



Course Syllabus

BIO8063 Comprehensive Study of Plants (3 credits)

Spring 2018

1. General information:

1.1 Contact information:

Instructor (for nontechnical assistance)

Dr. David Chevalier
dchevalier@biology.msstate.edu
Phone: (662) 648 9782

Emails and calls will be answered by the of the next business day.

Technical questions or problems:

Tracy Craven (Instructional Technology Manager for the Center for Distance Education)
tcraven@distance.msstate.edu
Phone: (662) 325 8374

Technical questions or problem about Proctortrack

<http://support.proctortrack.com/>
1-844-753-2020

1.2 Course description:

This class is three hours video and online. It is a study of plants from bryophytes to angiosperms, including growth, photosynthesis, respiration, nutrition, and evolution. This course is intended for K-12 science teachers and cannot be used to satisfy degree requirements in a non-distance degree program.

1.3 Prerequisites:

The Prerequisites are BIO6023 or consent of instructor.

1.4 Learning objectives:

Upon completion of this class, student should have a strong, broad but general understanding of most aspects of plant biology. This understanding will be evaluated at a greater-than-undergraduate level, with an emphasis on major concepts in botany and important details of underlying mechanisms for those major concepts.

1.5 Class Schedule:

This class is an online class. So you are required to have access to a computer that connects to the Internet. The course materials will be accessed through MyCourses (<http://myCourses.msstate.edu>) and MyMedia (<http://mymedia.msstate.edu/>), which require that you have a MSU NetID and password. Each topic discussed in this course will have lectures to listen to and recommended reading from the book.

1.6 Text Book:

The text book for the course are:

- *Plant Physiology*, 6th edition, by Taiz and Zeiger (2015)
- *Plant Systematics*, 3rd edition, by Judd and others (2008).

The text books are required for this course.

1.7 Class Website:

MyCourses (<https://mycourses.msstate.edu/webct/entryPageIns.dowebct>) and MyMedia (<http://mymedia.msstate.edu/>) will be used to post the weekly lecture.

MyCourses will be used to:

- make announcements
- post the grades
- take the weekly online quiz and the exams
- ask questions to the instructor and other students

1.8 Discussion board:

The discussion board threads are an important part of the online class learning experience. The discussion board threads may be initiated by you as well as by the instructor for many of the topics covered in the course. You are required to participate regularly in the discussion board sessions. Within these sessions, you will be required to read other student comments and post remarks, in addition to placing additional comments and questions that are beneficial or of interest to the entire class. Effective use of the bulletin board will include clarification of content, student interaction and discussion of pertinent content information, and sharing of additional helpful information (e.g. website links, current research reviews). The boards will be monitored regularly. Please refer to the netiquette rules for the discussion board.

2. Grading

2.1 Grades:

Your grade in this course will be based on a total of 500 points, broken down as follows:

• Exams: 4 at 100 points each	400 points
• Weekly lecture quizzes: 12 at 10 points each (lowest 2 quizzes dropped)	100 points
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	TOTAL 500 points

The following scale will be used to determine your grades:

- A: 450 to 500 points
- B: 400 to 449.99 points
- C: 350 to 399.99 points
- D: 300 to 349.99 points
- F: below 300 points

All the grades will be reported into the Grade Center tool within MyCourses.

2.2 Exam schedule:

Exams I to III will be opened beginning at 8 AM CST on Wednesday and closed at 11:59 PM CST on Sunday.

The final exam is scheduled at a specific time (see below).

ALL THE EXAM WILL BE PROCTORED USING THE PROCTORTRACK PROCTORING SYSTEM!

- Exam I:

The first exam is scheduled between 8 AM CST on Wednesday January 31, 2018 and 11:59 PM CST on Sunday February 4, 2018. The first exam will be on Taiz chapters 1 to 5.

- Exam II:

The second exam is scheduled between 8 AM CST on Wednesday February 21, 2018 and 11:59 PM CST on Sunday February 25, 2018. The second exam will be on Taiz chapters 6 to 9.

