

## **Course Information**

### **Instructors:**

Karine Paré  
213B Johnson Hall  
509-335-8411  
kpare@wsu.edu

Dr. William Johnston  
213 Johnson Hall  
509-335-3620  
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### **General Scope and Rationale:**

This course is designed to introduce the students to turfgrass sciences and the different disciplines within the turfgrass industry. Students will be exposed to the agronomic and economic importance of the different turfgrass sectors. Students will interact with industry professionals and be aware of future employer expectations and opportunities.

### **Course Objectives:**

- Introduce students to turfgrass sciences and career opportunities.
- Provide students with an understanding of the structure and function of the professional turfgrass industry.
- Develop teamwork, research, writing, and presentation skills through the process of developing and presenting a group project.

### **Course Structure:**

The course consists of a weekly 3-hour laboratory period\*. This time will be used primarily for field trips to meet industry professionals and visit various operations within the turfgrass industry including golf, lawn care, sod production, sports turf and related facilities, as well as for invited guest speakers from the industry and group project interactions.

**\*One full day field trip is required (see the attached schedule for details).**

**Required Texts:** None

### **Course Fee:**

A course fee of \$70 will be required to cover transportations for the field trips.

### **Assessments:**

Students will be required to write a field trip report or a guest speaker summary at the end of each field trip or guest lecture to evaluate their understanding of the turf sector\*. In addition, students will be required to work together in groups to research one particular aspect of the turfgrass industry. The group will be expected to make an oral presentation to the class based on their findings and submit a written report. There are no exams. The field trip reports and summaries will be worth 1/3 of the final grade and the team project will be worth 2/3 of the final grade.

**\*Only the 10 best reports/summaries of the 11 total will be retained for final grade.**

***Note: attendance to laboratories is required. No reports/summaries are going to be accepted without attendance to the field trip or guest lecture.***



## **Course Outline**

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### **Weekly Schedule**

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	<u><b>Date</b></u>	
1	Aug. 23	Overview of WSU Turfgrass Management option and career opportunities
2	Aug. 30	WSU Turfgrass Research Facilities/Ongoing research, Pullman, WA
3	Sept. 6	University of Idaho Golf Course/Arboretum, Moscow, ID
4	Sept. 13	WSU athletics, grounds, and housing turf complexes, Pullman, WA
5	Sept. 20	Team project introduction
6	Sept. 27	City of Pullman/Parks/Cemeteries/Sport complexes, Pullman, WA
7	Oct. 4	<b>(Full day field trip)</b> Spokane Country Club; Ray's Sod Farm; Spokane Indians baseball field (Avista Stadium), Spokane, WA; and Jacklin Seed Co., Post Falls, ID
8	Oct. 11	Lawn care/Landscaping/Hydroseeding company, Pullman, WA
9	Oct. 18	WSU Golf course, Pullman, WA
10	Oct. 25	Overview of environmental context of the turfgrass industry
11	Nov. 1	Overview of fertilizer/pesticides products and industry opportunities
12	Nov. 8	Overview of challenges in the golf course industry and consulting
13	Nov. 15	Student Symposium (team project presentations)
14	Nov. 29	Student Symposium (team project presentations)

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Note: Weekly schedule may change due to weather conditions and guest speaker availability.