

BIOL 301 – PLANT TAXONOMY

SPRING, 2020

MWF 10:00 – 10:50 AM, 281 Rita Liddy Hollings Science Center (RITA) (this is our lab room)

M 1:00 – 5:00 PM, 281 RITA – MEET AT THE LIBRARY PARKING LOT FOR FIELD TRIPS

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Jean Everett
OFFICE: 215 RITA
OFFICE HOURS: Fridays 12-3pm, or by appointment.
OFFICE PHONE: 843-953-7843 – we now have VoIP and I can get messages by email
MAILBOX: Biology Department Office, 255 RITA
EMAIL: everettj@cofc.edu (if I don't respond, please try again or phone me)
WEBPAGE: <http://everettj.people.cofc.edu/BIOL301.html> - PLUS OAKS
LAB TA Just me this spring ☺ Perhaps one of you next spring!

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Judd, W.S., C.S. Campbell, E.A. Kellogg, P.F. Stevens and M.J. Donoghue. 2016. Plant Systematics: A Phylogenetic Approach, 4th Ed. Sinauer Associates.

Radford, A., H. Ahles, and C.R. Bell. 1968. Manual of the Vascular Flora of the Carolinas. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

Porcher, R.D. and D.A. Rayner. 2002. A Guide to the Wildflowers of South Carolina. University of South Carolina Press.

Harris, J.G. and M.W. Harris. 2001. Plant Identification Terminology, An Illustrated Glossary, 2nd Ed. Spring Lake Publishing.

COURSE GOALS:

Students will:

- improve skills in critical, synthetic thinking and logical reasoning
- develop the ability to identify plants using a variety of mechanisms
- develop an integrated understanding of local vegetation patterns and the underlying ecosystem factors that control vegetation patterns

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate that they:

- have improved skills in critical, synthetic, scientific thinking and logical reasoning, are able to successfully read scientific papers and successfully write a topical review paper
- know the identifying characteristics of the most important plant families; regionally and globally
- know the vegetative and floral characteristics that enable identification of plants using a dichotomous key
- are comfortable using dichotomous keys
- are able to sight identify approximately 150 plant species that are linked to different local ecosystems and have the ability to separate indicator species from generalist species
- understand how ecological relationships contribute to plant species distributions in the region
- recognize the major plant communities found in this region
- understand basic soil characteristics as they influence plant species distributions

- understand the local geomorphological patterns that control surface soil and hydrological characteristics
- are able to integrate information on geomorphology, soils and hydrological patterns to predict and understand local plant communities

GRADE:

Midterm Exams (3) = 30%
 Comprehensive
 Final Exam = 10%
 Flip Participation = 5%
 Paper = 15%
 Lab Quizzes = 25%
 Lab Keying = 5%
 Lab Final = 10%

GRADING SCALE				
	88-89% = B+	78-79% = C+	68-69% = D+	
93-100% = A	83-87% = B	73-77% = C	63-67% = D	
90-92% = A-	80-82% = B-	70-72% = C-	60-62% = D-	<60% = F

The midterm and final exams will include technical definitions by term and from photos or diagrams, family identifications from written descriptions and photos, and short answer questions about material covered in both lecture and lab. All electronic devices will be surrendered for the duration of each exam.

Flip Participation involves your preparation and contributions to the reverse lectures, where you will learn the material on some families on your own, filling out the worksheets linked on OAKS. We will then discuss the families and any questions in class, and review images. See families marked with an * on the schedule for reverse lecture preparation. **PLEASE BE PREPARED ON ALL REVERSE LECTURE DAYS! MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

The paper will be 5-7 pages (not including Literature Citation section), double spaced, typed in a readable font (eg: Times New Roman 12, Arial 10) on any topic of your choice that is related to this course. You must cite at least 15 modern primary literature papers. Use Web of Science in the library database section of MyCharleston to search for primary literature papers. Use the librarians for help researching your topic. Please use standard scientific citation format (though not numbered, please). You must also submit your paper to a plagiarism checking site, writecheck.com, and submit the results along with your paper. You must explain your similarity score. I will place this assignment on OAKS, and you can use writecheck from there. See schedule for one-page outline and paper due dates. **THE PAPER WILL BE DUE BEFORE SPRING BREAK!**

Lab quizzes will be conducted both in the field and in the lab. Each quiz will include 10 specimens to be identified by family, genus and species. **SPELLING COUNTS.** Quiz dates are listed on the lab schedule. I will drop your lowest quiz score, if it is not a zero from an unexcused absence. If I have credible evidence that you have cheated on a quiz, your score for that quiz will be zero. I will have an illustrated list of our field trip species on the “people” website by the Tuesday after the Monday field trips.

Lab keying exercises will be conducted as listed on the lab syllabus. Each of you will independently key 3 to 5 fresh specimens to family, genus and species. **Be certain to bring your *Manual to the Vascular Flora of the Carolinas* to each keying exercise. Mark your calendars!**

The lab final will be conducted in the lab, and will include 100 specimens (fresh or photographed) to be identified by family, genus and species. Students with a perfect quiz average, including any extra credit, may be exempted from the lab final.

