Instructor

Dr. Bonnie Amos
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Office Hours
Virtual office hours are available MW 10am-1pm via email or Blackboard Collaborate and face-to-face by appointment. I will be in my office most Tuesday and Thursdays from 10:45am to 12:30pm.

Course Information

Course Description
Medical Botany explores the importance, value and cultural impact of plants/fungi and plant/fungi-derived compounds. The course focuses on medicinal, poisonous, hallucinogenic chemical compounds and examples of species that produce them. The history, origin and use of plants/fungi for food or pleasure are also investigated.

Prerequisite Courses
Principles of Biology I and II.

Prerequisite Skills
Accessing Internet websites and proficiency with Blackboard and PowerPoint are required.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Identify the features that make plants valuable to humans.
2. Discuss the human history of plant uses.
3. Discuss how plants and plant science affected the development of medicine, culture and society.
4. Examine the major medicinal plants to include their features, history, and effectiveness.
5. Examine the psychoactive drugs and poisons obtained from plants.
6. Explore plant products that provide pleasure to humans.
7. Examine the origin of agriculture, the major food plants and how they have affected human population growth and earth ecosystems

**Course Delivery**
This is a hybrid course offering a combination of face-to-face presentations and recorded lectures and videos that will be delivered via Blackboard.

**Required Texts and Materials**
There is no textbook for this course; however, reading assignments and supplemental materials will be posted on Blackboard.

**Technology Requirements**

**Communication**
I will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to me, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

Office hours and/or advising will be done with assistance by telephone, email, Collaborate or office visit by appointment.

**Grading**

**Evaluation and Grades**
Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting student learning outcomes.

**Grading System**
The following grading scale is in use for this course:
- A = 89.5-100 points
- B = 79.5-89.4 points
- C = 69.5-79.4 points
- D = 59.5-69.4 points
Assignment and Activity Descriptions

Lectures are delivered in class via Powerpoint and will also be available on Blackboard. In addition, a video of the lecture, along with study guides, reading assignments, lecture schedule and links to helpful web sites are available on Blackboard.

Lecture Exams
There will be four 100-point exams. Each exam will consist of some combination of fill-in-the blank, matching, true-false, short answer or essay format questions. Additional information concerning the exam format will be given during class prior to each exam. Most of the exam questions will be taken from lecture material; however, some questions will come from reading assignments and videos. All exams will be administered in the classroom.

Extra Credit Opportunity
You may earn as many as 25 points added to your final combined points (= points added before calculation of the final average) by preparing and presenting a 12-minute presentation (end of the semester, dates to be determined by the number of presenters). You select the topic (remember...this is a plant course, so the focus must be on the plant). The topic you select can address a particular species (i.e. medicinal properties of elderberry or *Boswellia serrata*) or a review of plants used for a specific medicinal purpose (i.e. plant aromas that aid sleep or inflammation and plant drugs). You can also report on a new plant species found to have potential as either a medicinal or food plant (i.e. What is the plant species? What feature of the plant makes it potentially useful? Why is this feature important?). I will be glad to discuss other selections with you. If you elect to take advantage of this opportunity, you must send me an email with:

1. the title of your presentation,
2. a brief description of what you will be addressing, and
3. three peer reviewed literature citations with information about your plant/topic

**before** Monday noon, February 22nd. Since each student's presentation must be on a different topic, it would be to your advantage to send me your information as soon as possible. The first person to send me his/her email with the required elements officially claims that topic. Additional information about the presentation and attendance at the presentations is available on Blackboard.
Attendance
Roll will be taken at the first of every class period using a seating chart. I expect you to be on time and present for each and every class. If you are tardy to class (i.e. after I have checked roll), it is your responsibility to give me a note with your name and the date at the end of that day’s class so I can correct my attendance records. At the end of the semester if you have 1 or no absences, I will add one point to your final average.

General Policies Related to This Course
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:
- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog

Academic Integrity
Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:
Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Title IX at Angelo State University

The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a
Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Miller, J.D.
Special Assistant to the President and Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-486-6357
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

**Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students**
As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy[i] to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

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1 angelo.blackboard.com