

AG 120 – Soil Science

Spring Semester 2014

Class Syllabi

Instructor: Dr. Baldev Singh

Contact Information Email: baldev.singh@imperial.edu

Office Hours: None

Lecture Hours: 3 Credits: 3

Days & times: Tuesday 6:30-8:35 & Thursday 5:30-8:40 pm

CRN: 20208

Text Book Required: Soils – An Introduction (6th Ed), Singer, Munns

Class Objectives

This course provides a basic knowledge of the physical, chemical, and biological properties of soils and their characteristics. Includes fundamental soil properties, soil-plant relationships, soil formation, fertilization and soil management, salinity, pH, erosion management, soil moisture and non-agricultural uses.

General Expectations: Students must comply with all rules and regulations of Standards of Student Conduct outlined in the Imperial Valley College General Catalog. No food or drinks are allowed in classroom.

Cell Phones and Pagers: All cell phones, pagers and other noise making devices be **turned off or to vibrate** during class. If you must use these devices during class, I ask that you quietly and discretely leave the room.

Talking in Class: Students talking in class while the instructor or a guest is lecturing will be asked to leave. If inappropriate talking continues points may be deducted from your total score.

Disability Information: Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible.

DSP&S Room 2117, Health Sciences Building, (760) 355-6312

Late & Absent Policy: Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students enrolled. Instructors are required to include a student's attendance record in computing grades. A student may be excluded from further attendance in a class during a semester when absences, after close of registration, have exceeded the number of units for the class (3).

You should come to class prepared to be an active participant in the learning process. Enhanced learning occurs through interaction with others.

It is your responsibility to make an appointment with the instructor if you have concerns about your progress in the class.

It is your responsibility to complete a DROP REQUEST if you are withdrawing from the class.

You are considered TARDY if you arrive in class after roll has been called. Three (3) tardies constitute one (1) absence. A tardy is valued at -1 point, and an absence is valued at -3 points.

Class Drop Policy: It is the responsibility of student to submit dropping forms to the office.

Grading:	A = 100 – 90%	B = 89 – 80%	C = 79– 70%
		D = 69 – 60%	F = \leq 59%

Grades will be based on attendance, class participation, notebook, exams and quizzes, Research Paper, and Research Project (SLO)

Exams and Quizzes: 3 exams and pop-up quizzes.

Class Participation: Each student is expected to read the assigned material before coming to class. This will enable you to participate in the class discussions. Being able to interact in this manner will have positive effects on your quiz and exam performance.

Assignments

Research Paper: Each student will be required to write one paper on a subject pertaining to the class subject.

Group Presentation: You will be required to work in a group on one class presentation. I will provide class time to do group work. The student will then use the information to develop an informed position that will then be presented in the form of PowerPoint presentation.

Notebook: Each student is required to keep a class notebook which will include all lecture notes, handouts, and other assignments which may be assigned. Points will be awarded for completeness and neatness.

Course Outline: The related labs will be arranged after the chapter.

Introduction

Solids and Pores

Liquids and Gases

Soil Climate

Water in the Soil-Plant System

Managing Soil Water

Soil Organisms

Microbial Processes

Mineral Nutrients in Soils and Plants

Mineral Nutrients in Soils and Plants

Managing Plant Nutrients

Acidity and Alkalinity

Acidity and Alkalinity

Soil Genesis

Soil Information

Organizing Soils Information and Soil Degradation

Oral Presentations and Review

I do not grade on a curve.