Hi! I’m Jared, and welcome to Plant Breeding! Here are a few particulars you should know about the course and classroom environment.

CLASS INFORMATION
Classroom: Agriculture Building Room 118
Class Time: Tues & Thurs 11:00 am–12:15 pm

CONTACT INFORMATION
Jared Barnes, Ph.D.
Office: Agriculture Building Room 107
Email: barnesj@sfasu.edu  **Email with PB in Subject Line; emailing me from D2L bounces.**
Office Phone: 936-468-7850
Mobile Phone: 731-431-6275 (Anytime 6 am–9 pm, please. 😊)
Office Hours: MW 11:00 am–12:00 pm, TW 1:00–2:00 pm; M 3:00–4:00 pm; or by appointment.

I will respond to emails & texts during the workweek (Mon–Fri) within 48 hours. Emails sent to me after 5 pm on Friday or on Saturday or Sunday will be answered the following Monday.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Improvement of crops through hybridization and selection with special emphasis on methods of breeding self-pollinated, cross-pollinated and vegetatively propagated plants. Prerequisite: BIO 341 or consent of the instructor.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
1. You will gain perspectives on the process of plant breeding and genetic basis for plant improvement.
2. You will learn about the modes of reproduction in plants and how to use them in plant breeding.
3. You will learn how to develop and improve lines, clones, hybrids, and populations as well as quantitatively and qualitatively assess traits.
4. You will learn about breeding with major genes and molecular markers.

TEXT AND MATERIALS
I will not test over material from a book. These references may be useful.


COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Test 1</td>
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<td>Quizzes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blog Post</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blog Reviewing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
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PRESENTATIONS

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<tr>
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<td>Final Presentation</td>
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TOTAL 1100 100%

Extra Credit Opportunities

- Attend SFA Gardens Lecture series (held second Thursday night of the month from Sept-Nov) and write a minimum 250 word WELL-WRITTEN (typed on computer and printed, mostly free of errors, etc.) reflection addressing 1.) how the lecture related to horticulture, 2.) what new plants you learned about and what made them interesting to you, and 3.) did you feel the topic was relevant to you as a young horticulturist (be honest!)? Each reflection will gain you 1 point on your final grade (3 total reflections × 1 final pt = 3 final pts) and be due the Monday following the talk. Bring a friend who is NOT in one of my other classes, and double your points!

- Write an additional blog post over something in the world of BREEDING and submit it to our website www.horticultureisawesome.com. Each post must be cleared through me before writing and will gain you 1 point on your final grade (3 total reflections × 1 final pt = 3 final pts). The latest a post can be submitted is April 13.

- Attend a garden volunteer day held throughout the semester. Each attendance will gain you 1 point on your final grade

Grading Scale (rounded to the nearest point)

A = 90–100 | B = 80–89 | C = 70–79 | D = 60–69 | F = 0–59

MY POLICIES

Attendance

- You are EXPECTED to attend all class sessions.
- Any late assignments will result in 10% drop in grade

Absences

- I follow the university’s policies on excused versus unexcused absences.
- You may have special circumstances during a test, assignment, etc. All special requests must be made in person.
Make-Up
- If you miss class, YOU are responsible for getting the notes.
- There will be no make-up assignments for missed tests or assignments unless you notify me before the test and explain why you can’t be there and you provide proper documentation for your absence (doctor’s note, etc.). I realize unexpected events occur, and again proper documentation for your absence (doctor’s note, etc.) is required.
- The exam must be taken or arrangements made to take the exam no later than 2 days after the initial exam was scheduled. Failure to follow this procedure will result in a 0 (zero) grade for any missed hour exam. It is your responsibility to make arrangements to take a make-up exam.

Electronics
In research published in April 2016 (The Pen Is Mightier than the Keyboard: Advantages of Longhand over Laptop Note Taking), researchers found that when students use computers or tablets to take notes in class, they performed worse than their handwriting counterparts. Why? Because typing forces you to copy verbatim while hand writers are forced to synthesize and process information because they write slower. WOW! Also, computers are distracting to other students. I’ve seen students Snapchat in class, and I’ve even gotten emails from students DURING class! Therefore, computers, tablets, phones, electronic devices, etc. will not be allowed to be used in class. Any special requests for use of technology must be made in person.

Of course, it’s difficult to visualize the negative effect that your use of electronics have on others. So, I’m willing to award 5 EXTRA CREDIT POINTS TO THE ENTIRE CLASS on every test as long as I don’t see any evidence of cell phones or other electronics while I’m lecturing that I have not approved (i.e. We may use phones, tablets, etc. to enhance learning.) Each time that I see evidence of the use of a cell phone, THE ENTIRE CLASS will lose an extra credit point.

If you need to take an emergency call, you may step outside.

Classroom Environment
In order to maintain a positive learning environment in both lecture and laboratory, it is important that you respect your classmates, the instructor, and yourself at all times. As a student, you have the right to an atmosphere that is conducive to learning. You also have the responsibility to ensure that a positive environment is maintained. Therefore, please refrain from:
- excessive, distracting use of cell phones or other electronic devices
- no headphones allowed
- tobacco products (which will NOT be tolerated in the greenhouse since they carry tobacco mosaic virus, a harmful pathogen to plants)
- speaking in a disruptive manner
- distractively entering the classroom late
- carrying on extraneous conversations with each other when I am speaking
- any other activity that may disrupt the class

If you need to take an emergency call, you may step outside. Use of technology is permitted in the classroom to take notes. However, it in no way should be distracting to other students.

Distracting behavior is grounds for dismal from that day’s class.
**Academic Integrity**

You know how crushed you were when you found out that your favorite sports figure used steroids to win? It’s like the performance wasn’t real, and they are a fake. When students cheat in school, it makes me feel the same way! Scholarly activity and performance is marked by honesty, fairness, and hard work. A great student doesn’t take credit for someone else’s work or take advantage of others. Violation of these principles is deemed academic dishonesty, will be handled according to the procedures outlined by SFA, **AND WILL RESULT IN AN F IN THE CLASS AND LAB.** Bottom line, don’t use steroids and don’t cheat!

Your signature on any test or assignment indicates "I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this test or assignment."

**UNIVERSITY POLICY**

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**

Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members must promote the components of academic integrity in their instruction, and course syllabi are required to provide information about penalties for cheating and plagiarism as well as the appeal process. (Much of this information will be provided through internet links.)

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

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) falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assignment; 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 your own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to: (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 the Internet or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy and the appeals process [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp), [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_appeals_students.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_appeals_students.asp)

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**

At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students With Disabilities**

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/).

**F–1 Visa Holders**

There are important federal regulations pertaining to distance education activity for F-1 Visa holders. All students with an F-1 Visa should follow the instructions at the following link to make sure they are in compliance. [http://www.oit.sfasu.edu/disted/facsup/f1visa.html](http://www.oit.sfasu.edu/disted/facsup/f1visa.html)
## TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

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<td>Intro / Domstication, Traits, and Germplasm</td>
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<td>Domstication, Traits, and Germplasm / Genetics</td>
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<td>Genetics/Genetic Basis for Improvement</td>
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<td>Genetic Basis for Improvement</td>
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<td>02/13</td>
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<td>TEST TUES / Modes of Reproduction</td>
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<td>Phenotyping (Presentation Outlines Due Thurs)</td>
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<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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<td>Population Improvement / EASTER BREAK</td>
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Final Exam: Tuesday May 8, 10:30 am–12:30 pm