College of Arts and Sciences  
Department of Biology  
Spring 2013  
Plants and Human Society, BIOL 1315-11 thru 12  
Instructor: Dr. Robert Corbett  
Office: Hayes Biology 205-15  
Office Hours:  
- Wednesdays 03:30 PM – 05:15 PM  
- Thursdays 01:00 PM – 02:30 PM  
- Fridays 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
(or by appointment)  
Office phone number: 409-880-8254  
Email address: rwcorbett@my.lamar.edu  

Required Course Materials:  
- Access to a computer with a printer and internet access to use Blackboard to download lab exercises.  
- 3-ring binder for lab exercises and handouts.  
- Spiral or loose-leaf notebook paper for taking notes and pop quizzes.  

Optional Course Materials:  
- Colored pencils to aid in drawings or color-coding of figures (*highly recommended*).  

Course Description: A laboratory course examining plant structure, functions and uses of plants in society.  

Learning Outcomes:  
Upon completion of this course, students will have learned:  
- To operate a dissecting and compound microscope.  
- To identify the parts of a plant cell.  
- The structure and functions of different plant tissues and organs.  
- Biological and physiological processes in plants.  
- Different uses and roles for plants in human society.  
- To care for and grow plants.  
- Critical thinking skills to answer biological questions.  
- Communication and collaboration skills while working together to answer biological questions.  
- Proper scientific terminology.  
- To demonstrate biological knowledge through practical laboratory examinations.
Core Curriculum Outcomes:

- **Critical Thinking** – Students will be given a take home lab assignment to identify and analyze various produce items at local supermarkets and determine which represent fruits or vegetables (*see Foray to Supermarket Assessment document*).

- **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** – As part of the “Foray to Supermarket” assignment, students will graph and analyze their collected data in order to answer questions related to the assignment (*see Foray to Supermarket Assessment document*).

- **Teamwork** – Students will work in groups of 4 to 5 students to research a use of plants or plant products, write a term paper, and present their research to the class as a group (*see Term Project document*).

- **Communication** – Student groups will submit a written paper on a use of plants or plant products and present their research to the class in the form of a PowerPoint presentation (*see Term Project document*).

Grading Policy:

- Grades in lab will be based on 3 practical exams (100 points each), pop quizzes (best 5 pop quizzes, 50 points), and a take home assignment (100 points).

- Grades will be calculated as total points earned / 450 * 100%. Lab will count for 40% of the final course grade.

- *There will be no curving of grades due to poor performance in lab.*

Quiz Policies:

- Pop quizzes will be given periodically covering the current lab exercise and can contain questions about protocols as well as definitions and other pertinent information.

- Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class.

- The best five (5) quizzes will be used for determining part of your lab grade.

- *There are absolutely NO make-ups for quizzes under any circumstances.*

- If you arrive to lab after the quiz is given, you will not get a grade for the quiz.

Exam Policies:

- Exams for the lab will be practical in nature.

- All belongings besides your answer sheet and writing instruments will be left at the front of the room during exams.

- Students will rotate through 25 lab stations while answering questions about the material at each station (50 questions total).

- Students must use blue/black ink or pencil on exams.

- Questions will be given at each lab station and students will write their answers on an answer sheet provided by the instructor.

- Spelling errors will not count against the student as long as the answer is understandable.

- There will be 3 practical exams during the semester which will determine a major portion of the grade for the lab.

- Each practical exam will be worth 100 points.
Make-up exam policies:
• If you miss an examination, you should arrange to take the exam with another lab section if possible.
• After the day of the practical exam, the make-up exam will be a cumulative examination over the entire semester laboratory given on a date to be determined later in the semester.
• Make-up exams require permission from the instructor and the student must obtain permission in writing within 48 hours before or after the missed practical in person or via email.
• The cumulative make-up examination can only replace one (1) missed practical examination.

Extra credit:
• There may be some chances for extra credit offered during the course.
• Extra credit opportunities will be announced in class and/or through Blackboard.
• A student may earn no more than 50 points of extra credit during the semester in lab.
• Extra credit points will be added to the total points earned.
• Extra credit points are not added to the overall average.

Attendance and behavior policies:
• Laboratory attendance is mandatory. Information covered during each lab is your responsibility if you choose not to attend lab.
• One unexcused absence will be permitted. Each additional unexcused absence will result in five (5) points being deducted off your lab average. Five (5) or more unexcused absences will result in a failing grade of zero (0) for the lab.
• Excuses for missed labs must be submitted in writing within 48 hours of missing lab otherwise the absence will be considered unexcused. Excuses may be delivered in person or via email. Submitted excuses will be considered on an individual basis and the instructor’s decision whether to accept the excuse is final.
• Students must attend the lab section for which they are registered unless prior permission has been given. Attendance records are impossible to record if students do not go to their registered lab.
• Lab will begin promptly as scheduled. If you arrive late, please enter quietly and do not disrupt the class. Be sure you are not counted absent if you arrive late. If you need to leave early, please let the instructor know at the beginning of class and leave quietly when the time comes.
• Please refrain from talking while instructions are being given. If you have a question about the material, please direct it towards the instructor. Disruptive students will be asked to leave the lab. Multiple offenses will result in heavier penalties not excluding a failing course grade.
• **While in class, turn off cell phones, pagers, and iPods.** These are unwelcome distractions during lab. These should be left in pockets or bags during class. Students caught using any of these devices during class (texting included) will have them confiscated until the end of class and **five (5) points deducted from their lab average for each offense.**

• Laptops/tablets/digital cameras are allowed to be used during lab as long as all sounds are turned off and they do not cause a distraction. Students whose laptops/tablets/cameras disrupt lab will be prohibited from using them during lab in the future.

