

Biology 130: Introduction to Plant Biology

Instructor: Dr. Brian C. Barringer
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Office: TNR 337
Office Hours: Mon 9:00 – 12:00 or by appointment

Lecture: Mon/Wed 1:00 – 2:15 Sci D102

Lab: Section 6 (Demchik): Tue/Thur 9:00 – 10:50 TNR 157
Section 7 (Demchik): Tue/Thur 12:00 – 1:50 TNR 157
Section 8 (Demchik): Tue/Thur 2:00 – 3:50 TNR 157
Section 9 (Hardy): Mon/Wed 2:30 – 4:20 TNR 157

Required Texts: *Raven Biology of Plants* by Evert and Eichhorn, 8th ed. (rental)
Biology 130 Lab Manual, 7th ed. Fall 2016 Revision (purchase)

Course Description: This course introduces students to the fundamental principles of biology, with special emphasis on the molecular and cellular biology, growth, reproduction, structure, function, genetics, diversity, ecology, and evolution of plants.

Exams: This course includes four exams total: three midterms and a final. Exams are entirely multiple choice. Midterm exams will occur during our regular lecture time (see lecture schedule, below, for dates). Midterm exams are not cumulative, per se; however, topics covered later in the semester build upon ideas covered earlier in the semester. Exams focus on material covered in lecture. The final exam is cumulative though it will be weighted slightly toward material covered at the very end of the semester (i.e., material covered after midterm III). The final exam is also worth a bit more than the midterms (see grading, below). Bring a #2 pencil to all exams. You will also need to know your student ID number.

Lab: You will meet in lab twice per week throughout the semester and there are a number of assignments and quizzes/exams associated specifically with lab. A separate syllabus for lab will be given to you during your first lab meeting.

Attendance: I do not formally take attendance during lecture. However, based on my experience teaching these kinds of courses I assure you that students who regularly attend and participate in lecture do significantly better than students who habitually skip and/or are late. Do not fool yourself into thinking that your textbook and access to my lecture slides is a substitute for attending lecture!

Extra credit: On occasion I might offer a small amount of extra credit (usually for attending relevant seminars held on campus or in the community). If/when these opportunities occur I will announce them in class and via email. I do not offer extra credit in response to student requests.

Grading: The total number of points possible in this course is 705. Of these, 340 points are allocated to lecture and 365 points are allocated to lab. A breakdown of these points follows:

	Activity	# points possible
Lecture	Midterm exams (3)	80 each
	Final exam	100
Lab	See lab syllabus for details	365

Your final grade in this course will be based on the percentage of all possible points (from both lecture and lab) that you earn throughout the semester. To determine your final grade the following metric will be used:

≥	90-	87-	84-	80-	77-	74-	70-	67-	60-	≤
94%	93%	89%	86%	83%	79%	76%	73%	69%	66%	59%
A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F

Make-up policy: Make-ups for missed exams are given only in truly extraordinary situations. Make-ups are time-consuming and difficult to administer and students usually do poorly on them. However, if you have a university-sanctioned event or have an emergent medical situation, death in the family, etc., you can take a make-up. In order to qualify for a make-up, you must provide a written, verifiable excuse from an authority figure (coach, medical doctor, dentist, minister, etc.) within 72 hours of the missed exam. This excuse should clearly articulate that you were unable to make it to class on the day you missed. I reserve the right to verify the legitimacy of all excuses by contacting the authority figure.

Cell phones, smart phones, laptops, ipads, ipods, etc: Please note that using these items is absolutely not allowed (unless explicitly told otherwise) during our meetings; they are distracting to me and your peers. If I observe that you are using these items during class I will ask you to leave. Please do not force me to do that; it's not fun for either of us.

Students with disabilities: I will be happy to help you if you need special accommodations to succeed in this course. Please visit the UWSP Student Disability and Assistive Technology Center (located in LRC 609) to document your needs and contact me so that appropriate arrangements can be made. More information: <http://www.uwsp.edu/disability/Pages/default.aspx>

Academic integrity: It is your responsibility to be aware of your rights and responsibilities as a UWSP student. Please take the time to read and understand the information found here (and let me know of any questions): <http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf>

Lecture schedule: All lectures are associated with reading assignments in your textbook. You should strive to complete the assigned reading before attending the associated lecture and lab and certainly before the corresponding exam. Note that I reserve the right to change this schedule, with due notice, as we progress through the semester.

Date	Topic	Associated reading (chapters in textbook)
9/7	Course introduction; biochemistry	1
9/12	Biochemistry	2
9/14	Plant cells	3
9/19	Plant cells	3
9/21	Plant tissues, meristems, and primary growth	23
9/26	Secondary growth	26
9/28	Roots	24
10/3	Shoots	25
10/5	*** Midterm I ***	
10/10	Plants and water	4 & 30
10/12	Enzymes and respiration	5 & 6
10/17	Photosynthesis	7
10/19	Hormones	27
10/24	Genetics	8
10/26	Genetics	8
10/31	Genetics	9
11/2	*** Midterm II ***	
11/7	Biodiversity; viruses; bacteria	12 & 13
11/9	Fungi	14
11/14	Protists	15
11/16	Bryophytes	16
11/21	Seedless vascular plants	17
11/23	Gymnosperms	18
11/28	Angiosperms	19 & 20
11/30	Angiosperms	19 & 20
12/5	Angiosperms	19 & 20
12/7	*** Midterm III ***	
12/12	Introduction to ecological and evolutionary theories	
12/14	Introduction to ecological and evolutionary theories	
12/21	Final Exam - 8:00 – 10:00 AM in Sci D102	