



Botany/Horticulture

Course Syllabus

Instructor Information

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Course Description

Botany/Horticulture

Spring Semester

Grades 9-11

This course investigates the basic development of plants and the interaction of plants and society. It will provide an opportunity to learn basic plant science knowledge, to acquire skills relevant to the propagation of plants, to examine and understand the influence of plants on society, and to critically evaluate plant-related science issues in the media and everyday life. Throughout the course, students will be able to learn and apply the scientific method thus allowing students to critically evaluate data and experimental design in the fields of horticulture and botany.

Curricular Information

Required Reading: Scientific articles, handouts, and laboratory instructions will be provided in class.

Additional Resources: The science notebook that will be created during this course will be extremely valuable for organization, and studying for tests/quizzes. Take good care of them!

Supplies Required for this Course:

- Spiral notebook, college ruled, with a durable cover.
- Pencils, colored pencils and highlighters.
- Ruler and scissors.
- Index cards

Daily Time and Effort Expectations:

The following are suggestions to help you to maintain or improve your grade in this course.

1. Show up on time to class EVERY DAY. Tardies and absences contribute to lost learning experiences that cannot be recovered just by making up assignments.
2. Study hard and work well with others. Expect to read or study a minimum of 15 minutes outside of class, 4 days a week.
3. Don't let yourself get behind on the classwork.
4. Prepare to participate in class before class begins by reading over your notes you have previously written, and read material that will be covered PRIOR to the day's scheduled lecture or activity.
5. Create and use a vocabulary list consistently as you work through each section.
6. Keep your handouts, lecture notes, and study questions organized in a notebook.
7. Study frequently and consistently in small doses. Cramming does not foster long-term understanding that will stick with you.

8. If you are having trouble with the material, get help early. Do not wait until test day.

Google Classroom:

Google classroom will be used as a tool for students to access certain assignments, quizzes/tests, student resources, and excused absence work.

Course Schedule: *Unit pacing consists of estimates, and are subject to change.*

Unit	Topics	Timeframe
Plant Origins and Identification	Plant origins, Anatomy & Physiology, Identification, & Introduction to Herbarium Semester Project	01/29 - 02/16
Trees and Forestry	Tree Anatomy & Physiology, Forest Health, and Forestry.	02/19 - 03/08
Plant Environments (soil, light & water)	Soil/Nutrition, plant environments (light & Water).	03/11 - 04/05
Plant Responses to Hormones and Tropisms	Responses to different plant hormones, and different plant tropisms	04/08 - 04/26
Controlled Environments	Greenhouses, Gardening from pots, Aquaponics, Hydroponics	04/29/ 05/17
Pests, Diseases, and Weeds	Preventative and diagnostic techniques for pests, diseases and weed control.	05/20 - 05/24
Herbs, Spices, and Medicinal plants	Growing, cultivating, and preserving herbs and spices. Medicinal plants.	05/27 - 05/30
Semester Project	Plant Herbarium Projects Due	06/03 - 06/06

Course Evaluation:

The percentage breakdown for semester grade calculation will be as follows:

Skills Practice	35% (Daily work assignments, lab packets, case study projects).
Assessments	50% (Quizzes/Tests, Lab Practicums).
Final Exam or Project	15% (Semester exam at the end of both semesters over all material covered during that semester)

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage	Proficiency descriptors
A+	97-100	<i>Assignments are fully completed in a timely manner and of excellent quality; the student shows superior level of initiative and seeks to <u>go beyond the minimum requirements</u>. Errors are rare or nonexistent.</i>
A	93-96	
A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	<i>Assignments are fully completed in a timely manner and typically of above average quality; the student is conscientious and meets all requirements with few errors.</i>
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	<i>Assignments are generally complete (met minimum requirements) and of good quality; assigned tasks have occasional errors.</i>
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	<i>Assignments are generally incomplete or of poor quality; the student makes frequent errors in work.</i>
D	63-66	
D-	60-62	
F	0-59	<i>Work is poorly done, if at all. Overall performance is inadequate to pass the course. Note: No name = No credit Illegible = No credit Late = No credit (*will <u>STILL</u> complete and submit the assignment)</i>

Classroom Policies and Expectations: Students are expected to adhere to the classroom rules set by the teacher in their assigned classroom, and in accordance with expectations found in the North Idaho STEM Charter Academy Student Handbook and Technology Policy.

Academic Honesty Code of Conduct:

“On my honor, I will maintain the highest possible standards of honesty, integrity, and personal responsibility. This means I will not lie, cheat, or steal, and as a member of this academic community, I am committed to creating an environment of respect and mutual trust.”

Violations of this code include, but are not limited to:

- Copying another person’s work or allowing your work to be copied (plagiarism)
- Allowing someone other than yourself to complete work in your name
- Using unauthorized assistance on an assessment or assignment
- Falsifying or manipulating data
- Submitting the same work for multiple courses without instructor’s permission
- Giving answers to other students
- Lying to an instructor
- Tampering with or destroying the work of another student

- Using responses found on the internet, or created with the use of technological means (ex artificial intelligence, etc)

*****Any outside sources used on an assignment should be referenced and cited appropriately.*****

Consequences for Academic Dishonesty: At the instructor's discretion, the student **will** lose partial or full credit for the assignment. The student will be on notice that the incident will be recorded in the gradebook and his/her parent(s) will be informed. Future academic dishonesty incidents will result in a grade of zero for the assignment, a meeting with the principal, and possible loss of credit, suspension, or expulsion. Direct copying is plagiarism. Only original work may be submitted for this (and any other) academic course. If you have any questions about avoiding plagiarism, please visit the [OWL at Purdue's "Avoiding Plagiarism" web page.](#)