

The Martian – “Bring Him Home – Save Mark Watney”

IDH 2930
Course Syllabus

Professor:

Dr. Mark Law

mlaw@honors.ufl.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description:

Mark Watney is stranded on Mars with no hope for rescue for over a year. His story is laid out in “The Martian” a book filled with fascinating science and a compelling story. How much of that science is true? Is the engineering possible? Why does this story work so well? Why is disco so annoying? At what cost do we save a life? How many do you risk to save one? What are the realities of a Mars Mission?

Rich Purnell is a steely-eyed missile man.

This will be a discussion oriented class with student led discussion and presentations. Students will need to prepare a presentation on a topic related to the book.

Attendance:

Attendance is expected.

Assignments:

Presentation 60%

Class Participation 40%

UF Grading Policies:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Course Accommodations:

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

UF Honor Pledge:

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: ‘On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.’ The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or student teacher in this class.”

Course Evaluations:

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, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Disclaimer: This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.