PLPA 4930  Directed Studies in Plant Pathology

1) Credit: 1 – 3 semester hours (Lab: set time 2 hours of work for 1 hour of credit)

Prerequisites: Departmental approval

Instructor: Dr. Joe Kloepper
Office: 209 Life Science Building
Phone: 844-1950 (office)
Email: kloepjf@auburn.edu
Office hours: MWF 8:00-10:00 or by appointment

2) Credit Hours: 1 – 3 hours of credit given as requested by the student. Each hour of credit required 2 hours of work. (560 minutes per credit hour for 15 weeks or 15900 minutes for one credit hour)

3) Textbook – none required

4) Course Description: PLPA 4930 DIRECTED STUDIES IN PLANT PATHOLOGY (1-3). LAB. 1-3. Supervised work on a project in plant pathology. Areas of study are: A. Mycology; B. Nematology; C. Virology; D. Bacteriology; E. Extension and Clinic Experience; F. Physiological and Molecular Approaches.

5) Course Objectives: The general objective is to learn and apply principles of using one group of plant-associated bacteria as agents of plant growth promotion of biological control of diseases.

The specific objective for this term is to investigate inhibition of fungi and bacteria by spore-forming bacilli.

6) Course Content:

Laboratory Outline:

Plant pathology topics will vary based on the scientific interest of the student. Students spend variable amounts of time conducting laboratory, greenhouse, and/or field tests examining a plant pathology project.

I. Organizational meeting to schedule experiments and discuss responsibilities.

II. Students begin experiments. Students will consult with the professor every week at 8 am on Tuesday morning to discuss the progress of the assigned experiments. Data sheets will be completed for each experiment and will be turned in at this time.

III. Data summary should be sent by email to the professor no later than 4:00 P.M. on the last day of finals for that semester.

Comment [NW1]: Officially a credit is associated with 50 minutes of class time. For labs a common conversion is 2:1 so for a 1 credit lab the student must spend at least 100 minutes in the lab per week. Over the semester, the time expended for one credit is 1500 minutes.

Comment [NW2]: Please be more explicit in terms of what the student will do. Are there particular phases that the student will pass through in the development and implementation of the experiment?
IV. Evaluation: Written evaluations and suggestions will be completed by the faculty for the student to review. This is a learning experience and these comments are to help improve future presentations.

7) Course Requirements / Evaluation:

Grading System:

This is a letter graded course. The student will be graded based on their experiments conducted, data collected and data summary. Principle criteria for evaluation include content and scientific rigor or the experiments, organization, timeliness, and ability to answer questions and clarity of the data summary. Attendance is also required.

8) Course Policy Statements:

Class: Two to six hours of laboratory work per week.

Late Submissions: It is the students’ responsibility to conduct their experiments and complete the data summary. The summary must be completed on time. If a serious situation arises and the student anticipates he/she will not be able to meet a deadline, it should be discussed with the professor before the due date.

9) Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:

Plagiarism is the act of presenting directly or indirectly someone else’s work as your own. Plagiarism is a major type of academic dishonesty and will not be tolerated. Similarly cheating on tests in any way, falsifying bibliographies, fraudulent quotes, and similar practices are intolerable forms of academic dishonesty. The University’s policy for academic misconduct in the Student Code of Conduct will be followed for this course (Tiger Club, pp. 83 and 92). Please contact the instructor for any questions regarding its contents.

10) Learners with Disabilities:

Auburn University is committed to providing accommodations and services to students with documented disabilities. Any learner with a qualified disability which requires accommodations should contact The Program for Students with Disabilities, 1244 Haley Center, Auburn University, AL 36849, 334-844-2096 PH, 334-844-2099 FAX, haynemd@auburn.edu. More information is available on their website at www.auburn.edu/disability. The office will fax or mail the required forms to learners to apply for services. Learners who have questions to participate in this course should contact the above office in advance to ensure proper accommodations.