Graduating Seniors are **REQUIRED** to take the MFT exam. The Major Field Test for Biology is one of our most important departmental assessment tools. Graduating seniors will be allowed a second drop quiz. The Associate Chair, Dr. Melissa Hughes, will organize the timing of the exam in the last couple weeks of the semester. There will be multiple time slots available. If you do not take the MFT, you will have only the one drop quiz.

PLEASE NOTE: No makeups will be given for exams without prior notice and a documented absence memo from the Student Affairs Absence Memo Office. In an emergency, contact me **as soon as possible** for makeup arrangements. Also, no student will be permitted to begin an exam if any student has already completed the exam. Lab quizzes and the lab final **CANNOT** be made up.

ATTENDANCE: Your final grade will be dropped by 5% if you miss more than 3 classes, and by 10% if you miss 5 or more classes. Excessive tardiness (5 minutes) will count as an absence. If you have a documented absence memo from the Student Affairs Absence Memo Office, you will be excused from that absence. If you are too sick to come to class, you are sick enough to see a doctor.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: I expect each of you to work independently unless specifically instructed otherwise, and to adhere to the College of Charleston Honor System as described in the Student Handbook.

SPECIAL NEEDS: If you will need any special accommodations to complete the requirements for this course, please contact me as soon as possible.

ALLY PROGRAMS: I am a Safe Zone Ally and a Green Zone Ally, and happy to assist.

FOOD AND HOUSING INSECURITY: If you are not economically secure in food and housing, the College has assistance programs. You may contact the Dean of Students directly, or I will be most happy to confidentially facilitate assistance.

STUDENT WELL BEING: We are well aware of the additional personal challenges many of you face, and we have resources in place to help. You may contact the Dean of Students directly, or I will be most happy to confidentially facilitate assistance.

TENTATIVE LECTURE and LAB SCHEDULE

All handouts on web. An * indicates a reverse lecture.			
<u>DATE</u>		<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>CHAPTER</u>
8	Jan.	Introduction	1, App. 2
10	Jan.	Ecological factors that influence plant species distributions	handouts

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>CHAPTER</u>
13	Jan. Classification and nomenclature	3, 5, App. 1
	Lab How to really look at plants	4, handouts
15	Jan. Geomorphology – last day to drop/add	handout
17	Jan. Geomorphology, continued	
20	Jan. MLK Holiday	
	Lab MLK Holiday	
22	Jan. Introduction to phylogeny + seedless vascular plants	2, 6
24	Jan. Intro to families; <i>Lycopodiaceae</i> , Ferns, <i>Equisetaceae</i>	5-7
27	Jan. Maritime ecosystems	
	Lab Field trip to Maritime Systems at Seabrook Island	P&R
29	Jan. Phylogeny of extant gymnosperms	6
31	Jan. EXAM 1	
<p>NOTE: For all angiosperm families, read the introduction to Chapter 8, the information on each relevant clade, class, subclass, and order, and then the information on each listed family. Use the Table of Contents or the quick reference guide inside the front cover to find page numbers. Be sure to note updates from the 3rd edition – these may not be reflected on my PowerPoint slides (work in progress) – use the 4th edition material!</p>		
3	Feb. <i>Pinaceae</i> , <i>Cupressaceae</i> ;	7
	Lab Field trip to Sewee Shell Mounds	P&R
5	Feb. Phylogeny of extant angiosperms	6
7	Feb. Intro to angiosperms and floral formulas	8
10	Feb. <i>Magnoliaceae</i> , <i>Ranunculaceae</i> , <i>*Caryophyllaceae</i>	See note, above
	Lab Learning how to key – keying exercise	
12	Feb. <i>Cactaceae</i> , <i>Euphorbiaceae</i> , <i>*Hypericaceae</i>	
14	Feb. The Sonoran Desert	
17	Feb. Longleaf Pine Ecosystems	P&R
	Lab Field trip to longleaf pine and pocosin ecosystems	P&R
19	Feb. Review	
21	Feb. EXAM 2	
24	Feb. <i>Fabaceae</i>	
	Lab Keying exercise	
26	Feb. <i>Rosaceae</i>	
28	Feb. <i>*Ulmaceae</i> , <i>*Cucurbitaceae</i> – OUTLINES DUE	