- Exam III

The third exam is scheduled between 8 AM CST on Wednesday March 28, 2018 and 11:59 PM CST on Sunday April 1, 2018. The third exam will be on Taiz chapters 13, 15, and 25.

- Final Exam

The final exam is scheduled between 8 AM CST on **Monday April 30, 2018** and 11:59 PM CST on **Saturday May 5, 2018**. The final exam will be on Judd chapters 1, 2, 4, 6, and 7.

The exams will consist mostly of multiple-choice, matching and true/false questions, but will also contain short answer and essay questions. All exams will be taken in a restricted time frame. You will have 90 minutes to take each exam.

- You **will not be allowed** to use any material to complete your exams. This includes notes, textbooks, any outside material, the internet, and textbook websites.
- You will not be allowed to communicate with anyone (including other students) during the exam. Communication includes speaking, using chat boards, discussion boards, blogs, texts, phone, or email.
- You will not be allowed to discuss the exam with other students during the time the exams are opened.

2.3 Quizzes:

All quizzes will be opened beginning at 8 AM CST on Wednesday and closed at 11:59 PM CST on Sunday.

ALL THE EXAM WILL BE PROCTORED USING THE PROCTORTRACK PROCTORING SYSTEM!

Please see the last page for the quiz schedule and topic.

The quizzes will consist of multiple-choice, matching and true/false questions. All quizzes will be taken in a restricted time frame. You will have 15 minutes to take each quiz.

- You **will not be allowed** to use any material to complete your quizzes. This includes notes, textbooks, any outside material, the internet, or textbook websites.
- You will not be allowed to communicate with anyone (including other students) during the quizzes. Communication includes speaking, using chat boards, discussion boards, blogs, texts, phone, and email.
- You will not be allowed to discuss the quiz with other students during the time the quizzes are opened.

2.4 Extra Credit Policy:

I do **not** provide extra credit assignments.

2.5 Missed Assignments:

- Exams I to III:

Exams I to III can be made up within one week of the scheduled date **IF** the instructor is notified **within 24 hours** of the missed exam date. You are responsible for notifying the instructor. A valid written excuse must be presented before you will be allowed to make up an exam. A valid excuse includes medical issues (you or your immediate family) or other documented and approved conflicts. All decisions about what constitutes a 'documented and approved' excuse will be made by the instructor on a case-by-case basis. The make-up exam may not be the same format as the exam given during the scheduled exam time.

- Final exam:

The final exam can not be made up.

- Quizzes:

The weekly lecture quiz can not be made up.

3 Classroom and assignments behavior:

The class is an on-line class. Every week, lectures will be posted. You are required to listen to the lectures.

All assignments (exams and quizzes) will be taken in a restricted time frame.

ALL THE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE PROCTORED USING THE PROCTOTRACK PROCTORING SYSTEM!

- You **will not be allowed** to use any material to complete your assignments. This includes notes, textbooks, any outside material, the internet, or textbook websites.
- You will not be allowed to communicate with anyone (including other students) during the quizzes. Communication includes speaking, using chat boards, discussion boards, blogs, texts, phone, and email.
- You will not be allowed to discuss the assignments with other students during the time the assignments are opened.
- no one else in the room while taking the exams/quizzes
- enough light in the room
- you are not allowed to open other softwares/programs/windows/browsers while taking the exams and quizzes
- no use of electronic devices

Please read the manual about the proctortrack, which can be found in the "Proctortrack student manual" tab on Blackboard.

Finally, as a reminder, all the exams/quizzes are reviewed.

4. Students Support Services:

Students who need academic accommodations based on a disability should visit the Office of Student Support Services, 01 Montgomery Hall, call 662-325-3335, or visit the website at www.sss.msstate.edu.

