

Plants and Society
EBIO 2590, Fall 2007
Lecture Ramaley N183; M,W 10-10:50
Lab Ramaley C231, 10-11:50
Dr. Nichole Barger, Instructor
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Office Hours: Ramaley N285, Wednesdays 11-1

Course Objectives

The goal in this course is to acquaint students with plant groups that play an important role in human survival, well-being, and quality of life. We will explore a range of topics which will include the evolving relationship between humans and plants as food sources, medicines, beverages, and the range of commercially important plant products such as woods and fibers. In this course, we will explore these themes through a range of classroom activities that will include lectures in addition to field trips, laboratory exploration of the different plant groups, group research projects, research presentations, and in-class discussion of relevant readings. The learning goal in this course is to build an appreciation of the vital role plants play in our everyday life and come to recognize the major plant groups and their uses.

Grading and Policies:

Exam 1: 20% (15% exam, 5% revisions)

Take Home Exam 2: 20%

Group Project Presentation: 10%

Research Paper: 20%

Laboratory and Fieldtrip Participation: 20%

Seminar Participation: 10%

Special Note on Participation—I hope to increase your learning and long-term retention of the topics covered this semester by conducting a range of activities that accommodate different learning styles. As a result, student participation in the laboratory, on field trips, and in-class discussions will contribute to 30% of your final grade. Since grading participation may be a highly qualitative and subsequently difficult task, I will grade participation in a different way than many other courses. The overall course participation grade will be based on: 1) self-evaluations and 2) peer evaluations. For the self-evaluations, I ask that you keep a “learning journal” throughout the semester. This journal will contain all your written assignments and notes documenting your participation. In this journal you should discuss your contributions in class, specific knowledge and skills you have obtained with each assignment, and how the things you have learned may apply to your life or how information from this course may have changed your views. At the end of the semester I will have you turn in your journal along with a 1-2 page “self evaluation” of your progress throughout the semester. I have provided a handout describing what the final self evaluation should look like, which also provides tips on writing the evaluation and the information that should go into the evaluation. These two components (quality of the learning journal and the

self evaluation) in addition to my overall impression of your participation throughout the semester will lead to your final participation grade.

Required Text:

Economic Botany Plants: In Our World, 3rd Edition. Simpson, B.B. and Ogorzaly, M.C. McGraw-Hill Higher Education.

I have not ordered this book through the bookstore since it can be found used and new at much lower prices at amazon.com. Additional readings will be sent electronically or handed out during class.

Disability Policy:

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices

Disability Services' letters for students with disabilities indicate legally mandated reasonable accommodations. The syllabus statements and answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found at www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices

Policy on religious observances:

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. If you foresee any conflicts with this class schedule, please see me at the beginning of the semester to make arrangements. See full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Classroom Behavior Policy:

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at

<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

Policy on Discrimination and Harassment:

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html>, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual

Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships applies to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>

Student Honor Code:

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

EBIO 2590 Class Schedule- Fall 2007

Date	Day of the Week	Lecture or Activity	Readings	Assignments
Aug. 27	M	Class introduction		
		BASIC PLANT BIOLOGY		
Aug. 29	W	Introduction to Plant Biology; Diversity and Evolution	Chapter 1	
Aug. 31	F	Campus Tour and CU Museum		
Sep. 3	M	No class, Labor Day		
Sep. 5	W	Introduction to Plant Biology; Vegetative & Reproductive Morphology	Chapter 1	Assign seminar groups
Sep. 7	F	Lab: Greenhouse Tour		
		PLANTS AS FOOD SOURCES		
Sep. 10	M	Origins of Agriculture	Chapter 2	Assign project groups
Sep. 12	W	Foods from Leaves, Stems, and Roots	Chapter 7	
Sep. 14	F	Organic Farm Field Trip		
Sep. 17	M	Seminar on Origins of Agriculture	TBA	
Sep. 19	W	Fruit and Nuts of Warm Regions	Chapter 4	
Sep. 21	F	Lab: Fruit and Nuts Lab		
Sep. 24	M	Fruits and Nuts of Temperate Region	Chapter 3	
Sep. 26	W	Cereal Grains and Forage Grasses	Chapter 5	
Sep. 28	F	Lab: Grains and Forage Grasses		
Oct. 1	M	Legumes	Chapter 6	
Oct. 3	W	Seminar: Future of Agriculture- New Crops, Genetic Engineering, Integrated Pest Management	TBA	Submit exam questions and answers
Oct. 5	F	Lab: Legumes		
		BEVERAGES FROM PLANTS		
Oct. 8	M	In-class exam		
Oct. 10	W	Alcoholic Beverages: Fermentation, Wine, Beer Distillation	Chapter 13, 14	
Oct. 12	F	Fieldtrip: Local Brewery		Group Project Proposals Due
Oct. 15	M	Seminar	TBA	Exam revisions due
Oct. 17	W	Stimulating Beverages: Tea, Coffee and Chocolate		
Oct. 19	F	Fieldtrip: Peet's Coffee & Tea		
		ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT PLANT PRODUCTS		
Oct. 22	M	Wood Cork and Bamboo	Chapter 16	
Oct. 24	W	Fibers, Dyes, and Tannins	Chapter	

			15	
Oct. 26	F	Lab: Tree Ring Lab		
Oct. 29	M	Vegetables Oils and Waxes	9	
Oct. 31	W	Hydrogels, Elastic Latexes, and Resins	10	
Nov. 2	F	Lab:Guest Speaker on Fibers, Dyes, and Tannins		
		PLANTS AND HUMANS- THE SENSES AND ALTERATION OF CONSCIOUSNESS		
Nov. 5	M	Smell-Spices, Herbs and Perfumes	Chapter 8	
Nov. 7	W	Sight-Ornamental Plants	Chapter 17	
Nov. 9	F	Lab: Herbs and Spices		
Nov. 12	M	Medicinal Plants	Chapter 11	
Nov. 14	W	Alteration of Consciousness- Psychoactive Drugs and Poisons from Plants	Chapter 12	
Nov. 16	F	Lab: EBIO Writing Lab		
Nov. 19	M	No Class- Fall Break		
Nov. 21	W	No Class- Fall Break		
Nov. 23	F	No Class-Fall break		
Nov. 26	M	DVD: Shaman's Apprentice		Take home exam given out
Nov. 28	W	Seminar		
Nov. 30	F	Fieldtrip to be chosen by class		
Dec. 3	M	Final Lecture		Take home exam due
Dec. 5	W	Research Presentations		
Dec. 7	F	Research Presentations		
Dec. 10	M	Research Presentations		
Dec. 12	W	Research Presentations		
Dec. 14	F	Last Day – Class Potluck Self Evaluation Meetings		Final paper due

