

NRM 380 - SOILS AND THE ENVIRONMENT SYLLABUS

Fall - 2018

Course outline:

Student outcome:

Upon completion of the class, students should:

Have a deep understanding the complexity of soil as a natural resource for food production and as an important component in natural ecosystem.

Understand soil physical properties, and laboratory methods to measure those properties.

Understand soil chemical properties and laboratory methods to measure those properties.

Understand soil biological properties and laboratory methods to measure those properties.

Have knowledge to differentiate a good soil management plan from improper ones.

Be able to use soil web survey to collect soil information and use learned soil knowledge to develop soil management plans for different land uses.

Be able to write a integrated soil technical report for a given area in US.

NRM-380 SOILS GRADING POLICY

This is a "writing-intensive" course, meaning that a majority of the 768 total points available is based on written assignments and questions. One third of the grade for weekly lab reports and 20% of the final project grade will be determined by the student's ability to write in a clear, concise and correct manner. Each student will be responsible for scheduling at least one personal conference with the instructor concerning his/her writing ability and whether he/she should seek help from the Writing Center. Individual conferences should be scheduled following the first hour exam. Students are required to attend the classes and labs, which will be used to evaluate student performance. Grade will be deducted for late submission of assignments. Plagiarism or academic misconduct is zero tolerance in the class.

Points	Basis
300	Hour Exams (3 @ 100 points). Questions will include true-false, multiple choice, problems, and short answer essay. Hour exams generally will not be graded for writing proficiency unless otherwise indicated.
30	Pop quizzes (4 @ 10 points). These unannounced quizzes are to provide an extra incentive to keep up with reading (text and lab) and class participation. Quizzes will not be graded for writing proficiency unless otherwise indicated.
30	Problem sets (3 @ 10 points). These are to give you familiarity with certain kinds of calculations.

Lecture, exam, and homework schedule

Date Lecture Topic

