PSS 106 Entomology and Pest Management (4 credits)
Fall 2013

Instructor
Dr. Yolanda Chen
Dept. of Plant and Soil Sciences
Jeffords 209
Office Hours: Tuesday 11:00-12:30, or by appointment
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Email: Yolanda.Chen@uvm.edu

Teaching Assistant: Gemelle Brion, Email: Gemelle.Brion@uvm.edu, office hours upon request

Learning outcomes
1. You will be able to collect and organize your own insect collections, demonstrating competency in using taxonomic keys to identify the major insect Orders and many common families.
2. You will be able to identify the major internal and external insect structures that are widely used within insect taxonomic keys.
3. You will be able to explain what processes have contributed to the diversification and success of insects.
4. You will be able to demonstrate how contemporary pest management practices are based upon a manipulation of insect biology and ecology.

Skills covered in this class: Field observation, collecting skills, and collection curation.

Course format
Lecture/Lab on Mon and Wed, 10 AM-12:30 PM Jeffords 101
Lectures, labs, readings, homework based on the readings, weekly quizzes, exams, insect collection and damage collection

Available at the UVM Bookstore or for rent on Amazon.

Suggested collecting gear: Insect aspirator and a magnifying loop - (available from Bioquip or Amazon)

Grading:

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<tr>
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<th>% grade</th>
<th>points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-terms</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fact Sheet, Lab Presentation</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>(Pest and date to be assigned)</td>
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Homework questions 5 50

Lab Exam – Insect Identification 15 150

October 23  +NO MAKE-UPS+

Lab Damage Collection 10 100
(20 different examples of insect damage)

Due: October 16, 2013

Insect Collection 20 200
(100 different specimens, 15 families, representing a minimum of 12 orders. No more than 2 specimens of the same species)

Due: December 8, 2013  8:15 pm___________________ __________________

Total points 1000

Grading policy: I will drop the two lowest quiz scores. The only extra credit is associated with your insect collection. Make-up exams will not be given unless you have an excused absence from Rose Laba in the CALS Student Services Division. There will be no make-up exams for the lab.

Late Policy: Five points will be deducted for each day that an assignment is late.

A+ = 980 – 1000  B+ = 870 – 899  C+ = 770 – 799  D+ = 670 - 699
A  = 930 - 979  B  = 830 – 869  C  = 730 – 769  D  = 630 - 669
A-  = 900 - 929  B-  = 800 – 829  C-  = 700 – 729  D-  = 600 - 629
F   = <600

Policies:
1. Students are expected to be prepared for all classes by doing the assigned reading. Students will be assigned a seat, and attendance will be taken based upon a seating chart.
2. Homework will only be accepted in paper form within class.
3. Students are expected to arrive on time and stay in class until the end of class. If there are special circumstances that requires a student to leave before class is over, the student should notify the instructor before class starts. The student should sit near the door to avoid being disruptive.
4. All cell phones must be turned off before the start of class. The instructor will have a phone in case of emergency.
5. Students are expected to be courteous and respectful.
6. Students are expected to take notes using pen and paper. All other arrangements need to be discussed with the instructor.
7. Students are expected to follow the UVM Academic Integrity Code and UVM Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Any misconduct will result in disciplinary action.

Note: “Students have the right to practice the religion of their choice. Each semester, students should submit in writing to their instructors by the end of the second class, their documented religious holiday schedule for the semester. Faculty must permit students who miss work for the purpose of religious observance to make up this work.”