

**Department.:** Plant Science

**Course number:** PLSC 224W

**Title:** Turfgrass Physiology and Ecology

**Credits:** 3

**Contact Person:** George Elliott

**Catalog Copy:** -PLSC 224W. Turfgrass Physiology and Ecology.

Second semester. Three credits. Three class periods. Prerequisite: PLSC 124 or PLSC 289. Guillard

Turfgrass physiology related to growth and development. Turfgrass response to nutrients, temperature, light, water, wear, and traffic. Turfgrass community dynamics, competition, and environmental effects on turfgrass culture.

**W Criteria** : -The writing assignments will enhance learning in this course by requiring students to search, retrieve, and read current and past scientific literature related to turfgrass science topics. They will need to incorporate their understanding of the readings into their writing assignments.

There will be four question sets to be answered in essay form throughout the semester. The minimum number of double-spaced, typed pages will be two per question set. These question sets will be reviewed and returned for revisions. Question sets will be due at approximately two week intervals. Additionally, a project report is required before the end of the semester. The report will have a minimum of seven double-spaced, typed pages. In total, a minimum of 15 double-spaced, typed pages is required for the writing component of the course.

The writing component of this course will constitute approximately 50% of the grade. Failure to pass the writing component will result in failure of the course.

The primary modes of writing instruction will take the form of written commentaries that include suggestions and comments for writing improvement. A few short formal presentations on elements of writing will be given to the class as a whole.

Every writing assignment will be reviewed and marked, then returned for revisions. Each writing assignment will be graded first for content (the question must be answered correctly), then for writing elements such as organization, grammar, syntax, spelling, and punctuation. The student will be required to revise the assignment and resubmit for regrading. The original submission will be returned with the revised copy, so the instructor may see how the comments and changes were incorporated into the revised copy.

**Role of Grad Students:** -No graduate students involved in the teaching of the course.