Botany (Biology 1411) Syllabus
Summer I 2019
Dr. Bonnie Amos

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Course Description: This is a survey of life characteristics of the plant-like and fungi-like protists, plants, and fungi.

Student Learning Outcomes: The learning outcomes for this course include:
- Identification of the cells, tissues, and organs that make up a multicellular plant or fungus body.
- Explanation of how structures are related to function and how they allow organisms to carry on fundamental life processes in different environments.
- Determination of the major characteristics of the phyla (=divisions) of plant-like and fungi-like protists in the Kingdom Protista and the characteristics of members of the Kingdom Plantae, and Kingdom Fungi (Myxomycota).
- Investigation of the relatedness among these groups and their major evolutionary pathways.
- Recognition of the importance of plants and fungi in human ecology.

Meeting Time and Place: Lecture: 10-11:50am, MTWR, Cavness 123: Lab: 12-2:50pm, TWR, Cavness 116 and 123.


Final Grade: There will be two components to the final grade. The lecture grade will be determined by the average of four lecture exams. The lab average will be based on scores for three lab practices and the average of ten post quizzes. Lecture will count for 75% of your final grade (final average x 0.75) and lab will contribute 25% of your grade (final average x 0.25). The two percentages will be summed to determine the course grade. Grades will be assigned based on the following scale: 89.5-100%=A, 79.5-89.4%=B, 69.5-79.4%=C, 59.5-69.4%=D, below 59.4%=F. No exceptions.

Lecture Instruction and Extra Points: Lecture, class discussion, and reading assignments will be used. Lectures will be delivered via PowerPoint; PowerPoints will be available on Blackboard. Study guides, practice quizzes and worksheets, and links to helpful web sites are also available on Blackboard. Exams 1-4 will be a combination of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, true/false, and
short answer questions. Exams 1-4 are each worth 100 points. You have the option of taking a multiple-choice Comprehensive Final Exam which is also worth 100 points; the grade on this exam can be used to replace your lowest exam score. If your grade on the Optional Comprehensive Exam is lower than your scores on exam 1-4, the grade will not replace another exam grade nor will it be used in your final grade calculations. Questions for each exam will be taken from lectures and from reading assignments. You will need a #2 pencil for each exam.

No make-up exams will be given. If you miss one of the first four exams, you must take the Optional Comprehensive Final Exam. Your grade on the Comprehensive Exam will replace the 0 for the missed exam. For example, if your exam scores for exams 1-4 are 90, 0, 80, 70 and you make a 75 on the Comprehensive Exam the 0 will become a 75. You will only be allowed to “make-up” one exam during the semester by substituting it with a grade from the Optional Comprehensive Final Exam.

Post Exam Reviews: A part of each scheduled class period after exams 1-3 will be used to discuss the questions on the exam. During the review you will have an opportunity to check my calculations in determining your grade, get guidance as to how to evaluate and answer questions, and clarify your understanding of information covered on the exam. You are NOT permitted to record/copy the questions. However, I will keep the exams on file in my office and you may make an appointment with me to study them. If you attend and participate in the exam review (i.e. pay attention, ask questions, don’t work on other assignments) you will earn 2 points which will be added to that exam score.

Lab Instruction and Extra Points: Most labs will consist of self-paced exercises. Before each lab you are to do three things: read/study a Blackboard pre-lab exercise (required), take a quiz over the pre-lab exercise (optional), and bring either a hardcopy or electronic version of the appropriate lab exercise with you to lab (required).

Lab Practicals: There will be a total of 300 points from three 100-point lab practicals. All practicals will begin at 12pm during your regularly scheduled lab period. In cases of an excused university absence or illness you must contact me prior to your scheduled lab practice to arrange for a make-up, otherwise, no make-up will be available.

Pre-lab Reading Assignments and Pre-lab Quizzes: You may take each pre-lab quiz as many times as you wish, unless otherwise instructed; your highest grade will be recorded. The purpose of these are to provide you with background information that will help you understand the lab better and work more effectively during the scheduled time. The pre-lab quizzes are not required; however, if you take ALL of the pre-lab quizzes and have a 70% or higher average on your final pre-lab quiz average, you will earn 50 points which will be added to your total lab points (i.e. before the average calculation). NOTE: you are NOT allowed to take a pre-lab quiz with any form of help from another student; this is dishonest and will be dealt with as such.

Post-Lab Quizzes: Another 100 points will be based on an average of 10 individual 100-point post lab quizzes. Quizzes will be given at the beginning of lab in CAV123; no make-ups will be given
nor will questions be repeated for latecomers. At least twelve post-lab quizzes will be given; your ten best scores will be used to compute your average.

**Attendance and Participation:** I will take roll each class period. I expect you to be present and on time for all classes and labs. I also expect you to be an active participant in every class. If I see that you are working on homework for another class, studying for another course, or using an electronic device for purposes other than botany, I will ask you to leave the classroom or lab.