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>CHAPTER</u>
2	Mar. Feeding habits and pollination mechanisms of carnivorous plants (<i>Sarraceniaceae</i> , <i>Lentibulariaceae</i> , <i>Droseraceae</i>)	P&R
	Lab Field trip to swamp forest	P&R
4	Mar. <i>*Fagaceae</i> , <i>*Betulaceae</i> , <i>*Juglandaceae</i>	
6	Mar. Invasive Species and Native Alternatives in Landscaping	
9	Mar. Richard Porcher on Rice???	P&R
	Lab Field trip to Caw Caw Nature & History Interpretive Center	
11	Mar. <i>*Onagraceae</i> , <i>*Brassicaceae</i> , <i>*Malvaceae</i>	
13	Mar. <i>Ericaceae</i> , <i>*Solanaceae</i> – Last Day to Withdraw – PAPERS DUE	
16-20	Mar. Spring Break	
23	Mar. <i>Lamiaceae</i> , <i>*Scrophulariaceae</i>	
	Lab Field trip to longleaf pine and pond ecosystems	P&R
25	Mar. Review	
27	Mar. EXAM 3	
30	Mar. <i>Apocynaceae</i> , <i>*Apiaceae</i>	
	Lab Keying Exercise	
1	April <i>Asteraceae</i>	
3	April Phylogeny of extant monocots	6
6	April Beech Ecosystems	P&R
	Lab Field trip to beech ecosystems	P&R, Handout
8	April Introduction to Liliopsida; <i>*Liliaceae</i> , <i>*Iridaceae</i>	
10	April <i>*Arecaceae</i> , <i>*Araceae</i> , <i>*Lemnaceae</i>	
13	April <i>Poaceae</i> , <i>*Cyperaceae</i> , <i>*Juncaceae</i>	
	Lab Field Review	
15	April <i>Orchidaceae</i>	
17	April Review and Ecotour	
20	April Review and Mandatory in-class evaluations	
	Lab Field Review – possible Blue Springs?	
22	April Final Lab Exam (~1:00 – 5:00 pm) THIS IS A MONDAY!	
27	April COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM, 8-11 AM	

TENTATIVE LAB SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LAB TOPIC</u>
13 Jan.	How to Really Look at Plants
20 Jan.	MLK Holiday
27 Jan.	Field trip to maritime ecosystems at Seabrook
3 Feb.	Field trip to Sewee Shell Mounds Field Quiz
10 Feb.	Learning how to key – keying exercise Lab Quiz
17 Feb.	Field trip to longleaf pine and pocosin ecosystems Field Quiz
24 Feb.	Keying exercise Lab Quiz
2 March	Field trip to swamp forest ecosystems Field Quiz
9 March	Field trip to Caw Caw Interpretive Center Field Quiz
16 March	Spring Break!!
23 March	Field trip to longleaf pine and pond ecosystems Field Quiz
30 March	Keying exercise Lab Quiz
6 April	Field trip to beech woods Field Quiz
13 April	Field Review Field Quiz
20 April	Field Review Field Quiz
22 April	Final Lab Exam (~1:00 – 5:00 pm) – This Wednesday counts as a Monday!

INDOOR LABS: Be sure to bring your Manual to all the keying exercises. You may also want to bring your lecture text on those days. If the weather looks bad on a field trip day, bring your Manual, as we may work indoors and reschedule the field trip. See our website for weather links.

FIELD TRIPS: Dress to get wet, dirty, wet, buggy, wet, scratched, wet, muddy, wet, wet and wet. BE PREPARED! I strongly recommend that you wear long sleeves, long pants, and old shoes or rubber boots. **YOU MUST WEAR CLOSED SHOES** (no Teva's, Crocs or other sandals). If you do not wear closed shoes to field labs, you will be dismissed from that lab, as an unexcused absence. Consider a hat and/or sunscreen, and you may want bug spray (**no** bug spraying in or near the van!). You should bring plenty of water and perhaps a snack. You might want to consider a head net for gnats and mosquitoes.

Have some way to record information on the species and communities that we learn (clipboard, notebook, cards, tape recorder, camera...). I will permit you to collect a small sample of most of the species we cover. You can bring clippers and a notebook or magazine to press these specimens in the field. You can also label samples with a marking pen or masking tape, keep them fresh in a plastic bag, and press them later. Most plant parts will dry within a week if pressed between several sheets of newsprint, held down with a stack of heavy books or some such. See Appendix 2 in your text for more information.

You will find complete species descriptions in the Manual to the Vascular Flora of the Carolinas, and a lot of ecosystem information in Porcher and Rayner, thus my strong recommendation that you buy this book.

I will post our species lists on the web site, including a list linking images, generally by late Monday evening or early Tuesday morning after each field trip.

Please note: You **must** wear your seatbelt at all times when riding in the van, and no one will sit in the back seats if there are free seats to the front. These are safety issues and non-negotiable. There will be **no** smoking and **no** cell phone or other electronic device use (other than imaging) on our field trips. If you smoke, please do not smoke right before getting in the van. These restrictions are also non-negotiable.

If you are allergic to bee stings or other venoms, please let me know immediately. You must carry medication. If you are diabetic, please set up a buddy system with a classmate.

Some field trips may run late due to unpredictable traffic. Please schedule accordingly, and please let me know as soon as possible if late field trips are going to be a problem for you.