

SWS 3022L General Soils Lab (Syllabus)

Lab book: Laboratory Manual for Soil Science: exercises 2-10, 12, 13, and 15.

Reference book: Elements of the Nature and Properties of Soils, 2nd edition. Brady, N.B. and Weil, R.R.

Course Description

Objectives: To give practical experience as an aid in developing understanding of the soil as a natural body, a medium of plant growth, and its variability from location to location.

Topics will include: formation and classification of soils, soil physical and chemical properties, importance of soils in agriculture and environment, and soil management strategies. The practical sessions are outlined as follows.

Session 1	Introduction and requirements
Session 2.	Soil texture: particle size analysis
Session 3.	Soil moisture content measurement
Session 4.	Soil bulk density and porosity
Session 5.	Environmental influence on soil formation
Session 6.	Soil colloids and cation exchange Lab Exam I
Session 7.	Soil organic matter
Session 8.	Soil acidity and lime requirement
Session 9.	Soil test for phosphorus
Session 10.	Soil survey report
Session 11.	Field trip <i>Lab Exam II</i>

Grading: Grades will be based on completion of laboratory assignments and two exams. The grading scale is as follows:

A=90-100%; B+= 86-89%; B=81-85%; C+=76-80%; C=71-75%; D+=66-70%; D=60-65%.

Attendance: As in any laboratory course, attendance at each session is required. Make-up labs cannot be provided. No credit will be given for missed labs. Attendance is

important. Please notify me in advance if you will not attend a lab. Lab assignments will be collected at the conclusion of the lab.

Academic honesty.

As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: "I understand the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University."

UF Counseling Services.

Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

These resources include:

University Counseling Center, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575, personal and career counseling.

Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center, 392-1171, personal counseling.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services, Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual assault counseling.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance and counseling.