Bio 475- Special Problems: Bryophyte Floristics
Spring 2018

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Text and Materials: 2 needle nose tweezers/forceps purchased from
A GPS Location App
30x magnification hand lens (optional)

Open Lab Hours: MTR 1:00-2:50 PM
Office Hours: MTWF 10:00-10:50 AM
or by appointment

Course Description:
Independent investigation of East Texas Bryophyte flora

Course Requirements:
The student will be expected to spend 3 hours per credit hour each week performing lab
work and writing up results of lab work

Program Learning Outcomes:
This courses’ Student Learning Outcomes correspond to PLO 1, knowledge; PLO 2,
communication skills; PLO 3 teamwork; PLO 4, scientific method; and PLO 6, career
preparation.

Student Learning Outcomes:
The student will achieve the following:
1. Students will use scientific observational skills (PLO 4) and demonstrate
knowledge (PLO 1) in collecting and identifying bryophyte specimens
2. Communicate results (PLO 2) in the form of a PowerPoint poster using written
and visual communication skills
3. Students will sample diversity using quadrats, collect data, and analyze data using
ANOVA corresponding to PLO 4 (Scientific Method)
4. Students will prepare for systematics style careers (PLO 6) by preparing and
submitting professional standard specimens to SFA and other regional and
national herbaria
Expectations

- Students will spend three hours each week
  - Collecting specimen, identify, and preparing at least 8 bryophyte species for curation
  - Based on prior experience with this course it takes 4.5 hours on average to collect, key and identify, and curate a bryophyte specimen. Students that identified specimens with a high degree of accuracy averaged 5.25 hours per specimen!
- Poster Project- ten hours

Grading:
Grades will be awarded based on the following criteria:

- 40% - Spending the required three hours per week on projects
- 30% Submission of at least 8 identified and curated bryophyte specimens graded following a standard rubric
  - The first four due March 7
  - The remaining four due April 20
- 30% - Preparation of a Bryophyte Abundance poster graded following a standard rubric
  - Due April 27

Hours- You are required to keep track of your own hours. Remember that you will need to spend 45 hours total. Due to the semester system, I suggest that you not procrastinate. Your hours account for over 1/3 of the total grade.

Specimens- You will need to submit 8 identified specimens. You will receive points for each species represented, accuracy of the identification, quality of the specimen preparation, and quality of information provided on the herbarium packet.

Poster- You will be required to prepare a poster detailing the results of a Bryophyte abundance study conducting on a single tree species. For this poster you will sample Bryophytes abundance on a tree species following a point-intercept method using 5 cm² quadrats with a 0.5 cm grid providing 121 points per quadrat. You will analyze the data statistically using ANOVA in an Excel spreadsheet. You will write up your results as a scientific poster.

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/.
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 your 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