

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, Office 402-786-8180

Dr. Tom Weissling - tweissling2@unl.edu, Office 402-937-1592

Dr. Robert Wright - 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, five steps are required:

1. View lectures about M.S. Project process and requirements
2. Topic development
3. Project proposal and approval
4. Project development and consultation with instructor
5. 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. A passing grade will be awarded students who create an original work that demonstrates a scholarly understanding of entomology and reflects the personal or professional interests of the student. These projects can take many forms, such as scholarly reviews, teaching or training materials, multimedia, surveys, and other items that represent a substantial intellectual contribution to the field of entomology, but must be submitted in a final portfolio format that contains a written summary and all relevant products. 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.

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 (<https://studentconduct.unl.edu/student-code-conduct>). 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 has a good web site that reviews UNL's policy on academic integrity and academic dishonesty, which you should review (<https://studentconduct.unl.edu/academic-integrity>).

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.

If a student wishes to appeal a claim of academic dishonesty, the following process must be followed. First, the student must submit a written appeal to the instructor of the course and state their reason(s) for appealing. If this student appeal cannot be resolved with the course instructor, then the student must immediately submit their appeal statement within seven days to the Department's Curriculum Committee for their recommendation. If a satisfactory solution to this appeal is still not reached with the Department Curriculum Committee, the student's written appeal will then be forwarded to the Department Head. If a satisfactory solution is still not achieved at the Department Head level, the student may then submit their written appeal statement to the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) Dean's Office. The appeal process for the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources will then be followed as outlined by the College.

Additional Information:**PLEDGE OF INSTRUCTIONAL STANDARDS**

Entomology instructors will provide our students a complete syllabus meeting all UNL standards, our classes will be based on current science and will follow published schedules and descriptions, and our instructors will be timely in returning grades and in responding to our students.

ADA STATEMENT

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options privately. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). If you are eligible for services and register with their office, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so they can be implemented in a timely manner. SSD contact information: 117 Louise Pound Hall.; 402-472-3787

CHEATING

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln has a policy about academic dishonesty, as indicated in the Student Code of Conduct (see Undergraduate Bulletin). As a student at UNL, you enjoy rights and protections under the code and are obligated to conduct yourself in compliance with the code.

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 that will be imposed for misconduct is a one letter grade reduction in the course grade, but in most instances the penalty for cheating will be a failing grade in the course.

“Students are expected to adhere to guidelines concerning academic dishonesty as specified in Entomology policy (insert web link) in accordance with Section 4.2 of the University Student Code of Conduct (<http://stuafs.unl.edu/ja/code/>).”

MENTAL AND WELL-BEING RESOURCES

UNL offers a variety of options to students to aid them in dealing with stress and adversity. Counseling and Psychological & Services (CAPS) is a multidisciplinary team of psychologists and counselors that works collaboratively with Nebraska students to help them explore their feelings and thoughts and learn helpful ways to improve their mental, psychological and emotional well-being when issues arise. CAPS can be reached by calling 402-472-7450. Big Red Resilience & Well-Being provides one-on-one well-being coaching to any student who wants to enhance their well-being. Trained well-being coaches help students create and be grateful for positive experiences, practice resilience and self-compassion, and find support as they need it. BRRWB can be reached by calling 402-472-8770.