

2015

# Biology 109 Introduction to Plant Biology Spring 2015

Mike Retzer

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SYLLABUS  
BIOLOGY 109  
Spring SEMESTER, 2015  
THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY THE INSTRUCTOR

Instructor: Mike Retzer, Ph.D.  
Office: Room L-240 or L124  
Tuesdays 3-4 pm; and by arrangement

Email: [mretzer@parkland.edu](mailto:mretzer@parkland.edu)

About this course:

(IAI L1 901L) Introduction to the diversity, structure and function, and importance of plant life to ecological and human systems. Emphasis on scientific inquiry of real-world problems involving plant anatomy and growth, responsiveness, evolution, reproduction, economics, and symbiosis of plants. Prerequisite: ENG 101 placement.

General Education Objectives:

- Demonstrate their ability to solve problems, by collection and evaluating facts and using methods of scientific inquiry.
- Demonstrate their ability to compute and to think and express themselves effectively in quantitative terms.
- Demonstrate information literacy and their ability to think critically, which includes identifying biases and selecting and evaluating sources from varying as well as conflicting positions.

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

MODULE	TOPICS	LAB	QUIZ DUE DATES/Chapters Covered	Other deadlines/comments
1 Jan 12 – 16	Plant Biology and Life (Chemistry & Science)	Jan 15	Quiz – Jan 21 Ch. 1,2	
2 Jan 20-23	Cells & Tissues	Jan 22 - Microscopes & Root tips	Quiz – Jan 28 Ch. 3,4	Note that Jan 19th is a holiday. Collect Prairie Plant data/prepare plant bios.
3 Jan 26 - 30	Roots & Soils	Jan 29 – root slides	Quiz – Feb 4 Ch. 5	Visit the greenhouse
4 Feb 2-6	Stems, Leaves & Water	Feb 5 – stem & leaf slides	Quiz- Feb 11 Ch. 6,7,9	Visit the sites for planting
5 Feb 9-13	Flowers, Fruits, & Seeds	Feb 12 – Flowers & Fruits	Quiz – Feb 18 Ch. 8	Plant prairie seeds
6 Feb 16-20	Photosynthesis & Respiration	No lab	Quiz – Feb 25 Ch. 10	Visit Greenhouse & Record Plant Data
7 Feb 23 - 27	Growth, Development, Meiosis & Alt. Gen.	No lab	Quiz – Mar 4 Ch. 11-12	No class or lab Feb 26th
8 Mar 2-13	Genetics & Biotechnology	Mar 12 - DNA lab	Quiz – Mar 18 Ch. 13,14	Mar 5 - Visit Greenhouse & Record Plant Data
9 Mar 16 – Apr 10	Bryophytes to Angiosperms, pollination, evolution	No labs	Quiz – Apr 15 Ch. 15, 20-23	Be ready to visit greenhouse, record data, plant prairie plants Note Mar 23-27 is Spring break

10 Apr 13-17	Plants & People	No lab	Quiz – Apr 22 Ch. 24	Be ready to visit greenhouse, record data, plant prairie plants
11 Apr 20-24	Ecology, Conserv.,& Sustainability	No lab	Quiz – Apr 29 Ch. 25	Be ready to visit greenhouse, record data, plant prairie plants
12 Apr 27- May 1	Biomes	No lab	Quiz – May 6	Be ready to visit greenhouse, record data, plant prairie plants
-----	<b>Reviews and Talks</b>	Review for Final/Talks		Hand in plant notebook
<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>May 13, Wed. 2-4 pm</b>			

## GRADING

<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>	<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>WEIGHT (approx.)</b>
12 Quizzes @ 10 pts each	120	26%
Plant notebook 15 pts each	100	22%
7 Labs @ 10 pts each	70	16%
Plant Talk	50	12%
Instructor Points (TBA)	25	7%
Attendance & Work Ethic	20	5%
Final Exam	50	12%
Extra Credit (TBA)	20	
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>455 plus 20 EC</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*TBA = TO BE ASSIGNED.

These points may vary through the semester.

### GRADING SCALE

A = 90% and Above

B = 80 – 89%

C = 70 – 79%

D = 60 – 69%

F = 59% and below

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:** Parkland has a very clear policy on academic honesty and dealing with plagiarism. I reserve the right to give a zero to any assignment and quiz that I suspect is plagiarized.

**USE OF ELECTRONICS IN CLASS:** I may limit the use of cell/smart phones, etc. in class.

### AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT:

If you feel that you have a disability for which you may need an academic accommodation (including special testing, auxiliary aids, non-traditional instructional formats), please inform the instructor as soon as possible and contact the following for assistance:

Cathy Robinson, Director of Disability Services at  
disabilityservices@parkland.edu or 353-2338  
Or visit room U260  
[crobinson@parkland.edu](mailto:crobinson@parkland.edu)

**WITHDRAWING:** Withdrawal from the course is solely the responsibility of the student. Information on the withdrawal policy and procedures is published in the most recent Parkland College Catalog and Parkland Class Schedule.

### REQUIRED MATERIALS:

-Stern's Introductory Plant Biology, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, by J. Bidlack and S. Jansky

- Sturdy workgloves
- Hand trowel
- Shoes & clothes that can get dirty & protect your feet and legs
- 8.5" x 11" spiral notebook or something similar to record plant and field data
- 1 liter+ water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Hat

All other required materials will be given to you.

**QUIZ INFO:** There are twelve module quizzes, each worth 10 points. The quizzes for the modules will be taken in the testing center (L-161). Note that their hours are 9 am-4 pm weekdays. You must start the quiz at 3:45 PM or earlier. Note that you have two tries per quiz; the higher score will be counted. Normally, these last day to take these quizzes will be 4 pm on the Wednesday following the week that the module for that quiz ends.

**LATE WORK:** The instructor does not give full credit for late work. NO work more than 1 week late will be accepted. You may be asked to present evidence for why work was not turned in on time and it is at the discretion of the instructor to accept the work or not even if turned in within the 1 week late period.

**LABS:** Labs may be held on Tuesdays or Thursday and lab hand-ins are due on the following Monday. Some labs may be off campus; it is the responsibility of the students to provide their own transportation to off campus lab sites. Some but not all labs can be made up even with a valid excuse.

**INSTRUCTOR POINTS:** These are other assignments and in-class quizzes given during the semester and they will range from 5 to 20 points each.

**PLANT NOTEBOOK and PLANT TALK:** These assignments are products of a service project to plan, grow, and plant prairie plants around the Parkland Campus. This project is also in conjunction with the greenhouse.

**FINAL EXAM:** A comprehensive final exam is given in-class (not the testing center) and is based on the module quizzes.

For the Parkland College Syllabus addendum, please see one of the following:

QR code and URL for Syllabus Addendum 2013SP



[https://cobra.parkland.edu/shared/shared%20content%20files/syllabus\\_addendum.html](https://cobra.parkland.edu/shared/shared%20content%20files/syllabus_addendum.html)

