Biology 4218A – Plant Pathology
Course Outline

1. Course Information

Course Information
Biology 4218A Plant Pathology Fall Term 2023

List of Prerequisites
The prerequisite for this class is Biology 3218F/G.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean Department/Program Counsellors and Science Academic Advisors) to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

2. Instructor Information

Instructors	Email	Office	Phone	Office Hours
Prof. Thomas DeFalco (Course Coordinator)	tdefalc@uwo.ca	NCB404	x81475	By Appointment
TA: Eleanor Khochaba	ekhochab@uwo.ca	N/A	N/A	N/A

If you are contacting your instructor, please use your Western (@uwo.ca) email address and io4218A may be held on Zoom or in-person. Please email the instructor to arrange an appointment or inquire in class.

3. Course Syllabus, Schedule, Delivery Mode

Course description and list of topics
Biology 4218A is a lab course on plant pathology. The general areas of study are listed below, check the OWL site for specific dates and reading lists.

Lecture topics and dates are on the OWL site.

Lectures and labs are held in-person only.

Learning objectives
By the end of this course, students should be able to:

Explain what is meant by phytopathology through theoretical (lecture) and practical (laboratory) learning experiences.

Demonstrate the ability to identify disease symptoms and signs (both biotic and abiotic) in living plant material.

Identify and describe organisms that cause plant diseases from the following groups: Virus, Bacteria, Protozoa, Fungi, Nematodes, Plants.

Understand how the infection process works, disease develops and spreads.

Understand the mechanisms of plant defense and immunity against disease-causing pathogens and pests.

Demonstrate a knowledge of the methods used to control pathogens, including cultural, breeding, regulatory and chemical.

From the Laboratory portion of the course students should be able to define, describe and identify example pathogens, recognize their symptoms and signs and their pathogenesis.

Key sessional dates
Classes begin: September 5, 2024
Labs begin: September 12, 2024
Fall Reading Week: October 12 20
Classes end: December 6, 2024

4. Course Materials

Texts/materials
(6^{th} edition, 2024) is the text for this course. Available for purchase as an ebook from the publisher. A hardcopy is also on reserve at Taylor Library.
https://www.sciencedirect.com/book/9780128224298/agrios-plant-pathology

Additional readings/texts will be suggested throughout the course.

All course material will be posted to OWL: https://westernu.brightspace.com/

Students

Practical laboratory and performance tests (Defined by policy)

When a student *mistakenly* submits their one allowed Academic Consideration request **without supporting documentation** for the assessments listed above or those in the **Coursework with Assessment Flexibility** section below, the request cannot be recalled and reapplied. This privilege is forfeited.

When a student misses the Final Exam and their Academic Consideration has been granted, they will be allowed to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam). See the Academic Calendar for details (under Special Examinations), especially for those who miss multiple final exams within one examination period.

Essential Learning Requirements
Even when Academic Considerations are granted for missed coursework, the following are deemed essential to earn a passing grade.

Minimum attendance and completion of 8 labs AND minimum grade of 50% on the laboratory component of the course (i.e. weekly lab quizzes and the lab exam)

Failure to meet these requirements will result in a grad of 45 for the course. Should a student failing to meet this requirement where Academic Considerations are granted will be given an opportunity to complete those labs after they recover. However, for logistical reasons, this may be with the next offering of the course, in which case the student will receive a grade of Incomplete (INC) and their maximum course load may be reduced during the term in which they complete their course requirements.

Coursework with Assessment Flexibility
Academic Consideration requests will be denied for the following assessments with built-in flexibility:

Flexible Completion
Quizzes. This course has 10 lab quizzes/evaluations, and the 8 with the highest marks are counted towards your final grade.

Deadline with a No-Late-Penalty Period
Assignment 1. Students are expected to submit Assignment 1 by the deadline (TBD). Should extenuating circumstances arise, students do not need to request Academic Consideration and they are permitted to submit their assignment up to 1 week past the deadline without a late penalty. Should students submit their assessment beyond 1 week past the deadline, a late penalty of 10% per day will be applied for up to 3 days. Assignments submitted more than 10 days after the deadline (when assignment grades will be returned to students) will be assigned a grade of 0. No Academic Considerations will be considered.

6. Additional Statements

Religious Accommodation

https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html.

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.