

BIOLOGY 334 – PLANTS AND PEOPLE

Spring 2020

Department of Biology, University of Victoria

Course description: Units: 1.5, Hours: 3-0

Plants as sources of food, fibre, drugs, and industrial raw materials from historical and contemporary perspectives. Aspects of plant growth, development, physiology, genetics and pathology, particularly as they relate to the economic uses of plants.

Note: Credit for this course will not be counted toward degree programs in Biology, but Biology students may take this course as an elective (but not as a science elective).

Prerequisite: Minimum third-year standing.

Course philosophy: The course is intended to cover the biology, evolution and history of some economic and non-economic plants important in western societies. It is not my intention to duplicate courses that discuss First Nations' or non-western uses of plants.

Instructor: Patrick von Aderkas, Professor

Patrick's office: Petch 052a (to get there, see map on CourseSpaces)

Office hours: Tuesdays 9:30-10:30,

Phone & voicemail: 250 721 8925

Website: <http://web.uvic.ca/~pvonader/>

Email: pvonader@uvic.ca

Lectures: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays 8:30-9:20 p.m., HSD A240

Required text: Levetin and McMahon–*Plants and Society*. McGraw-Hill. Seventh (2015) and eighth editions (2020). UVic bookstore: price–\$137.95 (8th) Other purchase possibilities available online.

Evaluation:

Midterm 1 - Wednesday, January 29, 2020	30 %
Midterm 2 - Friday, March 6, 2020	30 %
Final Exam (final exam period, date TBA)	40 %

Exam and Grading Policy:

No electronic devices will be permitted during any exam.

Midterms cannot be deferred. If you must miss a midterm for a valid, documented reason (documented illness, accident, family affliction, or sporting commitments as a UVic athlete), your final mark will be calculated on the basis of the other completed components of the course, and you will not incur any penalty. If you miss two midterms, you cannot complete the course and you will not be allowed to write the final.

The final exam can be deferred if missed for a valid reason (documented illness, accident, family affliction, or sporting commitments as a UVic athlete). The UVic rule is that deferred exams are normally written during the last three working days of July, although other arrangements can be made in exceptional situations.

If you expect to miss a midterm or final for any of the above reasons, please notify me before the exam if possible and produce supporting documentation upon your return. If you are not able to give prior notice, get in touch with me as soon as you are able. Travel plans are not a valid reason for missing any exam.

No supplemental final exam is given in this course.

All grades at UVic are submitted as percentiles. The academic transcript will include the percentile grade and a letter grade. Percentiles will be rounded to the nearest whole number; e.g. a grade of xx.5 will be rounded up.

Grading system: Percentages converted to letter grades

A+ 90-100 **A** 85-89 **A-** 80-84 **B+** 77-79 **B** 73-76 **B-** 70-72 **C+** 65-69 **C** 60-64 **D** 50-59 **F** 0-49

Important dates in the Spring Term 2020

January 19, Sunday: Last day for 100% reduction of second term fees for standard courses. 50% of tuition fees will be assessed for courses dropped after this date.

January 22, Wednesday: Last day for adding this course.

January 31, Friday: Last day for paying second-term fees without financial penalty.

February 9, Sunday: Last day to drop courses for a 50% reduction of tuition fees. 100% of tuition fees will be assessed for this course dropped after this date.

February 17, Monday: Family Day Holiday

February 17-21: Reading Break

February 29, Saturday: Last day for withdrawing from this course without penalty of failure.

April 3, Friday: Last day of class in the second term.

April 6 Monday: Exam period begins

April 10 Friday: Good Friday holiday

April 13 Monday: Easter Monday holiday

April 24 Friday: Exam period ends

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Lecture Number	Day & Date	Topic
WEEK 1 (January 6-10)		
1	T 7	introduction & wine I
2	W 8	grain and vodka
3	F 10	grain and gin
WEEK 2 (January 13-19)		
4	T 14	beer
5	W 15	tea and coffee
6	F 17	chocolate
WEEK 3 (January 20-24)		
7	T 21	sugar
8	W 22	psychoactive plants
9	F 24	opioids
WEEK 4 (January 27-31)		
10	T 28	marijuana
	W 29	Midterm I – 30 %
11	F 31	poisonous plants
WEEK 5 (February 3-7)		
12	T 4	plants in medicine
13	W 5	tulips
14	F 7	orchids
WEEK 6 (February 10-14)		
15	T 11	citrus fruit
16	W 12	cotton
17	F 14	pine trees
WEEK 7 (February 17-21) Reading Break		
WEEK 8 (February 24-28)		
18	T 25	<i>Megastigmus</i>
19	W 26	TBA
20	F 28	TBA
WEEK 9 (March 2-6)		
21	T 3	GMO I
22	W 4	GMO II
	F 6	Midterm II (30 %)

Lecture Number	Day & Date	Topic
WEEK 10 (March 9-13)		
23	T 10	tomatoes & peppers
24	W 11	olive oil
25	F 13	tobacco
WEEK 11 (March 16-20)		
26	T 17	potato
27	W 18	TBA
28	F 20	dearth
WEEK 12 (March 23-27)		
29	T 24	El Niño
30	W 25	botanical barriers
31	F 27	wine II - guest lecture: S. Lueck
WEEK 13 (March 30 - April 3)		
32	T 31	popular art
33	W 1	gardening
34	F 3	Victoria gardens

FINAL EXAM (40 %) Date & time TBA

The final is *not* cumulative.