1. COURSE SYLLABUS OF

Introduction to Theory and Scientific Work

Accad. year 2011/12

2. PROFESSOR	Scandellari Francesca	**3. ECTS CREDITS**	3
OFFICE	Building E, Room 220	**SCIENTIFIC FIELD**	....
E-MAIL ADDRESS	....	**OFFICE PHONE**	0471-017 121
WEB PAGE	http://www.unibz.it/en/sciencetechnology/welcome/default.html		
COURSE PAGE	http://www.unibz.it/en/sciencetechnology/progs/master/fruitscience/default.html		
4. COURSE HOURS		**LECTURES**	16
		EXERCISES AND LABS	15
		OTHERS	
5. STUDY PROGRAMME	International Master of Fruit Science	**6. MAJOR IN**	.....
7. YEAR	1st	**SEMESTER**	1st
8. PROGRAMME STATUS	Compulsory	**9. COURSE LANGUAGE**	English
10. DESCRIPTION	Lectures will focus on history, development and practice of the scientific method, and on the tools available for researchers and technicians. Case studies will be provided. Classical and up-to-date texts and documents will be discussed in class. The course will be highly interactive with students being involved in the discussions and experiencing first-hand the concepts covered during classes. The course will have outcomes useful both for students willing to focus on scientific research and for those that will prefer careers in project planning, management and appraisal of fruit production systems.		
11. TEACHING FORMAT and ORGANIZA-TION	The course is based on lectures and practical activities, with topics presented by the professor and discussed within the class. Power Point presentations will generally be available in the course reserve collection database of the Faculty. Additional material will be provided by the professor.		

12. LEARNING OUTCOMES	By the end of the course, students will be able to: 1) understand the nature of science and the values involved in the practice of science, with special emphasis on horticultural research; 2) plan and perform scientific research; 3) communicate and publish the result of their own scientific or technical work; 4) use the web-based tools available for scientific research; 5) critically read scientific publications.
13. TOPICS	The course will cover the following topics: 1. Short history of scientific method 2. Scientific theories: definition, use, how to reject 3. Planning and performing the scientific research 4. Mention to experimental design 5. Experimental variability 6. Cooperation and competition in the scientific society 7. Written and oral dissemination of technical and scientific results 8. Bibliographic tools
14. BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY	• E.D. Ford. Scientific Method for Ecological Research. 2000. Cambridge University Press, UK. • Other material provided or suggested during the course
15. ELIGIBILITY	None
16. RECOMMAN-DATIONS	none
17. STUDENT ASSESSMENT	Students will be evaluated mainly on the basis of the activities performed during the course. The possibility to take a final exam will be granted to students who have not accomplished at least 70% of the exercises and activities proposed during the semester.