Course Description: This course will guide students through Florida's natural communities utilizing the community descriptions of the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (2010) and narrated Power Points in Canvas. Lectures will cover community structure, indicator species, soils and hydrology as well as fire ecology and other important ecological processes.

Learning Objectives: At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Identify and characterize major terrestrial and associated wetland communities of the panhandle of Florida.
- Use vegetative and floral characteristics to identify key indicator plant species of the characteristic plant communities.
- Identify environmental characteristics (soils, hydrology) associated with each plant community.

Prerequisites:
Prior coursework in Environmental Sciences, Soils, Biology, and/or Botany will be beneficial. Students should have familiarity with basic biological and botanical vocabulary to facilitate understanding of plant and community identification.

Instructors:

Dr. Debbie Miller
Office: 4917    Building: 4900
Phone: 850-983-7128
Email: dlimi@ufl.edu
Cell phone: 850-240-2135

Dr. Mack Thetford
Office: 4921    Building: 4900
Phone: 850-983-7130
Email: thetford@ufl.edu
Communication:

Office hours: Students are welcome anytime but should schedule office visits on an individual, by-appointment basis to be sure we are available. For Distance students and after hours contact via email (Canvas or UF email) is encouraged and preferred. Do not use social media sites, such as Facebook or use texting to ask questions about the course. If you have an emergency related to class or need additional assistance, please call Dr. Miller (850-240-2135).

Technical issues:
In case of technical problems please contact the HELP desk @ (352)-392-4357.

Teaching Assistant:
Gina Mangold
Office: 4803 Milton Campus
Phone: 850-983-7141
Email: gmangold@ufl.edu

Textbook: None required. Class materials will be provided on Canvas. Download Guild to the Natural Communities of Florida 2010 edition Florida Natural Areas Inventory linked provided in Canvas.

Class Website
Canvas (for narrated Power Points, lecture quizzes, print-outs, additional readings, assignments, etc.); https://elearning.ufl.edu/

Class lecture material: Available through Canvas and consists of narrated PowerPoints. Please complete the lectures and quizzes as indicated on the schedule below.

Additional reading and resources are found within the course modules.

PowerPoint lecture handouts can be downloaded or printed.

Attendance and Participation: Students are expected to view Power Points and complete quizzes before the closing date and time (Eastern Standard Time). See class schedule. Submission of late work requires permission from instructor. Late work will be assessed a 10% penalty for the first day and a 5% penalty for each subsequent day.

Grade:

PowerPoint Quizzes (8 total): 200 points

Weekly quizzes will be taken in Canvas. (25 points each) Weekly quizzes will cover material in narrated PowerPoints and may consist of short answer, multiple choice, true false. Please do not wait until the last
minute to complete online quizzes. This is to prevent incomplete or late submissions in the event of a situation that may occur (e.g. internet outage, computer problems). These quizzes are timed. Notes or PowerPoints or any other resources are not to be used when completing a quiz.

(Graduate Students Only) PowerPoint Presentation: 25 points

Develop a 15-minute narrated PowerPoint providing additional information on one of the plant communities presented in lecture and using local photographs to illustrate features of the chosen community type and associated plants. 
Due: July 19, 2021.

Total course points:
Graduate students (ALS5932): 225 points
Undergraduate students (ALS4932): 200 points

Grading: Letter grade based on the following grade scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63-66</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60-63</td>
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<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
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</table>

Complete a lecture and quiz before the due date. All quizzes must be completed by the due date as listed on the syllabus schedule. Completing Module Quizzes early is highly encouraged. Quizzes close on Mondays at 8 AM EST. Lectures are found within modules in Canvas.

Grades and Grade Points
For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

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/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/.
Online Course Evaluation Process:
Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at: https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/ . Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/ . Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/ .

Academic Honesty:
As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.” You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code .

Software Use:
All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Services for Students with Disabilities
The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. 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

0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, https://disability.ufl.edu

**Campus Helping Resources**

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their
general wellbeing are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources.
The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at
no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for
students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals,
which interfere with their academic performance. If you are at the Milton campus,
call the University Counseling & Wellness Center if you need help after 5:00
EST.

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center*, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575,
  www.counseling.ufl.edu/
  Counseling Services
  Groups and Workshops
  Outreach and Consultation
  Self-Help Library Wellness Coaching

- U Matter We Care, www.umatter.ufl.edu/

- Career Connections Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601,
  https://career.ufl.edu/.

**Student Complaints:**

- Residential Course: https://sCCR.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-
  studentconduct-code/.

- Online Course: http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Quiz</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td><strong>Module 1</strong>: Introduction to Plant Communities</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Module 2</strong>: Barrier Island Communities (Lowlands 1)</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 2</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Readings – FNAI Guide – pgs. 77-85 and 91-93</td>
<td>Due May 17 8:00 AM (EST)</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td><strong>Module 3</strong>: Flatlands – Scrub and Flatwoods (Lowlands 2)</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 3</td>
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<td>Readings – FNAI Guide – pgs. 55-67 and 49-53</td>
<td>Due May 24 8:00 AM (EST)</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td><strong>Module 4</strong>: Flatlands – Associated Wetlands (Lowlands 3)</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 4</td>
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<td>Readings – FNAI Guide – pgs. 116-120; 125-127; 129-144 and 157-169</td>
<td>Due June 1 8:00 AM (EST)</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td><strong>Module 5</strong>: High Pine - Upland Pine and Associated Wetlands</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 5</td>
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<td>Readings – FNAI Guide pgs. 37-48</td>
<td>Due June 7 8:00 AM (EST)</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td><strong>Module 6</strong>: Uplands – Sandhills and Associated Wetlands</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 6</td>
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<td>Readings – FNAI Guide pgs. 113-115 and 125-127</td>
<td>Due June 14 8:00 AM (EST)</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td><strong>Module 7</strong>: Steepheads and Associated Wetlands</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 7</td>
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<td>Readings – FNAI Guide pgs. 17-28 and 33-35</td>
<td>Due June 28 8:00 AM (EST)</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td><strong>Summer Break</strong></td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td><strong>Module 8</strong>: Hardwood Forests</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 8</td>
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<td>Readings – FNAI Guide pgs. 177-192</td>
<td>Due July 6 8:00 AM (EST)</td>
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<td>Weeks 9-13</td>
<td><strong>No lecture.</strong></td>
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