

Teaching Plan for AGRO/ANSC/BIOL/GENE/HORT 305 (Principles of Genetics)

Instructor: F. Omar Holguin

Semester: Fall 2020

AGRO/ANSC/BIOL/GENE/HORT 305. Principles of Genetics. 3 Credits (3). Covers fundamental principles of reproduction, variation, and heredity in plants and animals.

AGRO/ANSC/BIOL/GENE/HORT 305 is a three-credit course offered in two sections that meets three times per week for lecture (MWF 830-920 am, MWF 930-1020am). The lectures are scheduled to meet in Gerald Thomas Hall 336. We typically have 200 students in the class. I intend to teach the course with a similar content as in prior semesters where it was taught face to face. In the Fall 2020 offering of 305, the following exceptions will be enforced to help mitigate COVID-19 transmission.

1. Lectures. Lecture activities and lecture exams will be planned for online dissemination using Zoom. Lectures will not be meeting in person. The new online practice will eliminate student presence in the building and its vicinity during our lecture times. Following is my consideration for proposed changes to the online lectures in the event of change in the severity of health threats. **Scenario 1: There are no longer any significant health threats.** My lectures will be held online for the duration of the semester. If the health threats lessen, I do not propose changing from an online format to a physical presence format. **Scenario 2: Significant health threats have emerged during the semester and face-to-face instruction is no longer tenable.** Since I will be teaching the lectures online from the outset, no changes will be necessary to accommodate an increased health threat. **Scenario 3: My class has more than 50 students and health guidelines state that such large gatherings are prohibited.** Since I will be teaching the lectures online from the outset, no changes will be necessary to accommodate this scenario.
2. Labs. Labs are not a component of this course offering.
3. Contact tracing. A student will immediately notify me and the aggie health center by email or telephone if they suspect they are ill (body temperature in excess of 100.4F, cough, or shortness of breath), or if they are notified that they may have potentially been exposed to COVID-19. Once I discover via email that a student may have a virus or has been tested as presumptively positive, I will work with the student promptly via email or telephone to i) assert that they are isolated and do not transmit further, ii) ask them who they have come in contact with for up to 14 days before they experienced symptoms, and iii) attempt to secure the name(s) and contact information for the human contact(s) in question. I will maintain email and telephone records of affected students and their contacts. The names and contact information (telephone and email) of the affected student and their recent contact(s) will be reported to my Department Head, Dr. Rolston St. Hilaire. The affected student will be instructed to call their physician, the New Mexico Department of Health COVID Hotline, or the Aggie Health and Wellness Center to arrange for a test, if the student has not already done so. In extreme cases, they will be instructed to call 911.