Plant Biology
Spring 2024

Class Time and Location: Lecture, **TR** 8:30 PM – 9:15 PM, Room # Spencer 229
Lab, **R 1**2:30 PM- 2:00 PM Room # Spencer 229

Instructor: Krishna Nath, Ph.D., M.Sc., B.Ed.
Office and Contact Information: Room # Spencer 238; Phone 394-7622 ext 1336
Email: knath@uarichmountain.edu **Office Hours:** Posted on the office door

RESOURCES:
Lecture Text: *Botany: An Introduction to Plant Biology, 6th ed.*; James D. Mauseth. ISBN: 9781284077537
Laboratory Manual: *Exercises for the Botany Laboratory, 2nd ed*; Joel A. Kazmierski ISBN: 9781617314087

FOOD & DRINK: Food and drinks, including water are not allowed in the classroom at any time.

ChatGPT and AI policy: The use of ChatGPT or any other AI program to generate your work in any manner is strictly prohibited in this class and constitutes academic dishonesty. This action will be subject to the penalties of the academic dishonesty policy.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools: Students are turning to artificial intelligence (AI) more and more in the world of education. Common tools include Grammarly, ChatGPT, and Bard, to name a few. It is important that students understand the limitations, biases, and inaccuracies that come with using and/or relying on AI tools and platforms. Even if a student were fortunate enough to escape the penalties for plagiarism, using AI tools to produce writings that are inaccurate, biased, and/or limited in scope would still not yield a desirable grade. Ultimately, the student is responsible for ensuring that his/her writing is original, accurate, and complete.

Review and use the guidelines below to help navigate the ethical and appropriate uses of AI tools in this class. Check the syllabus and with the instructor for each course in which you are enrolled. For more information, review the Academic Dishonesty slides posted in Blackboard.

Appropriate uses for AI tools:	Inappropriate uses for AI platforms:
• Copying and pasting a description or assignment and asking AI to rephrase or explain the concept to you in a different way • Asking AI to provide an example of a particular aspect of writing (e.g., a thesis statement, an introduction, a conclusion, a body paragraph, etc.) • Copying and pasting your original compositions and soliciting feedback from AI regarding clarity and/or organization • Asking AI to generate a list of common reasons for or against a particular issue • Using AI tools to identify grammatical and mechanical errors for revising • Requesting statistical information for use in research (remember to evaluate the source and cite both the AI tool and the original source in your assignment) • Acknowledging the use of AI tools in your Works Cited pages	• Asking AI to write you an essay on (insert prompt here) • Asking AI to rephrase something written by another person and passing it off your own • Asking AI to provide you with a list of quotes from a text to use in your essay because you didn't read the assigned text • Assuming that AI-generated results are accurate, objective, or complete • Using AI tools to generate source citations that are inappropriate for your discipline • Using AI tools to falsify sources

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides a study of plant biology involving aspects of ecology, structure and function, growth, and reproduction of vascular and nonvascular plants. This course also includes botanical terminology, taxonomy, and natural history of the major plant groups. Laboratory is an integral part of this course and participation is required for successful completion of this course. **ACTS Course # BIOL 1034**

PROGRAM OUTCOME and Rationale: The purpose of the Associate of Arts Program is to provide students with the knowledge and critical thinking skills that will enable students to analyze problems, arrive at intelligent conclusions, and make reasoned choices in their professional and personal lives.

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of physical and biological principles.
- Students will apply technological and research skills to identify, locate, and process information.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the diversity in societies and cultures.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon successful completion of Botany, the student should be able to do the following:

- Illustrate the steps of the scientific method including their role in scientific problem solving.
- Apply the use of a light microscope to the observation of botanical specimens and their parts.
- Review the components of a typical cell to their function in the cell.
- Compare the reactions of photosynthesis and cellular respiration including where there occur.
- Differentiate the structure and function of various plant tissue types including the vascular tissues.
- Illustrate the relationship of roots, stems, and leaves of a functional vascular plant.
- Distinguish between mitosis and meiosis.
- Distinguish between the typical life cycle of non-vascular and vascular plants.
- Discuss the reproductive strategies employed by plants.
- Describe the relationship between Mendelian genetics and evolution.
- Define a biological species including how a botanist would present a new species.
- Describe the major plant groups in the current taxonomical system used to classify plants.
- Summarize the relationships that exist between plants and their environment.
- Use references, such as dichotomous keys, to identify unknown plants to genus and species.
- Collect, preserve, mount, and properly label a collection of botanical specimens for presentation.

