles will be posted on the Resources section of Sakai. These articles will be drawn from major newspapers or magazines, and they will be related to the topics covered in lecture (and agriculture at large). Students must pick one of the articles and write a 500-word reaction paper about it. Reaction papers must be submitted through Sakai by 5:00PM on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Hot Topic Papers will be graded according to the grading rubric provided in Handout 2.

### 5. Extra Credit

5 %

Students can complete one of two optional assignments for extra credit.

- a. Participate in a 15-minute long interview with the instructor about agricultural awareness. Interviews can be scheduled to happen between March 28<sup>th</sup> and April 4<sup>th</sup> in Fifield Hall.
- or -
- b. Participate in a 15-minute long online survey between April 4<sup>th</sup> and April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Students who complete either one of the assignments will receive full marks for the extra credit. Students who choose not to complete any of the assignments will neither be penalized nor receive extra credit marks.

### GRADING SCALE

A	90-100	C	70-74
B+	85-89	D+	65-69
B	80-84	D	60-64
C+	75-79	E	<60

## **COURSE WEBSITE**

E-Learning at Sakai

<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>

Digital copies of this syllabus, and other hand-outs will be available here. Students must familiarize themselves with the “Grade Book 2”, “Assessments” and “Announcements” tabs of the FRC1010 mini-site in the Sakai platform.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

### Disruptive Behavior

FRC1010 considers the use of electronic devices (laptops, tablets, and cellular phones) during lecture time as disruptive behavior. Talking, sleeping, and studying for other classes are also considered disruptive. Students found engaging in these activities will be penalized with a deduction of ½ of the attendance grade for that class period. Students who repeatedly engage in disruptive behavior during a class period will be marked absent and/or asked to leave the room.

### Academic Honesty

In 1995 the UF student body enacted a new honor code and voluntarily committed itself to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. When students enroll at the university, they commit themselves to the standard drafted and enacted by students.

In adopting this honor code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the university community. Students who enroll at the university commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the honor code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the honor code is bound by honor to take corrective action. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon community acceptance and enforcement of the honor code.

**The Honor Code:** We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. On all work submitted for credit by students at the university, the following pledge is either required or implied:

**“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”**

The university requires all members of its community to be honest in all endeavors. A fundamental principle is that the whole process of learning and pursuit of knowledge is diminished by cheating, plagiarism and other acts of academic dishonesty. In addition, every dishonest act in the academic environment affects other students adversely, from the skewing of the grading curve to giving unfair advantage for honors or for professional or graduate school admission. Therefore, the university will take severe action against dishonest students. Similarly, measures will be taken against faculty, staff and administrators who practice dishonest or demeaning behavior.

Students should report any condition that facilitates dishonesty to the instructor, department chair, college dean or Student Honor Court.

It is assumed all work will be completed independently unless the assignment is defined as a group project, in writing by the instructor. 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 Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general wellbeing are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The UF Counseling and Wellness Center provides a wealth of confidential, free counseling services to enrolled students.

- *Counseling and Wellness Center*, 3190 Radio Road, 392-1575, [www.counseling.ufl.edu](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu)

Additionally, on-campus resources are available for students who would like orientation on choosing a major or planning their career.

- *Career Resource Center*, CR-100 Reitz Union, 392-1601, [www.crc.ufl.edu](http://www.crc.ufl.edu)

### Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) 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 DRC. The DRC will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodations.

- 0020 Reid Hall, 392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc)

### Diversity

Student, faculty, and staff interactions with others from varied backgrounds and experiences lead to a better education and healthier understanding of how the world works and contribute to valuable dialogue in our increasingly global and multicultural world. The University of Florida and this instructor place great emphasis in affirming the diversity of the student body.

Hence, students in FRC1010 are encouraged to experience this diversity and foster a climate that is grounded in respect and inclusion.

## FRC1010 Growing Fruit for Fun and Profit

Schedule Spring 2013

Date	Lecture and Guest Speakers	Deliverables
Jan 10 <sup>th</sup>	Course Introduction Gerardo Nunez UF Horticultural Sciences Department	Mock quiz
Section 1. Introduction to Horticulture		
Jan 17 <sup>th</sup>	Horticultural Sciences at UF and beyond Dr. Rebecca Darnell UF Horticultural Sciences Department	Weekly quizzes start Sign up for permanent seat
Jan 24 <sup>th</sup>	Plant Nutrition Gerardo Nunez UF Horticultural Sciences Department	
Jan 31 <sup>st</sup>	Crop Domestication Dr. Kevin Folta UF Horticultural Sciences Department	
Feb 7 <sup>th</sup>	Farm to Fork Dr. Kevin Folta UF Horticultural Sciences Department	
Feb 14 <sup>th</sup>	Postharvest technology (To be announced)	
Section 2. Horticultural Crops of Florida		
Feb 21 <sup>st</sup>	Blueberries Dr. James Olmstead UF Horticultural Sciences Department	
Feb 28 <sup>th</sup>	Strawberries Dr. Kevin Folta UF Horticultural Sciences Department	
Mar 7 <sup>th</sup>	No class this week	(Spring Break)
Mar 14 <sup>th</sup>	Peaches, Plums and Nectarines Dr. Mercy Olmstead UF Horticultural Sciences Department	
Mar 21 <sup>st</sup>	Citrus Dr. José Chaparro UF Horticultural Sciences Department	Hot Topic paper due by 5:00 PM
Section 3. Topics in Modern Agriculture		
Mar 28 <sup>th</sup>	Water use, conservation and pollution in agriculture (to be announced)	

Apr 4 <sup>th</sup>	Genetically Modified Crops: Frankenfoods? Dr. Kevin Folta UF Horticultural Sciences Department	Extra credit assignment starts
Apr 11 <sup>th</sup>	Organic Agriculture Dr. Danielle Treadwell UF Horticultural Sciences Department	
Apr 18 <sup>th</sup>	Fruit processing and wine making Dr. Charles Sims UF Food Sciences and Human Nutrition Department	Notebooks due by 5:00 PM Extra credit assignment ends Last weekly quiz posted