Course title: Current topics in plant science

Prerequisites: TPSS 200 or NREM 210 or consent

Contact hours: One 75 minutes lecture/discussion combined

Cross-listed Courses: TPSS 311 and NREM 311

Catalogue Description:
Provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of topics of current relevance to students preparing for careers in these fields. (Oral focus designation)

Modification:
New course

Justification:
The course develops oral communication skills needed by students in their academic coursework, interpersonal activities, and future careers. The course will apply for an Oral Focus designation to satisfy the UHM General Education Focus core requirement.

Sample syllabus:

15 class meetings per semester.

1. Principles of communication (intent, content, organization, delivery)
2. Preparing and using visual aids
3. Facilitating/participating in group discussions
4. Student presentations on topics of campus or community interest related to their major.
5. Q&A: Are you asking what you think you’re asking?
6. “Radio Talk Show” Call in on current issues.
7. Interviewing – where you ask the questions (and prepare an oral summary)
8. The business presentation: persuasion, sales, motivation
9. The scientific presentation: lectures, informing, summarizing a journal article
10. Student presentations (videotaped)
11. Critiquing the presentations of others
12. Principles of debate
13. Debate on current issues (videotaped)
14. A bit of memory – recitation and poems -- students
15. What have we learned/ How can we improve?