LECTURE AND EXAM SCHEDULE

Week	Topic
1-4	Discuss syllabus and Pre-test and Introduction of plant biology. Ch1 Introduction to Plant and Botany Ch2 Overview of Plant Life Ch3 Cel Structure
Test 1	**2/15 R**
5-8	Ch 4 Growth and Division of the cell Ch 5 Tissues and Primary Growth of Stems Ch 6 Leaves
Test 2 (Mid-term)	**3/12 T**
9-12 ***3/18-3/22 (Spring break)***	Ch 7 Roots Ch 8 Structure of Woody Plants Ch 9 Flowers and Reproduction
Test 3	**4/9 W**
13-16 ***May 24-26 (NAPA conference)***	Ch10 Energy Metabolism: Photosynthesis Ch11 Energy Metabolism: Cellular Respiration Ch 12Transport Processes
Test 4	**5/ 2 T**
Test 5 (Final Exam)	**5/ 7 T**

Disclaimer: The information contained in this syllabus is as accurate as possible, but may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice. The schedule and content of lectures and assignments may be changed at the discretion of the instructor upon oral notification in class. Changes may involve additions, deletions, substitutions, or changes in sequence or due date.

(BIO224) General Botany
Laboratory Syllabus
Spring, 2024
M 12:30-2:00 in Spencer 229

Laboratory Outline: These laboratory activities are tentative. Toward the end of the semester, weather will predict laboratory activities, which is why several may be listed.

Exercise #	Topics
1	Microscopes and Plant Cell Structure
2	Cell Division and Tissue Types
3	Stems: Herbaceous plants
4	Stems: Woody Plants; First Identification lab
6	Leaves
5 & 6	Roots; Aspects of Classification
14	Flowering Plants: Flowers
15	Flowering Plants: Seeds and Fruits
13	Conifers; Issue plant presses; introduction to collection; using dichotomous keys; library resources; Identification Lab
12	Ferns / Identification Lab
10 &11	Non-vascular and Primitive Vascular Plants / Identification Lab
7	Algae / Field Trip / Identification Lab
8	Fungi / Field Trip / Identification Lab
9	Fungi / Field Trip / Identification Lab
	Final Exam, Will be decided after final exam schedule will be released

COURSE CONDUCT: Classroom presentation is basically of the lecture-demonstration type. Lecture will be over pre-assigned chapters with powerpoints delivered as a visual aid. This will be supplemented with various scientific models, representative specimens, supplemental handouts, and special projects. Students should **TAKE NOTES** and are expected to **STUDY** beyond the lab and classroom and manage their time to develop good study habits for this course.

LABORATORY CONDUCT: The laboratory consists of a series of hands-on exercises that are designed to reinforce some of the principles covered in lecture. Labs will also introduce the student to some common laboratory equipment and Good Laboratory Practices. Students are expected to follow the instructor's direction and comply with the Rules of the Laboratory. Lab exercises are assigned beforehand and it is expected that you **read the material BEFORE coming to class**. Labs are designed to be investigative and will require critical thinking skills to analyze results of experiments.

UARM CREDIT HOUR CALCULATOR: For every course credit hour, you should expect to spend at least three clock hours per week of concentrated attention on course-related work, including but not limited to time attending class, as well as out-of-class time spent reading, reviewing, organizing notes, preparing for upcoming quizzes/exams, problem solving, developing and completing homework, and other activities that enhance learning. For a three hour course, a typical student should expect to spend at least nine hours per week dedicated to the course. This includes the time spent in class.

Course Requirements / Evaluation for Lecture: Evaluation of student performance in the course will be based on the followings. However, each student needs to be graded independently for Lecture & Lab, respectively.

1. Three exam (Exam 1, 3, 4)	3 @ 50 points each	= 150 points
2. Ten Quizzes/Assignments	10 @ 20 points each	= 200 points
3. One Mid-term (exam 2)	1 @ 100 points each	= 100 points
4. One Final Exam (Exam 5)	1 @ 150 points	= 150 points
Total points		**= 600**

Course Requirements / Evaluation for Lab: Evaluation of student performance in the course will be based on the followings. However, each student needs to be graded independently for Lecture & Lab, respectively.

1. Lab activities:	10 @ 10 points each	= 100 points
2. Final Exam:	1 @ 100 points	= 100 points
Total points		**= 200**

GRADING SCALE:

A = 100 - 90%
B = 89 - 80%
C = 79 - 70%
D = 69 - 60%
F = 59% or lower

EXAMS: Exam dates are given in the syllabus and students are required to take all the tests offered. Exam questions will be taken from lecture notes, laboratory exercises, discussion, audiovisuals, handouts, textbook and other assignments. Many exam questions will require use of this material and critical thinking to conclude the answer. Exams may include all or any combination of the following

types of questions: multiple choice, true/false, short-answer, fill-in-the blank, draw and label, matching, and short answer.

