CROP Science 301  TURFGRASS CULTURE  
Syllabus Course Information  
Fall 2012

Crop Science 301  3-credit course (two 50 minute lectures – one 3-hour lab) 
UI (PSCS 301)

Professor:  Dr. William Johnston  
213 Johnson Hall  
509-335-3620  
wjohnston@wsu.edu

TA: Tim Streeter  
216 Johnson Hall; cell # 406-698-2924  
streeter.tim1@yahoo.com  
timothy.streeter@wsu.edu


General Scope and Rationale: This course is designed to relate to the student major features of the turfgrass ecosystem, interactions between ecosystem components, and the principles of establishment and management of turf for lawns, play fields, parks, cemeteries, and golf courses. The course will emphasize turfgrass management in the Pacific Northwest. The goal is to present material in a straightforward way that can be easily understood so the students can utilize and adapt what they have learned to turfgrass management later in their career or life. The course method of delivery will be by classroom lecture, outdoor and indoor laboratory exercises and demonstrations, and a mandatory field trip to several sites in Eastern Washington and/or North Idaho.

Objectives and student outcomes: The student will demonstrate an understanding or knowledge of:
1. The role of turfgrass in the landscape and the history of turfgrass culture and research.
2. The characteristics of the major warm- and cool-season turfgrasses.
3. Cultural practices in turfgrass management.
4. “Why” certain management practices are performed.
5. Problems encountered in turfgrass management and correction options.
6. This is a writing in the major course [M]; term papers and discussion of topics will be required.

Grading: Course grades will be computed on a basis of 900 total points with the following breakdown (additional points may be added at the discretion of the instructor):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93% and above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| F     | below 60%

Idaho students: A = 90% and above; B = 80-89%; C = 70-79%; D = 60-69%; and F + below 60%.

No curving of grades will be done. Missed exams may be made up at the discretion of the instructor, provided a “valid” reason is presented. All exams will include essay/discussion type questions and specific objective questions covering lecture and assigned reading materials. Old (past few years) lecture and laboratory exams will be posted on-line.

Field Trip: A mandatory all-day field trip is scheduled for Thursday October 4.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is highly recommended at lecture and lab and is mandatory at all designated discussion periods.
Students with Disabilities: Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and may need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please visit the Disability Resource Center (DRC). All accommodations MUST be approved through the DRC (Admin Annex Bldg, Room 205). Please stop by or call 509-335-3417 to make an appointment with a disability specialist. For additional information go the WSU Disability Statement available at http://drc.wsu.edu.

Academic Honesty: The Faculty Senate proposed and the Board of Regents approved new Academic Integrity procedures beginning academic year 2007-2008. The policy requires instructors to inform students of suspected violations as well as information about how to appeal an allegation of dishonesty. In addition to the penalty assigned by the instructor, students will be required to attend a workshop for first time violations. Further violations will be referred to the University Conduct Board and can have significant consequences, including dismissal from the University. For additional information click on Academic Dishonesty at: http://www.conduct.wsu.edu/

Safety: Washington State University is committed to maintaining a safe environment for its faculty, staff, and students. Safety is the responsibility of every member of the campus community and individuals should know the appropriate actions to take when an emergency arises. In support of our commitment to the safety of the campus community the University has developed a Campus Safety Plan, http://safetyplan.wsu.edu. It is highly recommended that you visit this web site as well as the University emergency management web site at http://oem.wsu.edu/emergencies to become familiar with the information provided.
Crop Science 301   Turfgrass Culture   Fall 2012
Lecture Outline:

Lecture
Tuesday and Thursday
10:35 AM – 11:25 AM
204 Johnson Hall

Professor: Dr. William Johnston   TA: Tim Streeter
213 Johnson Hall   216 Johnson Hall
335-3620 (office)   (cell) 406-698-2924
wjohnston@wsu.edu   timothy.streeter@wsu.edu; or
streeter.tim1@yahoo.com

Lecture No.   Text Chapter   Topic

1   1   Introduction to turfgrass culture and scope of the industry
2-3   2   Botanical characteristics of turfgrasses
4-5   3   Turfgrass regions of the U.S.
6-10   3   Cool-season turfgrass species characteristics
11   4   Warm-season turfgrass species characteristics
12-13   4   Warm-season turfgrass species characteristics
14   4   Field Trip Thursday October 4
15   4   Warm-season turfgrass species characteristics
16   4   Turfgrass environment
17   6   Turfgrass establishment
18   6   Modified turfgrass rootzones
19   7, 8   EXAM 1 September 25
20-21   7, 8   Soil testing and fertilization
22-23   9   Mowing
24-25   10   Irrigation
26-27   10   Thanksgiving Break November 19-23
28   10   Environmental problems
29   p. 113   EXAM 3 November 29
30   p. 113   Cultural problems

FINAL EXAM   Friday December 14; 10:10 AM – 12:10 PM

Crop Science 301  Turfgrass Culture  Fall 2012

Laboratory Outline:
Thursday 1:25 to 4:05 PM
204 Johnson Hall
WSU Turf Plots
Palouse Ridge Golf Course
Etc.

Professor:  Dr. William Johnston
            213 Johnson Hall
            335-3620 (office)
            wjohnston@wsu.edu
TA: Tim Streeter
    216 Johnston Hall
    (cell) 406-698-2924
    timothy.streeter@wsu.edu  or
    streeter.tim1@yahoo.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 23</td>
<td>Turfgrass and Agronomy Research Center visit (WSU Turf Plots)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 30</td>
<td>Term paper M-Course workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 6</td>
<td>Turfgrass equipment (Palouse Ridge Golf Club)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>Calibration (WSU Turf Plots)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 20</td>
<td>Irrigation (Palouse Ridge Golf Club)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 27</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 4</td>
<td>Field Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 11</td>
<td>Turfgrass seed and vegetative identification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 18</td>
<td>Turfgrass seed and vegetative identification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 25</td>
<td>Weed identification and control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 1</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 8</td>
<td>Disease identification and control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
<td>Insect identification and control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 22</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break; no lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 29</td>
<td>Term paper discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 6</td>
<td>Exam 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Laboratory schedule may change due to weather conditions and guest speaker availability. Term papers and discussion/debate are part of laboratory grade.