

**Syllabus**  
**Plant Propagation Lab**  
**PLS 3223L – Fall 2024**  
**1 Credit (2-3 contact hours/week)**

**Milton Instructor**

**Dr. Mack Thetford – cell phone 850-292-2557 – you must leave a message and include your name!**

Office: 4900 Milton Campus

(850) 983-7130 sends me an email with your voice recording

thetford@ufl.edu

**Course Description and Objectives**

**Description of course:** The propagation of plants is of fundamental importance to any individual in horticulture or for that matter, any individual in the plant sciences. This Laboratory course is a study of the principles and practices involved in methods of sexual (seed) and asexual (vegetative) propagation on a variety of plants. Methods of vegetative propagation studied will include propagation by cuttings, layering grafting and budding, division, separation, and micropropagation (tissue culture). Time of propagation, media, importance of sanitation, and intermittent mist propagation will be extensively studied and stressed.

**Course objectives:**

- To provide students with theoretical and practical knowledge about most types of sexual and asexual propagation which will enable students to function in most commercial operations involving propagation of various plants.
- To develop a level of skill in the art and techniques of sexual and asexual plant propagation.
- To provide hands-on field practice in the application of sexual and asexual plant propagation.

**Course Prerequisites:** BOT 2010C or BSC 2010

**Course Corequisite:** PLS 3223

**Course Materials:**

website: <http://irrecenvhort.ifas.ufl.edu/Propagation/index.html>

Sample propagation exercises and experiments are provided with data sets, photographs, and thought questions to assist you in evaluating the outcome of the experiments. Your local instructor will determine which of these materials to utilize at your site. \*There also will be supplemental reading material available online.

**Course Textbook:**

Hartmann & Kester's Plant Propagation: Principles and Practices, 9th Edition. 2018. F. Davies, R. Geneve and S.B. Wilson. (Required, ISBN-10 9780134480893; ISBN-13: 978-0134480893).

\*\*Note: There are used desk copies and e-Textbooks available to rent or purchase at a reduced price (see vitalsouce.com; amazon.com and others). Just make sure you get the 9th edition if possible as it is significantly improved

**ASSESSMENT AND GRADING:**

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

## **Student Evaluation**

Regional environment, available facilities, and plant availability will dictate the specific laboratory activities at each site. Hence, instructors may vary the format of the products you turn in for grading, ie you may submit all products in the format of a lab notebook. Each site instructor will provide a description of the lab activities and a tentative schedule at the first meeting of the class.

Activities will include demonstration or investigation of Seed Germination, Propagation environments and substrates, Asexual plant propagation (includes testing of auxins, cutting types), Grafting, Propagation by specialized stems or roots, and Layering. Demonstration or participation in tissue culture procedures. Where possible, instructors will work with students to coordinate field trip(s) to area facilities to provide exposure to commercial propagation operations.

### **Grades for the course will be based on a total of 100 points, allocated as follows:**

Laboratory Questions	40%
Laboratory Exercise Reports	40%
Oral presentation/discussion of Lab summaries or Field Trip reports	5%
Lab Practical Exam	15%
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Total	100%

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Grading follows University standards and will based on the following scale:

94-100%	A
90-93%	A-
87-89%	B+
83-86%	B
80-82%	B-
77-79%	C+
73-76%	C
70-72%	C-
67-69%	D+
63-66%	D
60-62%	D-
≤ 59%	E

## **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/honorcodes/honorcode.php>.

It is assumed all work will be completed independently unless the assignment is defined as a group project, in writing by the instructor. This policy will be vigorously upheld at all times in this course.

**Computer Requirement:** Access to and on-going use of a computer are required of all students to complete their degree programs successfully. The university expects each student entering the university and continuing students to acquire computer hardware and software appropriate to the degree program. Competency in the basic use of a computer is a requirement for graduation ([www.circa.ufl.edu/computers](http://www.circa.ufl.edu/computers)).

**E-learning technical support,** 352 392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail [learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:learning-support@ufl.edu).  
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

**Counseling Center:** The University Counseling Center offers counseling services to currently enrolled students for personal, career and educational concerns ([www.counsel.ufl.edu](http://www.counsel.ufl.edu)).

## **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**

Health and Wellness 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.

**U Matter We Care,** <http://www.umatter.ufl.edu>. If you or a friend are in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 294-2273 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

**Counseling & Wellness Center,** 3190 Radio Road, 352 392-1575, <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/default.aspx>

Counseling Services  
Groups and Workshops  
Outreach and Consultation  
Self-Help Library  
Training Programs  
Community Provider Database

## **Academic Resources**

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

**Library Support,** <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

**Teaching Center,** Broward Hall, 352 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu>.

**Writing Studio,** 302 Tigert Hall, 352 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio>.

## **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, <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>

## **STUDENT COMPLAINTS**

Each online distance learning program has a process for, and will make every attempt to resolve, student complaints within its academic and administrative departments at the program level. See <http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> for more details.

**INFORMATION SOURCES:** The tentative lecture schedule is presented below. However, this schedule is subject to change at the instructor's notice and is subject to weather and day length constraints.

**NOTE:** The visual aspects and memorization requirements of this course make it imperative that students view all lectures, read all handouts.

## **COURSE EVALUATIONS:**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on ten criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.