

**SWS3022L**  
**Introduction to Soils Lab**  
**Spring 2017 (1 credit)**

**Course Description:** The course is designed to introduce the students to physical, chemical and biological aspects of soil science and provide hands on experience with conducting laboratory experiments, describing and classifying soils in the field, accessing and understanding soil survey data and interpretations and learning the basics of soil taxonomy.

**Course Objectives:** Following the course students should know how to conduct laboratory soil science experiments and interpret results, describe and classify soils in the field and access and utilize on-line soil survey information.

**Instructor:** Andrew Williams, Soil Scientist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (Ret.)  
Phone: (850) 384-8907. Email: andrew100@cox.net

**Class Schedule:** Mondays from 5 to 8 pm (\*Saturday field trips on January 28<sup>th</sup> and February 18<sup>th</sup>).

**Grading:**

Lab Reports/Homework	40%
Exams (2)	40%
Oral Presentations	10%
Attendance and Participation	10%

**Class Schedule:**

Date:	Topic:
Jan 09	Introduction, lab orientation and safety training
Jan 16	No Lab - Holiday
Jan 23	Soil Physical Properties: Color and Texture
Jan 28*	Soil Physical Properties: Field Trip
Jan 30	Soil Physical Properties: Particle-Size Analysis
Feb 06	Soil Physical Properties: Bulk Density
Feb 13	Soil Chemical Properties: pH and Redox
Feb 18*	Soil Physical and Chemical Properties: Field Trip
Feb 20	Soil Biology
Feb 27	Exam 1
Mar 06	No Lab - Spring Break
Mar 13	Introduction to Soil Taxonomy
Mar 20	Soil Taxonomy (cont.)
Mar 27	Soil Survey Data and Interpretations
Apr 03	Soil Survey Exercise
Apr 10	Application of Soil Survey Data
Apr 17	Exam 2

**Attendance and Make-Up Work**

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

## Grading:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Numeric Value</u>
A	93-100
A-	90-92
B <sup>+</sup>	87-89
B	83-86
B <sup>-</sup>	80-82
C <sup>+</sup>	77-79
C	73-76
C <sup>-</sup>	70-72
D	60-69
E	<60

## CODE OF CONDUCT

All students are expected to abide by the Student Honor Code as described in the Student Handbook ( <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/studenthonorcode.php> ). Students are expected to behave in a professional and courteous manner towards instructor, other classmates, and guest speakers. Professional behavior includes: arriving to class at, or preferably before, the start of the class period, providing your **full** attention to the instructor and classmates, being respectful of a diversity of opinions, avoiding disruptions that prohibits your classmates from learning. Inappropriate behavior will lead to immediate dismissal from the class period and possible expulsion from the course.

In addition, plagiarism is taken very seriously at this institution, and can result in a reduced grade, failure of the course, and possible dismissal from the college. Plagiarism includes: 1) the direct use of any written material (**including internet sites!!**) without proper quotations and citation or 2) the submission of a document, in part or wholly authored by someone other than the student. Please note that we have specific software to determine if your work is plagiarized. It is up to the professor to evaluate the severity of any infraction and to determine the disciplinary action to be taken. The student should also be aware of his/her legal rights as defined in the Student Honor Code.

## UNIVERSITY SERVICES

You have full access to all the student services available through the University of Florida, including:

[Disability Resource Center](#) : Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation

University Counseling Center, <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu/> ,310 Peabody Hall, 352-392-1575, personal and career counseling

Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center, <http://shcc.ufl.edu/smhs/> ,352-392-1171, personal counseling

Sexual Assault Recovery Services, Student Health Care Center, <http://shcc.ufl.edu/care/>,352-392-1161, assault recovery counseling

Career Resource Center, <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>, Reitz Union, 352-392-1601, career development assistance and counseling