5. Student Honor Code:

Mississippi State has an approved Honor Code that applies to all students. The code is as follows: "As a Mississippi State University student, I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do." Upon accepting admission to Mississippi State University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor Code. Student will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the MSU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor Code. For additional information, please visit: <http://honorcode.msstate.edu/policy>

6. Academic misconduct:

Even though this is a distance education course, you are still responsible to uphold to the MSU Honor Code and to abide by all honesty policies in place by MSU. You are expected to do your own work. Academic misconduct (cheating, plagiarism, forgery, etc) of any form can result in serious consequences. Penalties may be as severe as receiving a grade of "F" in this course, suspension, and/or possible expulsion. Faculty members and students are responsible for reporting cases of academic misconduct. Reports to the Academic Honesty committee are kept for five years for students found guilty of academic dishonesty. Students have the right to appeal decisions by the committee. (<http://students.msstate.edu/honorcode/>).

Cheating will be reported to the Honor Code Office. Cheating includes but not limited to:

- using any materials and internet during the assignments
- communication with anyone during the assignments
- discussing assignments with other students during the time the assignments are opened
- requesting, getting and having quizzes and exams from previous years
- plagiarism

7. Title IX

MSU is committed to complying with Title IX, a federal law that prohibits discrimination, including violence and harassment, based on sex. This means that MSU's educational programs and activities must be free from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and other forms of sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know has experienced sex discrimination, sexual violence and/or harassment by any member of the University

community, you are encouraged to report the conduct to MSU's Director of Title IX/EEO Programs at 325-8124 or by e-mail to titleix@msstate.edu. Additional resources are available at <http://www.msstate.edu/web/security>, or at <http://students.msstate.edu/sexualmisconduct/>

8. Maroon Alert statement:

Maroon Alert is the emergency notification system of Mississippi State University. It includes several methods of notifying the university community of hazards and concerns, including text messages, emails, alerts on web pages, social media, and sirens. To be fully informed, please verify your Maroon Alert subscription information at my.msstate.edu. To report an on-campus emergency, dial 911 or (662) 325-2121. You can find more information about the Maroon Alert system at <http://www.emergency.msstate.edu/maroon-alert/>

9. Service Animal:

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and MSU policy (OP 91.123), qualified service animals are permitted in those generally accessible areas of Harned Hall, including hallways, bathrooms, offices and non-lab classrooms. However, research and teaching laboratory areas are more restricted by their nature. If you need to be accompanied by a service animal for the laboratory portion of this course, please be sure to let [instructor name] know as soon as possible so that we can arrange for an evaluation of the space by MSU Environmental Health & Safety, in conjunction with Disability Support Services.

Class Schedule (May be modified)

Week	Lecture Topic	Lecture quiz	Exam
01/8/18	Taiz – chapters 1 and 2	#1 on Taiz chapters 1 and 2	/
01/15/18	Taiz - 3 and 4	#2 on Taiz chapters 3 and 4	/
01/22/18	Taiz – chapter 5	#3 on Taiz chapter 5	/
01/29/18	/	No quiz	Exam I on Taiz chapters 1-5
02/05/18	Taiz – chapters 6 and 7	#4 on Taiz chapters 6 and 7	/
02/12/18	Taiz- chapter 8 and 9	#5 on Taiz chapters 8 and 9	/
02/19/18	/	/	Exam II on Taiz chapters 6 - 9
02/26/18	Taiz – chapter 13	#6 on Taiz – chapters 13	/
03/05/18	Taiz – chapter 15	#7 on Taiz – chapters 15	/
03/12/18	Spring Break		
03/19/18	Taiz – chapter 25	#8 on Taiz – chapters 25	/
03/26/18	/	No quiz	Exam III on Taiz chapters 13, 15, and 25
04/02/18	Judd – chapters 1 and 2	#9 on Judd – chapters 1 and 2	/
04/09/18	Judd – Judd chapter 4	#10 on Judd – chapter 4	/
04/16/18	Judd chapter 6	#11 on Judd – chapter 6	/
04/23/18	Judd – chapter 7	#12 on Judd – chapter 7	/
04/30/18	/	No quiz	Final Exam on Judd chapters 1,3, 4, 6 and 7

Exams and quizzes will be opened beginning at 8:00 AM CST on Wednesday and close at 11:59 PM CST on Sunday and should be taken on MyCourses. The final exam is scheduled at a specific time.