

**SAMPLE COURSE SYLLABUS FOR M.S. Project**  
ENTO 888---Department of Entomology  
College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources/IANR  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**I. Course Objectives**

After completing the course, you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a command of entomological knowledge and scientific principles
2. Demonstrate an ability to apply graduate coursework in an area of specific professional or personal interest to you.

**II. Course Instructors**

Erin Bauer (M.S. Project Coordinator) - [ebauer2@unl.edu](mailto:ebauer2@unl.edu), Office 402-472-9548

Dr. Tom Weissling - [tweissling2@unl.edu](mailto:tweissling2@unl.edu), Office 402-472-8680

Dr. Robert Wright - [rwright2@unl.edu](mailto:rwright2@unl.edu), Office 402-472-2128

**III. About this Course**

This course serves as a capstone experience for students in the Online M.S. Degree in Entomology program. The intent of the course is to provide students an opportunity to apply knowledge and skills developed through their M.S. program in an area of particular applicability to their professional and personal interests. In developing the Online M.S. Degree in Entomology program, the faculty determined that the degree project is a valuable and essential component of the graduate education experience.

**IV. Course Activities**

This course represents an independent project conducted by senior graduate students in the Online M.S. Degree in Entomology. Essentially, four steps are required:

1. Topic development
2. Project proposal and approval
3. Project development and consultation with instructor
4. Project submission and final review

Examples for possible directions for the Online M.S. Degree can be found in the [Examples of Focus Areas](#) section of the Entomology Department website. Instructors will work with students to provide direction and specify project expectations. Specific requirements and steps may be found on the [general M.S. Project webpage](#).

Once students have determined a direction for their project, the topic idea should be sent to the M.S. Project Coordinator, [Erin Bauer](#), for approval.

**V. Grading**

Course grading is Pass/No Pass. Instructors will mentor students in the development of the proposal, in project implementation, and completion of

projects. Final projects will be reviewed and approved by the instructors. A No Pass will automatically be assigned if the portfolio and other requirements are not completed in the time frame given.

#### **VI. Academic Dishonesty:**

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln has a clear, succinct, and reasonable policy about academic dishonesty, as indicated in the [student code of conduct \(www.unl.edu/sja/Student-Record-Policy.pdf\)](http://www.unl.edu/sja/Student-Record-Policy.pdf). As a student at UNL, you enjoy rights and protections under the code and are obligated to conduct yourself in compliance with the code. One area where students occasionally have some confusion regards plagiarism (which is especially important in this course, as most assignments and exams involve writing). The key concept here (and in other misconduct) is misrepresenting the work of another as one's own. The University Foundations program has a good web site that reviews UNL's policy on academic integrity and academic dishonesty, which you should review (<http://www.unl.edu/UFPAcadinte.htm>).

As the Student Code of Conduct indicates, academic sanctions for misconduct (subject to appeal) are at the discretion of the instructor, and may include giving the student a failing grade for the course. In this course, the least penalty we will impose for misconduct is a one letter grade reduction in the course grade, however, in most instances (particularly for graduate students) the penalty for cheating in this class will be a failing grade in the course.