• **Online Course Material (Blackboard):** Grades and additional course material (including lab exercises) will be posted on Blackboard. All students are required to know how to log onto Blackboard to retrieve their grades. **Grades WILL NOT be posted any other place nor will they be given over the phone or via email.** Any information and handouts for class will be posted on Blackboard and it is the student’s responsibility to print them out and bring them to class. E-mails and announcements about class activities and / or assignments will be distributed through Blackboard.

**Important dates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01/18</td>
<td>Last day to register or change classes (with late fee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/21</td>
<td>MLK Day Holiday – <em>NO CLASSES</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/04</td>
<td>Census date/12th class day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/19</td>
<td>Last day to drop or withdraw without academic penalty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/11 – 03/15</td>
<td>Spring Break – <em>NO CLASSES</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/29</td>
<td>Good Friday Holiday – <em>NO CLASSES</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04/02</td>
<td>Last day to drop or withdraw with academic penalty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04/03</td>
<td>Last day for undergraduates to apply for graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/07</td>
<td>Final Exams Begin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Census Date** (Six Drop Rule does not apply)

*Monday, February 4:* Census Date/12th Class Day. Students may drop or withdraw without consulting with their Instructor, Department Chair or the Records Office. The Six Drop Rule does not apply to students who drop before 5:00p.m. on February 4.

**Drop Dates** (Six Drop Rule applies)

*Tuesday, February 19:* Last day to drop or withdraw from the course without academic penalty and receive a Q. Six Drop Rule applies beginning on February 5. Students should consult with Instructor and the Records Office to initiate a drop between the dates of 2/5-2/19.

*Tuesday, April 2:* Last day to drop or withdraw with academic penalty. Student must be passing the course at the time of the requested drop in order to receive a Q. The drop form, including all required signatures, must arrive in the Records Office by no later than 4:00p.m. on April 2. Six Drop Rule applies.

*Note:* Any student seeking to drop after April 2 must submit a fairly thorough written explanation, including supporting documents if applicable, of the extenuating circumstances for which the action is being requested. The explanation must be shared with and approved by the Instructor, the Department Chair, and the Dean of the college before the drop form will be sent to the Senior Associate Provost for a final review and decision.
Disability Accommodation
It is the policy of Lamar University to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal and state law and to the University’s commitment to equal educational opportunities. Students with a documented disability should contact the Director of the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SFSWD) which is located in 105 Communication Building. Students may write to P.O. Box 10087, Beaumont, Texas 77710, call 409.880.8347, fax 409.880.2225 or e-mail SFSWD@lamar.edu. The Director will arrange to meet with the student to determine reasonable academic adjustments and/or accommodations. Additional information is available at http://dept.lamar.edu/sfswd.

Academic Honesty
Students are specifically warned against all forms of cheating and plagiarism. The Lamar University Student Handbook clearly reads: “Any student found guilty of academic dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subjected to disciplinary action. Punishable offenses include, but are not limited to, cheating on an examination or academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of source materials.” One aspect of the Handbook’s definition of cheating includes “purchasing or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one’s own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm.” Plagiarism is defined as “the appropriation and the unacknowledged incorporation of another’s work or ideas into one’s own and submitted for credit.” Faculty members in the College of arts and Sciences investigate all cases of suspected plagiarism.

Any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty in this course will receive a grade of “F” for the assignment for violation of any of the forms of academic dishonesty listed above. A letter will be sent to the Vice President of Student Affairs to be placed in the students file reporting the violation and action taken. The Department reserves the right to take additional actions (including an “F” for the course or suspension) through the office of the Vice President of Student Affairs if the professor and the department chair deem it necessary.
# BIOLOGY 1315 – LABORATORY SCHEDULE SPRING 2013

Hayes Biology Building, Room 208  
(subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK BEGINNING</th>
<th>LAB EXERCISE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21-Jan</td>
<td>MLK Holiday – NO LAB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28-Jan</td>
<td>Introduction to the Microscope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04-Feb</td>
<td>The Plant Cell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Feb</td>
<td>Root, Stems, Leaves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-Feb</td>
<td>Photosynthesis, Plant Motions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-Feb</td>
<td>PRACTICAL EXAM I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 04-Mar         | Flowers, fruits & seeds;  
\*Botanical Foray Assignment* |
| 11-Mar         | *NO LABS due to Spring Break* |
| 18-Mar         | Mosses and Primitive Vascular Plants |
| 25-Mar         | Gymnosperms and Wood;  
\*Botanical Foray Assignment Due* |
| 01-Apr         | PRACTICAL EXAM II |
| 08-Apr         | Grasses and Legumes |
| 15-Apr         | Herbs and Spices, Beverages |
| 22-Apr         | Medicinal and Poisonous Plants |
| 29-Apr         | Materials: Papermaking |
| 06-May         | PRACTICAL EXAM III |

*Link to Final Exam Schedule*  