INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Dennis A. Gravatt  
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Office Hours: Posted in BrightSpace by D2L

I encourage you to contact me for help. If my office hours are impossible for you to meet, I will arrange an alternate time to meet.

Credit Hour Justification
Below is the expected time commitment that the average student should expect to complete during the semester for this course.

**BIOL 3362 Economic Botany: On-line (12 modules)**

- 45 hours working through modules (12 modules, 4 hrs/module)
- 45 hours homework (3 hrs/week)
- 30 hours reading (300 pages, 5 minutes per page)
- 32 hours exam studying (4 quizzes)
- 4 hours exams (50 minutes/exam for 4 modules)
- 156 hours

**TEXTBOOK**

**Objectives:**
- To learn the diverse human uses of plants and plant products.
- To learn the taxonomic diversity of useful plants.
- To learn the biological reasons why certain plant resources are important.
- To acquire an increased awareness and appreciation of plants and plant products encountered in everyday life.
- To recognize geographic, historical, & cultural differences in the uses and importance of plants.
- To relate diverse aspects of human cultural endeavors to plant resources, and to gain a better understanding and perspective of the origins, histories, and roles of important plants and plant products to the development of human culture.

**Student Learning Outcomes (Course Competencies):**

**Knowledge and Understanding**
Students understanding will be evaluated with comprehensive objective exams covering each topic in detail. Students who successful complete Economic Botany will demonstrate:

- An understanding of botanical properties of flowering and non-flowering plants, algae, and fungi with a focus on the diversity and applications of phytochemicals.
- An understanding of plants as a source of food – emphasis on major food crops with respect to the following: requirements for human nutrition, the origin of agriculture, legumes, and starchy staples.
- An understanding of commercial products derived from plants that provide us with consumable products such as beverages, herbs and spices, and materials such as cloth, paper, and wood.
• An understanding of plants and human health - historical foundations of Western medicine, the practice of herbal medicine, poisonous and allergy plants, and the chemistry of secondary plant products.
• An understanding of the impact of algae and fungi on human affairs - economic importance of the algae and fungi, including their biology and crucial roles in the environment. These roles include key producers in aquatic environments, as sources of human food, industrial products, fermented beverages and foods, sources of antibiotics, toxins, and diseases affecting crops and people.
• An understanding of plants and the environment with emphasis on the principles of ecology: the major biomes of the world, economic value of certain plants, and the strategy of extractive reserves in the rain forest.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO):

This course will address PLO #1, Demonstration of good knowledge base in biological concepts, using the above-mentioned Course Competencies.

TESTING AND GRADING PROCEDURE

Four one-hour exams worth 100 points each will be administered. 12 discussion questions with requires responses, ten graded video assignments, two homework assignments and one infographic poster. Therefore, you will attempt 1100 points in the course.

4 exams at 100 points each .......................................................... 400 points
12 discussion questions at 25 points each ........................................... 300 points
12 3-2-1 Video reports @ 20 points each) ........................................ 240 points
2 homework assignments at 50 points each ...................................... 100 points
1 infographic poster ........................................................................ 100 points
1140 points

Letter grade determination:
A = 100 - 90.0%; B = 89.99 - 80.0%; C = 79.99 - 70.0%; D = 69.99 - 60.0%; F= 59.99% or below

NATURE OF ALL EXAMS

Exams are multiple choice, short answer and essay. You will not be tested strictly on the ability to memorize facts. Exams will be written such that you must be able to apply the concepts covered in the lecture.

Discussion Questions
Your grade will be based on the following two elements being completed.
1. Your answer to the posed discussion question must be a substantive one.
2. You must also make a comment (2-3 sentences) on at least two postings of your classmates.

Use complete sentences and do not simply make a list of thoughts. A substantive post adds to the discussion and encourages a response from your fellow students. Here are some guidelines to help you earn credit for your discussion posts: Do Explain why you agree or disagree, and add some examples to support your belief. Think of these posts as a mini-essay, in which you want to have a single central argument and clear evidence to support that argument. It is important to keep length requirements in mind, limiting the scope of your response, so it will remain clear, focused, and relevant to the topic at hand.

POLICY ON ABSENTEEISM

Regular attendance and participation is expected. The value of a college education depends upon the student’s full participation. Because students are expected not merely to receive information passively or to
pass examinations but to participate actively in class, it is important that unnecessary class absences be avoided. Students are expected to participate in all modules, and no absence will be automatically excused. Students will be responsible for all missed work.

Some appropriate reasons for absenteeism are: an illness with dated medical notes; death in the immediate family with clippings from a newspaper announcing the death; scheduled athletic events; scheduled academic events. Other reasons can be discussed, but may not be excused. You are responsible to know what was announced and what material was covered in class during your absence. Lecture notes are not available from your instructor.

MAKE-UP EXAMS:

Make ups for hour exams will only be allowed in the case of a University approved absence (illness with a doctor's note, a family crisis, or a religious holiday) see Class Attendance and Excused Absence Policy (A-10); https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/class-attendance-6.7.pdf. YOU MUST NOTIFY ME WITHIN 24 HOURS OF A MISSED EXAM TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A MAKE UP EXAM. It is your responsibility to inform me that you missed the exam and why.

In any other case, it is your responsibility to inform me that you missed the exam and why as soon as possible. All make up exams are at my discretion and will be given during dead week.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Academic honesty is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

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) 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/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (5.5)

Ordinarily, 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 terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf.

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/.

Mental Health and Wellness

SFA values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students' mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of
them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFA Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
Rusk Building, 3rd Floor
936.468.2401

SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services, Room 202
936.468.1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741