LAB activities and QUIZZES – Approximately 10 lab activities or quizzes will be given throughout the semester during laboratory periods. The quizzes will consist of questions related to laboratory exercises performed, assigned readings, and related lecture information. These quizzes will be administered in class, and in some cases your lab work will be turned in in lieu of the quiz.

FIELD TRIPS – Two field trips will be scheduled in the second half of the semester to give students the opportunity to see the diversity of plants we are covering in their native habitat. These field trips may also be used as an opportunity to collect a few plants to add to their collection. Students are expected to dress accordingly, and bring their notebook and collecting supplies.

PLANT COLLECTION: A plant collection will be made employing techniques consistent with those utilized by professional botanists in preparation of herbarium specimens. The collection will consist of 10-30 plants from some important families. Points will be awarded according to identification, labeling, quality and curation of the specimens. Requirements and details for the collection will be discussed further and outlined in a handout.

You need to write a technical report on plants species found in Mena, AR.

Make-up Policy: A student who misses an assignment because of an officially sanctioned college activity or those with a documented excuse for their absence, will be permitted to make up the assignment or test without penalty. Others may also make up missed exams but will be penalized 20% for each occurrence. Any deviation from this policy will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Additional Information: Food and drinks are not permitted in the classroom and laboratory. Please make sure that your cell phone and any other electronic devices are turned off (or to a non-sound mode) during the class session. **Place all such devices out on the desktop**.

Disability Policy: It is the policy of UARM to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to state and federal law. Any student with a disability who needs accommodations should contact the Vice President for Student Affairs Office, 394-7622 ext.1400.

Title IX and Discrimination Policy: UA Rich Mountain adheres to a policy that enables all individuals regardless of race, color, gender, national origin, age, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, or disability, to work and study in an environment unfettered by discriminatory behavior or acts. Harassment of an individual or group will not be condoned, and any person (student, faculty, of staff member) who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Harassment that is considered discriminatory includes actions or conduct (verbal, graphic, gestural, or written) directed against any person or group with the intent to demean or create a hostile or threatening environment. It is not the intent of this policy to infringe upon or limit educational, scholarly, or artistic expression. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against should contact the Title IX Coordinator to obtain assistance and information concerning the filing of a complaint.

Face mask policy: Students are encouraged but not required to wear face masks in class and public spaces.

Attendance Policy: For attendance purposes, a student who is displaying symptoms of illness must email: contact.tracing@uarichmountain.edu to determine next steps for an excused absence related to COVID or flu. Contacting an instructor **DOES NOT** start this process or guarantee an excused absence.

Arkansas Clean Air Act: In compliance with the Arkansas Clean Air Act, UARM is a smoke and tobacco free facility. Students are to refrain from the use of all tobacco products while on campus.

Student Misconduct: Students committing misconduct are subject to disciplinary sanction(s) and or restrictions. Misconduct or prohibited behavior includes, but is not limited to endangerment, harassment, disruption, sexual misconduct, dishonesty, illegal drugs and/or alcohol, fire or safety issues, gambling, property violations, computer violations or other violations as listed in detail in the UARM catalog.

Campus Security: UA Rich Mountain strives to provide a safe learning environment; therefore, students who know of any security risk are asked to contact a college official. For more information follow this link and look under Health and Safety: http://www.uarichmountain.edu/at-a-glance/disclosures

UA Rich Mountain Mission: UA Rich Mountain provides transformative education to all learners

Credit Hour Requirement Calculator

Course Information

Department, Course Number		Biological Science	BIO224
Course Title	Botany		
Credit Hours	4		
Mode of Delivery	Traditional		Lecture/Lab
Weeks in Part of Term	15		
Level of Reading Material	Advanced/Scientific/Technical (2)		2
Reading Level of Students	Average Student (2)		2
Average Pages per Hour	11		

Enter either week or term, not both

Contact Hours	**Hours/Week**	**Hours/Term**	**Total Hours**
Lecture/Recitation	3		45
Lab Contact Hours	2		30

Syllabus Items	**Pages Asg'd**	**Hours/Week**	**Hours/Term**	
Reading Lecture Material	500		45.5	45.5
Review Questions			10	10
Reading Lab Assignment	100		18.2	9.1
Plant Collection			12	12
Reviewing lecture material for exams			5	5
				0
				0

Total Hours	156.6
Required Hours	150
Difference	Ok + 6.6