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: dlmi@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. Distance students and after hours please 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: Nikki Bennett, Room 4803, Office Phone: (850)983-7141, email: ndonathan@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://lss.at.ufl.edu/

Class lecture material: Available through Canvas and consists of narrated Power Points. 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 Power Points 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.
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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63-66</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60-63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

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. These evaluations are conducted online at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open for students to complete during the last two or three weeks of the semester; students will be notified of the specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results.

Student Resources
Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being 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.

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

- E-learning Technical Support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu Website: https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml
Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

In spite of our distance from Gainesville, students at UF Milton do have access to support services. If you need accommodation for any problem, feel free to call the appropriate office in Gainesville, or contact me directly.

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/scrr/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.

Campus Helping Resources
Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being 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.
• 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
Online course process information can be found at: http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process
**Complete a lecture and quiz before the due date.** All course requirements can be completed by the beginning of week 16 but completing Module Quizzes early is highly encouraged. Quizzes close on Monday 8 AM EST. Lectures are found within modules in Canvas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Quiz</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1-3</td>
<td>Introduction to Plant Communities</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barrier Island Communities- Lowlands 1</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings – FNAI Guide – pgs. 77-85; 91-93;</td>
<td>Due 9/2/2019 at 8:00AM</td>
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<td>Week 3-5</td>
<td>Flatlands – Scrub and Flatwoods Lowlands 2</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 3</td>
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<td>Readings – FNAI Guide – pgs. 55-67;49-53</td>
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<td>Week 5-7</td>
<td>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;157-169</td>
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<td>Week 7-9</td>
<td>High Pine 1 - Upland Pine</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 5</td>
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<td>Readings – FNAI Guide pgs. 37-48</td>
<td>Due 10/14/2019 at 8:00AM</td>
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<td>Week 9-11</td>
<td>Uplands and Associated wetlands</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 6</td>
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<td>Readings – FNAI Guide pgs. 113-115;125-127</td>
<td>Due 10/28/2019 at 8:00AM</td>
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<td>Week 11-13</td>
<td>Steep heads and associated plant communities</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 7</td>
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<td>Readings – FNAI Guide pgs: 17-28;33-35</td>
<td>Due 11/11/2019 at 8:00AM</td>
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<td>Week 13-16</td>
<td>Hardwood forest</td>
<td>MOD. QUIZ 8</td>
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<td>Readings – FNAI Guide pgs: 177-192</td>
<td>Due 11/25/2019 at 8:00AM</td>
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