

# Introduction to Botany. Lecture 1

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August 25th, 2010

# Course description

This course will introduce the principles of plant

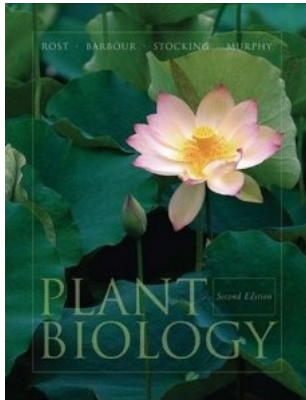
- structure,
- function,
- diversity

as evolved over time. You will gain a better understanding of plant life, diversity and distribution on this planet and learn to appreciate plants as elaborate and beautiful organisms, which are a significant part of our culture. You will learn about historical experiments and persons, who had a significant impact on the field and get introduced to current findings. In the labs you will observe plant structure and gain experience on how to collect and analyze experimental data.

# Instructor

- Dr. Alexey Shipunov
- Office: Moore 229
- Office Hours: Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 am to 11 am
- Phone: 858-3116
- E-mail: [alexey.shipunov@minotstateu.edu](mailto:alexey.shipunov@minotstateu.edu)

# Details



**Lectures** Mondays,  
Wednesdays and  
Fridays, 8:00 a.m. to  
8:50 a.m., Moore 16

**Laboratories** Mondays, Moore 210

**Textbook** Plant Biology (Rost et  
al., 2nd ed.,  
Thompson / Brooks /  
Cole publ.)



# Exams

- Five exams are given during the semester.
- Only the four best exams contribute to the final grade.
- Missed exams count zero points. There are no make-up exams.

# Labs

- This is a laboratory course, meaning that receiving zero points for more than one laboratory results in a failed course.
- Grading of laboratories is based on reports and/or drawings.
- Written reports and/or drawings are prepared and finished during laboratory sessions and passed to the instructor right after the particular laboratory session.

# Absence

There are five legitimate reasons for absence:

- 1 emergency situations,
- 2 attested medical conditions,
- 3 military duty,
- 4 participation in MSU sports events,
- 5 dependent sick leave.

Absence from exams or laboratories needs to be announced to the instructor in advance. I strongly recommend attending lectures regularly. Lecture contents will not exactly follow the textbook and additional information will be supplied.

# Monday tests

- It is expected that you have reviewed the lecture contents before you come to lab.
- This will be assessed in short tests (3 to 5 short-answer questions) on Monday mornings before you have lab that day.
- This procedure will help you to benefit from the labs and get prepared for the exams.

# Points

A total of 600 points can be earned and are distributed as follows:

- Four best exams: 400 points
- Monday tests: 50 points
- Laboratory: 150 points

Grading points may vary between exams, tests, and labs.

# Letter grades

- $A > 90\%$
- $B > 80\%$
- $C > 70\%$
- $D \geq 60\%$
- $F < 60\%$
- A minimum of one letter grade will be deducted from the grade for academic dishonesty / plagiarism.

# Tentative course sequence

- “Micro-botany”: cells
- Plant tissues
- Plant organs
- Plant reproduction
- Plant diversity
- Plant geography

# Importance of plants

Open discussion  
and  
Slide show





















































































































































# Summary

- BIOL 154: take your syllabus.
- Plants are extremely important, highly diverse and deserve a scientific study.

# For Further Reading



Th. L. Rost, M. G. Barbour, C. R. Stocking, T. M. Murphy.  
*Plant Biology*. 2nd edition.  
Thomson Brooks/Cole, 2006.  
*Chapter 1.2.*