

Course Syllabus
Spring 2026 – PLP6932
Seminar

Time: at Tuesdays from 4:05 – 4:55 pm (period 9)

Lecture Location: Blueberry Building – Room 154 or via Zoom (links will be announced later)

Instructor: Instructors are by rotation of invited speakers (organized by Departmental Faculty: Drs. Junfei Ma and Ying Wang)

Office Location: 2557 Fifield Hall

Office Hours: By appointment

Office Phone: 352-273-4674

Email: junfeima@ufl.edu and ying.wang1@ufl.edu

Course Description:

PLP6932 is a weekly series of presentations by plant pathologists and those working with plant pathogens. Refreshments are served approximately 10 minutes before the start of seminar.

The responsible faculty will arrange for speakers for each seminar period, beginning with the second Tuesday of the semester. The first Tuesday of the semester will be used as an organizational meeting in which the responsible faculty, and students will assemble to review the objectives of the course, review what is expected of students in the course, and organize the students as to which speaker they will present and when each will bring refreshments. (Students should save receipts of food purchases and turn them into the front office for reimbursement).

Course Objectives:

The objectives of PLP 6932 are to:

- Provide a means to update faculty and students on current topics in or related to Plant Pathology
- Provide an opportunity for faculty and students to become better acquainted with other plant pathologists and to showcase our department to the community of plant pathologists
- Provide a venue for graduating students to present their thesis/dissertation to the department
- Provide an opportunity for students to improve their oral communication skills

Course Prerequisites:

None.

Recommended Textbooks:

None

Grading:

Seminar is a Pass/Fail course for one graduate credit. Requirements for a passing grade:

- Miss no more than two seminars without excuse (attendance requires completion of form for the seminar attended).
- Assist in the introduction of at least one speaker (failure to appear or designate a replacement in the cases of emergency or illness constitutes automatic failure). Seminar refreshment duty is expected; failure to participate will count as an absence.

To receive credit for attending seminar, students must complete a critique form (attached below). The first half evaluates the speaker, the second half evaluates the student who introduced the speaker. These evaluations will be collected by the responsible faculty after each seminar. The second half of the evaluation will be separated and returned to the student who presented the speaker for feedback on the quality of his/her introduction.

Sample Critique Form:

Student Name: _____				
Date: _____				
Speaker Name: _____				
Seminar Title: _____				
One thing that the speaker did notably well:				
One aspect of the presentation that could be improved:				
Quality of graphics (scale, clarity, font size, information on slide):				
1	2	3	4	5
Speaker was introduced by _____.				
Rating of introduction:				
1	2	3	4	5
Comments on Introduction:				

Academic Policies and Resources:

Please follow this link to navigate academic policies and campus resources: <https://go.ufl.edu/syllabuspolices>.