Instructor: Dr. Donald B. Pratt  
Department of Biology  
111 Miller Science  
468-2038; prattdb@sfasu.edu

Text:  
*Biology of Plants*, 8th edition, by Raven, Evert, and Eichorn

Meeting Time: T R 11:00-12:15, 137 Miller Science

Office Hours: MTWRF 10:00-10:50 AM  
or by appointment

Course Description:  
Introduction to the fundamental principles of botany and plant sciences. Topics include the study of plant form, function, reproduction, and an overview of plant diversity including bryophytes, ferns, and seed plants.

Program Learning Outcomes:  
Each course objective and student learning outcome listed below corresponds to the Biology Department PLO 1 to develop knowledge of biological concepts.

Course Objectives:
1. To introduce students to the basic features of plant cells with a specific emphasis on plant specific organelles, including an introduction to plant tissues.
2. To introduce students to the basic morphology, anatomy, and function of plant roots, stems, and leaves
3. To provide students with an understanding of plant physiological processes, with a special emphasis on photosynthesis, the light reactions, the Calvin Cycle, and variations of the photosynthetic pathways.
4. To present the basic principles of plant reproduction, life cycles, and reproductive features.
5. To introduce students to plant diversity, including key innovations and reproductive features of each plant group.

Student Learning Outcomes (Course Competencies):
1. Students will be able to understand the structure and functions of plant cells, organelles, tissues, and tissue systems.
2. Students will be able to understand the structure and function of plant roots, stems, and leaves. This outcome builds on the foundational materials included in the first learning outcome.
3. Students will understand the principles of photosynthesis, including a knowledge of energy molecules (ATP and NADPH); the light reactions including its products and byproducts; the Calvin Cycle and its products; the relationship between the light reactions and Calvin Cycle; and C₄ and CAM photosynthesis.
4. Students will gain an understanding of basic plant reproduction, including the concepts of life cycles, alternation of generations, gametangia, sporangia, and specialized reproductive features.
5. Students will learn the basics groups of land plants including bryophytes, lycophytes, ferns, gymnosperms, and angiosperms. Students will learn key morphological and anatomical features of each group, and reproductive features. This learning outcome is closely linked to outcome number 4.

**General Education Core Curriculum**
This course has been selected to be part of Stephen F. Austin State University’s core curriculum. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six objectives for all core courses: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives.

Assessment of these objectives at SFA will be based on student work from all core curriculum courses. This student work will be collected in D2L through LiveText, the assessment management system selected by SFA to collect student work for core assessment. LiveText accounts will be provided to all students enrolled in core courses through the university technology fee. You will be required to register your LiveText account, and you will be notified how to register your account through your SFA e-mail account. If you forward your SFA e-mail to another account and do not receive an e-mail concerning LiveText registration, please be sure to check your junk mail folder and your spam filter for these e-mails. If you have questions about LiveText call Ext. 1267 or e-mail SFALiveText@sfasu.edu.

In this course we be assessing Empirical and Quantitative Skills as demonstrated in the Wood Lab. **Keep the returned and graded assignment** you will copy these results into the word document provided under the Wood Anatomy Assignment content tab of d2l. You must upload this word document to Live Text. Lecture Points will be awarded based on submission date. Due dates will be provided later in the semester.

**Course Requirements:**  
Eleven Quizzes (x 10 pts drop lowest) 100 pts.  
Four midterm exams (100 pts each) 400 pts.  
Final exam 100 pts.  
610 pts.

Expected dates of reading quizzes and exams are listed in the course syllabus. Tests will consist mainly of matching/multiple choice questions. Test questions will come primarily from lecture. Final grades will be assessed after grades from the lab are received.

**Quizzes** will cover the PowerPoint lecture and the textbook reading for the upcoming lecture (in other words they are over material you haven’t covered yet!). These quizzes are open note and open book, but they are timed so I strongly suggest that you read the
material prior to taking the quiz. Quizzes will be offered online through D2L and must be completed by the posted time. Because of heavy internet traffic I strongly suggest that you take the quiz several hours before it is due. Students who try taking the quiz too late and either cannot get in due to heavy internet traffic or who are kicked out because of time constraints will receive a 0. There are eleven quizzes, but I will drop the lowest quiz score.

**Grading:**
The final grade awarded reflects both lecture and lab scores and is computed using the following formula:

\[
\frac{2}{3} \text{ lecture score} + \frac{1}{3} \text{ lab score} = \text{ Final Grade}
\]

Letter grades will be assigned using the following format:

- 90+\% = A
- 80-89\% = B
- 70-79\% = C
- 60-69\% = D
- 60\% = F

There will be no extra credit.

