BIOL 1544-102 General Botany
Fall 2010 | T,TH 8:00 – 9:20 a.m. | Bolin 213

Instructor: Dr. Elizabeth Machunis-Masuoka
Email: liz.machunis@mwsu.edu
Office: OD 232 (History Graduate Offices)
Office Hours: Open door office hours (if the door is open, come on in)
In general, I will be available M 1-3, T 1-3, and Friday afternoons by appointment.
Graduate Office Phone (Note: there are multiple users of this phone): 397-6239

Required LECTURE Text
You may buy new or used (I will not assign anything from the companion website.)

Required LABORATORY Text
The Green Kingdom: What is a Plant? Cook & Rincón-Zachary, NEW ONLY

Purpose of the Course
Botany is the study of plant biology, which means everything from how plant cells function, to how plants are structured, to how they form an integral part of the biosphere. Plants are essential to all life on earth and while this course will be taught at the introductory level, you will leave with a new and better appreciation for plants of all shapes and varieties.

Laboratory Component
General Botany is a laboratory science and laboratory attendance is REQUIRED. If you miss any laboratory section for any reason, it is your responsibility to contact your laboratory instructor and make arrangements for completing missed laboratory assignments. If you miss THREE or more laboratory sessions for any reason, you may be dropped from the course with a grade of F. You should ONLY miss lab if it is unavoidable. A strong performance in the lab can greatly help your final grade.

Course Policies
Out of general courtesy for both your fellow classmates and the instructor, please observe the following:
1) Do not walk through the classroom after the class has begun or before the class has ended;
2) Do not talk during lectures or examinations;
3) Turn off all cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices that make noise or have the potential to disrupt the class before you walk into class.

Students who insist on disrupting the class will be asked to leave the classroom and will be referred to the Dean of Students.

Lecture Examinations
Lecture exams are set as indicated on the Schedule and will NOT be moved. There will be no make-up exams for any reason. If you have a legitimate, excusable reason for missing an exam, a substitute score based on the portion of the comprehensive final corresponding to the missed exam will be used to replace the missed exam. Note: doctor/dentist/therapy or other appointments made on exam days do NOT constitute excusable absences as you know exactly when the exams are scheduled from the very first day of class. Unexcused absences on exam day will result in the grade of “zero” for that missed exam. The final exam will be given on the scheduled day and time as reported in the Schedule of Classes. There will be absolutely no make-ups for the final exam. Absolutely no electronic devices of any kind, not even a cell phone, may be used during exams. Final note: Excuses for missed exams will only be considered if you notify me BEFORE 8:00a.m. of the day of the scheduled exam. Notification after the exam is concluded is not acceptable.
Final Grade Assessment
Final grades will be calculated as follows:

- Lecture exams: 75% of final grade
  (broken down as follows)
  - Midterm #1: 25% of lecture score
  - Midterm #2: 25% of lecture score
  - Comprehensive Final: 50% of lecture score

- Laboratory final score: 25% of final grade

Grade ranges: A (90% or higher); B (80-89.9%); C (70-79.9%); D (60-69.9%); F (59.9% or less)

Extra Credit
Extra credit may be earned through good attendance: this will be assessed at the end of the semester, but generally students missing three or fewer classes will add extra points to their final course total points (note: these are points, not percentage points). Bonus questions will also appear on exams; answering them correctly will add points to exam scores.

University Policies
Students with disabilities are required to register with Disability Support Services before classroom accommodations can be provided. The instructor then needs to be notified by the student of the nature of these accommodations. It is the responsibility of the student to make their own arrangements with Disability Support Services with regard to examinations.

For university standards of conduct, please refer to the MSU Student Handbook. In general, students are to attend all meetings of all classes; instructors may drop students for excessive absences, indifference, disruptive behavior, or failure to meet class assignments; students are prohibited from cheating, plagiarizing, or colluding.

Instructor’s Expectations of the Student
The instructor expects all students to try. The laboratory portion of the course provides a nice base of points to work with, but the majority of your grade comes from the lecture exams and so you MUST do well on exams to do well in the course. This is especially true of the final exam which is comprehensive and worth DOUBLE that of a midterm. You are encouraged to work for the final grade you want in the course starting on the first day of class. You should read the chapters before coming to class, take good notes, and begin studying for exams well in advance of the exam day. Reading is critical – time does not allow a full exposition of all material during lecture so students must keep up with the reading and take the time to study the book chapters. As a general rule, for every 1 hour you spend in class, regardless of the type of class you are taking, you should be spending 3 hours outside of class studying for it.
Successful students make the time commitment necessary and earn the highest grades. If you truly wait until the day before to “cram” for an exam, you should not expect to do well. This is again, especially true of the final – a comprehensive exam is different from a midterm and must be studied for well in advance.
# Topics and Exam Schedule

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<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
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<tr>
<td>T Aug 24</td>
<td>Course Intro; What is Plant Biology?</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>R Oct 14</td>
<td>Evolution</td>
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<td>R Aug 26</td>
<td>The Nature of Life</td>
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<td>T Oct 19</td>
<td>Plant Names and Classification</td>
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<tr>
<td>T Aug 31</td>
<td>The Nature of Life; Cells</td>
<td>2, 3</td>
<td>R Oct 21</td>
<td>Bacteria, Viruses and Algae</td>
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<td>Cells; Tissues</td>
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<td>Algae</td>
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<td>T Sept 7</td>
<td>Roots and Soils</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>R Oct 28</td>
<td>MIDTERM 2</td>
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<td>R Sept 9</td>
<td>Stems</td>
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<td>T Nov 2</td>
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<td>T Sept 14</td>
<td>Leaves</td>
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<td>R Nov 4</td>
<td>Bryophytes; Seedless Vascular Plants</td>
<td>20, 21</td>
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<td>R Sept 16</td>
<td>Flowers, Fruits, and Seeds</td>
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<td>T Nov 9</td>
<td>Seedless Vascular Plants</td>
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<td>T Sept 21</td>
<td>Water in Plants</td>
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<td>MIDTERM 1</td>
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<td>T Sept 28</td>
<td>Plant Metabolism</td>
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<td>R Nov 18</td>
<td>Flowering Plants and Civilization</td>
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<td>R Sept 30</td>
<td>Plant Metabolism; Growth</td>
<td>10, 11</td>
<td>T Nov 23</td>
<td>Flowering Plants and Civilization; Ecology</td>
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<td>T Oct 5</td>
<td>Growth; Meiosis and Alternation of Generations</td>
<td>11, 12</td>
<td>R Nov 25</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>Genetics</td>
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<td>Ecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>T Oct 12</td>
<td>Genetics; Plant Breeding and Propagation</td>
<td>13, 14</td>
<td>R Dec 2</td>
<td>Biomes</td>
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**COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM:**
**Thursday, December 9, 2010 from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.**