COURSE SYLLABUS

FISH 5410/6410
INTRODUCTION TO FISH HEALTH
FALL 2007

Dr. Jeff Terhune
Office: 215 Swingle Hall
Phone: 844-9213
Email: jsterhune@auburn.edu
Office hours: 10:00 – 11:00 am TTR or by appointment

Course Credit Hours: 3 (3 lec.)
Time and Location: TR 11:00 – 12:15 303 Swingle Hall

I. Course Content/Objectives:

1. Objectives: The objective of this class is to introduce students to common infectious and non-infectious diseases that affect fish. Topics will include principles of disease management, treatments and calculation procedures, water quality and disease in cultured fish, nutrition and disease, recognition of diseases. At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Understand interactions between the host, the environment, and pathogens and disease development.
2. Collect proper fish samples for submission to a diagnostic laboratory.
3. Implement methods of prevention and treatments for specific diseases.
4. Understand development of diseases from non-infectious sources.
5. Recognize specific clinical signs associated with common infectious disease sources.

2. Tentative Schedule and Outline of Course

Week 1 Introduction to course
Fish Anatomy and Physiology

Week 2 Fish Anatomy and Physiology

Week 3 Concepts of fish health management
Management and prevention of disease
Week 4  Recognizing diseases/clinical signs  
Pathological changes related to disease

Week 5  Treatments and vaccines

Week 6  **Exam 1**  
Non-infectious diseases of fish

Week 7  Non-infectious diseases of fish

Week 8  Viral Diseases

Week 9  Fungal diseases of fish

Week 10  Bacterial diseases of fish

Week 11  Bacterial diseases of fish

Week 12  **Exam 2**  
Introduction to the parasites

Week 13  Parasitic diseases of fish

Week 14  Marine/tropical fish diseases

Week 16  Graduate Student Presentations

**Final Exam**  
* TBA

3. **Textbook.**

None required. Handouts will be given from the instructor and on-line.
Recommended texts*:
*Health Maintenance and Principal Microbial Diseases of Cultured Fishes. J. A. Plumb.

*Fish Disease: Diagnosis and Treatment. E. J. Noga

*These two books are being held in the library in reserve.

II. Grading and Evaluation

1. Course requirements:
   a. Students should attend class and all exams.
   b. Arrangements should be made prior to exam date if student will be absent.
   c. There will be 8 unannounced quizzes; the lowest will be dropped

Note: Students with special needs because of handicap or other reasons should make their needs known to the instructor in the first week of class.

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*Graduate students will assist in the necropsy of fish, prepare a written report, and present findings to the class from two (2) case submissions to the diagnostic laboratory. Special problem must be completed for graduate level requirement.

2. Cheating:
   Cheating is a SERIOUS violation of the AU Honesty Code and will be dealt with accordingly. Those persons found cheating may receive a 0
(zero) on the exam or homework and may receive an ‘F’ for the course. Those persons found assisting someone with cheating may have their own grade reduced by a letter grade or more. **Students who are accused of cheating, referred to the AU Academic Honesty Committee, and found guilty NORMALLY receive an ‘F’ for the course with notation on their transcripts.** Information on cheating can be found at [www.auburn.edu/tigercub/](http://www.auburn.edu/tigercub/). Procedures for appeal may be found at [http://web6.duc.auburn.edu/tigercub/rules/rules_other.pdf](http://web6.duc.auburn.edu/tigercub/rules/rules_other.pdf).

3. **Challenged Students:**
   Students with special needs because of a handicap or other reasons should make their needs known the first week of class so steps can be taken to assist the student. Please see “Accommodation Policy for students with Disabilities” in the Student Handbook.

III. **JUSTIFICATION**

This course will be an introduction to infectious and non-infectious diseases of fish and shellfish. It will be an upper level undergraduate course and graduate course. This will be the only disease course available for undergraduate students. The course will serve Graduate students as an introduction to diseases and a prerequisite to other disease courses in the Fisheries department. It will also function as an overview for students having a general interest in fish diseases. The lectures will consist of descriptions of diseases, treatment regimes, clinical signs of disease, and management practices. It will also introduce students to general definitions used in the other fish health and related courses.