**Evaluations:**
Students are required to fill out end of course evaluations.

**Lab:**
The lab is taken simultaneously with the lecture. The lab goes over many details we do not have time to cover in lecture. Also, lab and lecture may become unsynchronized. You are responsible for learning lab materials regardless. **Students who fail the lab for excessive absences will receive a failing grade for the entire course despite their performance in lecture.**

**Disabilities Statement:**
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Attendance:**
You are strongly encouraged to attend class, and attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class period. Class attendance will be used as a criterion for giving out bonus points, in borderline grading situations, and in assessing who may take a comprehensive retest. I reserve the right to count students who leave lecture early as absent.

**Tardiness:**
Students who come to class after sign in will be counted absent. In cases of excessive tardiness I will simply ask the student to leave.
**Excused Absences:**
Absences excused according to official university policy give students the right to make up tests and receive handouts and other materials they might have missed. Bonus points cannot be made up.

**Exam Day Policy:**
On exam days students will leave all bags, purses, books, etc. up front. Students may only bring to their seat a pencil, an eraser, a copy of the exam (provided by me), and the scantron (also provided by me). Students with a concealed carry license need to make accommodations for those days.

**Make Up Exams:**
Make ups for previously scheduled official university activities (e.g., student athlete competitions, students enrolled in Geology Field Trips, etc.) will take a missed exam at a time determined with the professor. Students who take an exam in this fashion are NOT eligible to take the cumulative (see below). Exams missed for any other reason (e.g., sickness, a death in the family, personal/family emergencies) will be administered in the form of a comprehensive exam covering Units I through IV scheduled for the last day of class. The student must take the entire exam (not just the missed portion). This grade will take the place of the missing grade. Students that have taken all their exams may also take the cumulative test and replace their lowest exam grade if they do better on the retest.

**Desire to Learn (D2L):**
D2L can be accessed through [http://d2l.sfasu.edu/](http://d2l.sfasu.edu/). I will post a copy of all the lectures on line. It is your duty to download them and bring them to class. This will allow you to read them BEFORE class, cross check lecture materials with the textbook, and take more extensive notes based on my dialog.

**SI:**
A student instructor is available at the AARC for this class. You are strongly encouraged to attend SI. Your SI instructor is there to help you study, not to teach. To facilitate this you should bring: 1) your lecture notes; 2) your textbook; 3) a copy of the relevant key concepts and review questions; and 4) a list of questions to ask the SI leader. The SI leader WILL NOT give you a copy of his notes, nor does he have copies of old exams.

**Student Responsibilities:**
Students are responsible for attending lectures, taking notes, and reading the course text. I assume that students will have familiarized themselves with the key concepts available on web CT prior to class.

Although this is a formal lecture, students are strongly encouraged to ask questions.
Acceptable Student Behavior
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

Disruptive Behavior:
I reserve the right to ask students to leave for disruptive behavior. Disruptive behaviors include (but are not limited to) the following: cell phones ringing, text-messaging, use of any CD or ipod device, talking, reading newspapers or any outside materials, tardiness, leaving lecture early, sleeping, and disrespectful behavior towards myself or other students. Students asked to leave for disruptive behavior will be counted absent for the day.

Cell phones, Ipods, CD players, and Computers:
Turn off cell phones and leave them in your backpacks during class. Do not use earphones during lecture. If I see a cell phone or earphones during an exam, I will assume the student is cheating, and will accordingly assign the student a 0. I reserve the right to answer cell phones during class or ask that students leave the lecture. Computers will not be allowed in lecture.

Academic Integrity (University Policy A-9.1 Statement):
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were their own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp
Office Visitation:
I am in my office during regularly scheduled office hours. My office hours are set aside to allow you time to get the help you need. I encourage students to visit me to ask questions and get help. In order for me to help you, visit me early during the office hours to allow plenty of time. Bring your notes, downloaded webCT materials, handouts from SI, and your textbook. Before we begin discussing your problem I will ascertain your attendance record and your use of webCT.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Quiz</th>
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<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Plant cells and cell walls</td>
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<td>Simple and complex tissues</td>
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<td><strong>Exam I</strong></td>
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<td>Plant Growth</td>
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<td>Roots</td>
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<td>Photosynthesis, Calvin cycle</td>
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<td>May 1</td>
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