

TREE CARE SCIENCE - ARBORICULTURE

Spring 2024

FOR 406 Sec. 71; Stars # 80449

Instructor: Paul Blome
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4 Semester Hours

Class Meeting Times: Lecture: MW 1 - 1:50pm KH 201
Lab: TTh 1 - 2:50pm KH 201

Pre-Requisite: FOR 200, 208 or 308

Course Modality: Face to Face

Last day to add course during open registration: 01/22/2024

Last day to add by permission or delete course: 01/29/2024

Last day to drop course with "W" grade: 03/31/2024

Course Materials: (no required text) Tree Basics – Shigo; Coincide - Donald W Orton; Commercial Landscape & Turfgrass Pest Management Handbook 2014 - Nixon Publisher: U of Il Ext; Other materials available online will also be used.

Course Objectives: The **purpose of this course** is to introduce the student to various aspects of tree care with the detailed study of woody plants emphasizing growth and development, plant health care, pruning, maintenance, diagnostics, pest management, soil & water management and site evaluation.

*Upon completion of this course students will

Learn how a tree grows and survives as a woody perennial plant. Be able to list a variety of tree ailments and their causes. Be able to use a systematic process to diagnose tree ailments. Gain experience in tree care techniques.

Lab Exercises: In lab students will get hands-on experience with pruning, planting and mulching as well as looking at trees in different growing conditions, and evaluating tree conditions and needs. Diagnosis of tree problems will also be evaluated when opportunities arise. Lab exercises will examine tree parts from the inside and out, **Recommended supplies: 10X hand lens, Sharp knife or razor knife, colored pencils. A good pair of work boots will be needed for outdoor labs.**

Plant Health Care Project: We will be tracking weather and other data as we go through the semester and keeping records in an Excel spreadsheet. We will be comparing data to past years and looking up information in reference books to understand when insects and diseases are likely to be active and vulnerable. We will also be looking at when plants will be in bloom (or other stages of growth) and how those stages coincide with treating to control pests. We will also be looking up appropriate treatment options.

Tree Pest/Disease/Problem Presentation(s): Students will be required to make presentations to the class on major and minor insect/disease/abiotic tree problems.

Student Journals: Students will submit weekly journal entries (via Google Form) reflecting on topics covered (10 pts each)

GRADE DISTRIBUTION:

Midterm exam	100 pts
Final (Wed. May 6th at 1:00pm KH 201)	100 pts
Attendance/Participation	100 pts
Plant Health Care Project (GDD spreadsheet)	50 pts
Pest Presentation(s)	100 pts
Student Journal Entries	150 pts
Lab assignments/Quizzes/hands-on activities	100 pts

GRADE SCALE:

<60	60	63	67	70	73	77	80	83	87	90	93-100
F	D-	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A

Attendance:

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You are expected to attend class and participate in discussions/activities. Attendance is part of your grade in the course.

- Excused absences will not be counted against the student's attendance credit. Excused absences include class trips and student competitions. Excused absences must be arranged ahead of time and be documented (activity, date, time, and list of participating students) by a faculty member who is requesting/requiring the absence.
- Perfect attendance will earn you a bonus 10pts (Attendance max. pts = 100 + 10).
- Understanding that illness and other situations may make perfect attendance difficult; you will be allowed to miss four classes (lectures and/or labs - equivalent of 1 week) without losing attendance points.
- 5th class missed and all missed classes after will result in the loss of attendance points. The penalty increases as the number of missed classes increases.
- If you leave lecture or lab before you are dismissed you will be counted as absent.
- If a student is going to miss a class, it is his/her responsibility to notify the appropriate faculty member in advance. **This must be done by utilizing the Online Absence Reporting System (OARS) at www.wiu.edu/oars** or by email, or text.
- It is the responsibility of the student to discuss the absence with the faculty member should the student desire to make up any academic work missed because of the absence.

Attendance on dates of quizzes or tests: Most quizzes and tests will be taken in class on paper. If you have some conflict with the date and time of a scheduled quiz or exam, you must notify the instructor **before the quiz or exam** via OARS and **also email the instructor**. The instructor will determine if you will be allowed to reschedule. Attendance is critical to learning and benefitting from lessons and labs in this course! If a student is going to miss a class, it is his/her responsibility to notify the appropriate faculty member in advance. This must be done by utilizing the Online Absence Reporting System (OARS) at www.wiu.edu/oars. **Also email the instructor**. It is the responsibility of the student to discuss the absence with the faculty member should the student desire to make up any academic work missed because of the absence.

WIU Assignment and Cheating Policy:

See <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php>

Comparing and/or consulting on quiz or exam answers; use of unauthorized notes or aids (phones, etc..) during quizzes and tests as well as other acts of "cheating" in class or in the field may result in failing grades; in extreme cases even course failure.

I encourage you to obtain help if you do not understand a topic or how to do an assignment. I am available at most any time to assist you. Please see my office hours for scheduling appointments. I do, however, strongly suggest that you do your own work. That is, you must physically work through the problem(s) so that you can demonstrate you have the required competency(ies).

When working in a group with peers. It is imperative that each member contribute equal effort.

CLASS TOBACCO PRODUCT POLICY:

https://wiu.edu/student_services/student_development_office/handbook/noSmokingPolicy.php

In accordance with State law, there is no smoking in class or vehicles during field trips.

Chewing tobacco (and spitting chewing tobacco) in class is not permitted. Outdoor labs and field trip participation is considered as class – NO SMOKING or use of tobacco products is permitted.

CELL PHONE POLICY: Cell phone use in class is not permitted unless specifically noted by instructor for a specific task. Cell phone/smart phone use is strictly prohibited on quizzes and exams. In order to participate in the WIU Emergency Alert System you should have your cell phones set to vibrate.

http://www.wiu.edu/vpas/risk_management_and_emergency_preparedness/wiu_emergency_alert_system/index.php

Professional Cell Phone Conduct: PLEASE DO NOT answer phone calls or send text messages during class!

STUDENT SUPPORT OR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS

Students who require special accommodations (academic or COVID) or are just struggling in college should contact The Student Development and Success Center (SDSC). The SDSC is a Student Services department with three functional areas including Disability Resources, Health Education, and Student Development. There are several ways to contact the SDSC: 309.298.1884; Email: sdsc@wiu.edu; Web page:

http://www.wiu.edu/student_services/sdsc/index.php; or visit them in 125 Memorial Hall. **If you require special accommodations, Please notify the instructor as soon as possible to ensure that this course is accessible to you in a timely manner.**

ATTENTION EDUCATION MAJORS:

The changes within the Illinois State Teaching License requirements, students are required to receive a grade of a "C-" or better in this course in order to meet state requirements. With the university's +/- grading system, receiving a grade below a "C-" will require you to retake this course or find a substitute course to meet School of Agriculture graduation requirements.

NOTICES

Please be advised that **this syllabus is tentative**. We may or may not be able to address all of the content areas or stick with the anticipated number of field trips or exams. **Any deviations from the syllabus will be announced as soon as possible.**

Official University Policy Manual: <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/>

For information on all WIU policies for students contact the above website