COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: HORT 1318: Introduction to Turfgrass Management

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 2 hours lecture per week, 1 hour lab per week
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): None
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None
5. MnTC Goals (if any): NA

The development and culture of turfgrass is important in many societies for functional, recreational, and ornamental reasons. A thorough understanding of common turfgrasses and their culture is an important tool in the management of cultured turf. This course is designed to cover topics in turfgrass structures, growth processes, seasonal turfgrasses, cultural practices, and seed blends. RECOMMENDED ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE: High school diploma or GED.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): November, 2006

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
This course deals with the establishment and maintenance practices which are necessary in order to become a successful turfgrass manager. The course presents an overview of the turfgrass industry; specific aspects of turfgrass science; and establishment, growth, and maintenance requirements for successful production for the turfgrass function.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:
1. Understanding of the turfgrass industry and related career opportunities.
2. Understend turfgrass growth and the function of turfgrass.
3. Describe and discuss importance and characteristics of cool season and warm season grasses.
4. Discuss and relate soil characteristics to quality turfgrass performance.
5. Understand turfgrass establishment procedures.
6. Understand turfgrass nutrition and fertility programs.
7. Discuss proper turfgrass mowing.
8. Discuss turfgrass irrigation.
9. Discuss turfgrass pesticides and pesticide applications.
10. Discuss turfgrass weeds and weed control.
11. Identify turfgrass insects, describe damage and controls.
12. Identify turfgrass diseases, describe damage and controls.
13. Discuss and understand components of an integrated pest management program.
15. Seeding and growing on varieties of cool-season grasses (bluegrass, fescue, ryegrass, bentgrass).
16. Seeding and growing of warm-season grasses (Bermuda grass, zoysiagrass).
17. Collect data from seeding labs and put in report form.
18. Evaluate outdoor turf plots of various turfgrass species.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): NA

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
1. Lecture notes
2. Weekly assignments from lecture or lab – 15%
3. Quizzes – 10 planned – 15%
4. 2 midterm exams – 20% each (40%)
5. Turfgrass Research Assignment – 10% (details given in class)
6. Final exam – 20%

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None