



## Challenge 2050: Creating Solutions

ALS 4419, 1 credit, Fall Semester

### Course Instructor:

Dr. Matthew Sowcik

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**Office Hours:** Since this is an online course – we have set up two different options. We will be hosting weekly office hours (please see announcements for dates/times) and you can make an appointment (Meeting face-to-face and over online conference tools)

### Course Overview

This course creates a capstone experience for the Global Challenge Certificate. Throughout this course, students will demonstrate and apply knowledge, skills, and dispositions in assigned transdisciplinary teams. Students will complete a comprehensive proposal for a developmental initiative focused on addressing the 2050 Challenge of sustaining a global population.

Initiatives can include, but are not limited to policy recommendations to state or federal legislature, white papers for agencies such as the World Health Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization, World Bank, or major innovations in the field of agricultural and life sciences and related fields. This course is a direct reflection of the “real work, for real problems, for real people” concept and is a critical part of the challenge-based authentic learning approach.

### Course Objectives

Given participation in the course, students will have the opportunity to engage in the mastery of the following objectives:

- 1) Gain experiential knowledge associated with the process of accomplishing strategic goals with interdisciplinary classmates
- 2) Recognize how completion of a developed action has tangible value and community-level application
- 3) Explore adaptive challenges and advance adaptive capacity for the development and implementation of solutions associated with global population fluctuation
- 4) Develop confidence and commitment for community and global leadership

### Course Structure

Progression through this course is self-directed with instructor led parameters. Students will formally meet every Wednesday to plan, develop, and execute their transdisciplinary projects. Instructors will facilitate team building and leadership development efforts while serving as a resource during this process. Students will leave this course with a comprehensive Challenge 2050 project that can be advanced to the One World Competition.

### In The Current Times:

Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera

off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

### Course Materials

- Knapp, J., Zeratsky, J., & Kowitz, B. (2016). *Sprint: How to solve big problems and test new ideas in just five days*. Simon and Schuster.
- Appropriate resources targeting the development of team projects will be provided throughout the semester.

### Course Requirements

*Attendance* - The course is designed to encourage active learning, therefore being present in class is extremely important. Students will receive  $\frac{1}{4}$  (25%) of their grade for showing up to class prepared to discuss their ideas and the information from the course.

*Ask the Experts & Video* - You will need to locate two experts on the topic (one must be from UF) and conduct a 30 minute to hour long interview with both. Next you will be creating a video addressing the key themes and learnings that occurred in both interviews. More will be explained in class. This will also be  $\frac{1}{4}$  (25%) of your grade.

*Additional Homework* - You will be asked to complete approximately a dozen smaller deliverables that will be marked complete/incomplete. This will also be  $\frac{1}{4}$  (25%) of your grade.

*Final Project Video* - You will be creating a submission video for the end of the course. This will also be  $\frac{1}{4}$  (25%) of your grade.

### Course Grading Scale:

A 93.4-100 %	A- 90-93.3%	B+ 86.7-89.9 %	B 83.4-86.6 %
B- 80-83.3 %	C+ 76.7-79.9 %	C 73.4-76.6 %	C- 70-73.3 %
D+ 66.7-69.9 %	D 63.4-66.6 %	D- 60-63.3 %	E <60.0 %

University of Florida Grade & Grade Points Policy can be found at:  
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx#grades>.

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester. Students will be given specific times when the evaluations are available. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

### Course Policies:

**E-Learning:** All students are expected to check E-Learning (<http://lss.at.ufl.edu>) on a regular basis. Please ensure that you have access to this service. Grades are posted here.

**Academic Integrity: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.**

In the fall of 1995, the UF student body enacted a new honor code and voluntarily committed itself to the highest standards of honesty and integrity (See UF Rule [6C1-4.017](#)). Students are required to be honest in all of their university class work. Faculty members have a duty to promote ethical behavior and avoid practices and environments that foster cheating. Faculty should encourage students to bring incidents of dishonesty to their attention. A faculty member, in certain circumstances, can resolve an academic dishonesty matter without a student disciplinary hearing. The procedures and guidelines are available from the [Student Guide](#). All students at the University of Florida have pledged, *On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment* (2014-2015 Undergraduate Catalog).

**Software Use:** All UF faculty, staff and students are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

**Campus Helping Resources:**

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

**Health and Wellness**

*U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

*Counseling and Wellness Center:* [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

*Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

*University Police Department:* [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

*UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

**Academic Resources**

*E-learning technical support:* Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

*Career Connections Center:* Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

*Library Support:* Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

*Teaching Center:* Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

*Writing Studio:* 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

*Student Complaints On-Campus:* [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.](#)

*On-Line Students Complaints:* [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process.](#)

### **Services for Students with Disabilities:**

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Students should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)

## **Course Schedule**

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>Week 1</b>	<b>8-31</b>	<b>Intro and Class Setup</b>
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>9-7</b>	<b>Preparing for the SPRINT</b>
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>9-14</b>	<b>Preparing for the SPRINT</b>
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>9-21</b>	<b>Monday Morning</b>
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>9-28</b>	<b>Monday Morning Continued</b>
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>10-5</b>	<b>Monday Afternoon</b>
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>10-12</b>	<b>Tuesday Morning</b>
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>10-19</b>	<b>Tuesday Afternoon</b>
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>10-26</b>	<b>Wednesday Morning</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>11-2</b>	<b>Wednesday Afternoon</b>
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>11-9</b>	<b>Thursday Morning</b>
<b>Week 12</b>	<b>11-16</b>	<b>Thursday Afternoon</b>

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>Week 13</b>	<b>11-23</b>	<b>Friday Morning/Afternoon</b>
<b>Week 14</b>	<b>11-30</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>
<b>Week 15</b>	<b>12-7</b>	<b>Final Presentation</b>