

BIOLOGY 830
ETHNOBOTANY
FALL 2023

Professor Bryan Drew (344 Bruner Science Hall). Molecular systematics; biogeography; speciation; phylogenetics of Lamiaceae • 865-8883 • drewbt@unk.edu

	Date	Topic	Assignment*
Week 1	Aug. 21 st	Introduction/Overview of class Brief history of plants	Doyle 2019; Pobiner & Potts 2020; St. Fleur 2019
Week 2	Aug. 28 ^h	Plant nomenclature/plant terminology	Why do taxonomists write the meanest obituaries?; In Essence 2020
Week 3	Sept. 4 th	Agricultural History	Smithsonian 2021; Khan 2021; Groves 2019
Week 4	Sept. 11 th	Agricultural History (cont.)	Broushaki et al. 2016 (see also NPR); Wikipedia (really)
Week 5	Sept. 18 th	Edible plant parts and nutrients	Readings based on research topics. Topic for Research Paper Due via email (Sept. 22nd)
Week 6	Sept. 25 th	Common plants that are edible	Foderaro NYT; Liu et al. 2018, 2019; Makwana & Hati 2019
Week 7	Oct. 2 nd	MIDTERM EXAM 1 The grasses	
Week 8	Oct. 9 th	Legumes and others	Heberlin et al. 2017; Kleunen et al 2015
Week 9	Oct. 16 th	Spices: Families and Genera	Paper outline/Intro due (Oct. 20th)
Week 10	Oct. 23 th	Spices II: History and trade	History of Spices; The Spice That Built Venice
Week 11	Oct. 30 th	Commercial Use I: Materials: cloth, wood, and paper	Live Science 2011; Toups et al. 2011

Week 12	Nov. 6 th	MIDTERM EXAM 2 Commercial Use II: Stimulating beverages & Fermentation	Carrigan 2015; Research Paper Due (Nov. 10th)
Week 13	Nov. 13 th	Psychoactive plants	Presentations Due (Nov. 17 th)
Week 14	Nov. 20 th	Medicinal and poisonous plants THANKSGIVING	Theophrastus, the unsung hero...
Week 15	Nov. 27 th	Modern Agriculture I	
Week 16	Dec. 4 th	Modern Agriculture II: Problems moving forward	
Week 17		FINAL EXAM December 6th-Dec 13th	

* Readings may be added as the course progresses.

Plants are inextricably intertwined with human evolution and history. This course examines some of the myriad plant-human relationships pivotal to the development and maintenance of human societies. The course will include 1) some basic botany for orientation, 2) historic uses of plants and how plant/human interactions have shaped societies, and 3) modern plant/human relationships, with a focus on agricultural practices.

The specific objectives for the course are: 1. To gain content knowledge of the functional morphology, basic physiology, and evolution of (primarily seed) plants. 2. To gain knowledge of important relationships between plants and humans and how those relationships have influenced civilizations and cultures. 3. To develop critical thinking skills by analyzing and interpreting the aforementioned relationships. 4. To develop written and verbal communication skills through writing and discussions on the relationships between plants and human civilizations. This biology course is designed to be an introduction to botany, including an overview of the structure, function, and evolution of plants, and an exploration of how plant/human interactions have shaped society.

Plagiarism and cheating: Anyone found plagiarizing or cheating will receive a 0 for that assignment; subsequent violations will result in referral to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for dismissal from the university (for more info please see **plagiarism** section at end).

GRADES:	Midterm I	10%
	Midterm II	10%
	Final Exam	20%
	Discussion Board	30%
	Research Project	30% total
	Written:	20%
	Presentation:	10%

The grading scale used for this class is as follows:

A (93-100%), A- (90-92%), B+ (88-89%), B (83-87%), B- (80-82%), C+ (78-79%), C (73-77%), C- (70-72%), D+ (68-69%), D (63-67%), D- (60-62%), and F (below 60%)

Finals Week Policy

The final exam will be administered in the time period scheduled during finals week in accordance with University policy ([Final Exam Schedule](#)). More information about UNK's Finals Week Policy, including when it is appropriate to ask for special accommodations to move a course's final exam, can be found here: [Finals Week Policy](#).

Reporting Student Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence or Sexual Assault

Reporting allegations of rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and stalking enables the University to promptly provide support to the impacted student(s), and to take appropriate action to prevent a recurrence of such sexual misconduct and protect the campus community. Confidentiality will be respected to the greatest degree possible. Any student who believes they may be the victim of sexual misconduct is encouraged to report to one or more of the following resources:

- **Local Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault Advocacy Agency** 308-237-2599
- **Campus Police (or Security)** 308-865-8911
- **Title IX Coordinator** 308-865-8655

Retaliation against the student making the report, whether by students or University employees, will not be tolerated.

Students with Disabilities

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska at Kearney to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to students with documented disabilities. To receive accommodation services for a disability, students must be registered with the UNK Disabilities Services for Students (DSS) office, 175 Memorial Student Affairs Building, 308-865-8214 or by email unkdso@unk.edu

Students Who are Pregnant

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska at Kearney to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to students who are pregnant. To receive accommodation services due to pregnancy, students must contact the Student Health office at 308.865.8218. The following links provide information for students and faculty regarding pregnancy rights. <https://thepregnantscholar.org/title-ix-basics/>

<https://nwlc.org/resource/faq-pregnant-and-parenting-college-graduate-students-rights/>

UNK Statement of Diversity & Inclusion

UNK stands in solidarity and unity with our students of color, our Latinx and international students, our LGBTQIA+ students and students from other marginalized groups in opposition to racism and prejudice in any form, wherever it may exist. It is the job of institutions of higher education, indeed their duty, to provide a haven for the safe and meaningful exchange of ideas

and to support peaceful disagreement and discussion. In our classes, we strive to maintain a positive learning environment based upon open communication and mutual respect. UNK does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, disability or political affiliation. Respect for the diversity of our backgrounds and varied life experiences is essential to learning from our similarities as well as our differences. The following link provides resources and other information regarding D&I: <https://www.unk.edu/about/equity-access-diversity.php>

Veterans Services

UNK works diligently to support UNK's military community by providing military and veteran students and families with resources and services to help them succeed. Veterans Services assists with the GI Bill process and acts as a liaison between the student and the Veterans Administration. If you need assistance or would like more information, please contact Lori Weed Skarka at 308-865-8520 or unkveterans@unk.edu.

Copyright Law and Compliance

The materials on the course website are only for the use of students enrolled in this course for purposes associated with this course and may not be retained or further disseminated. The materials on this course website may be protected by copyright, and any further use of this material may be in violation of federal copyright law.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as taking any sequence of more than three words without proper citation. Taking an idea or image (photograph, table, or graph) without proper citation is also plagiarism and may violate copyright laws. The UNK graduate catalog <http://catalog.unk.edu/graduate/academics/academic-regulations/expectations-in-the-classroom/> gives the UNK perspective on this. There are levels of plagiarism:

- a. **Simple plagiarism**: Copying sentences verbatim or taking figures without citation is the most blatant form of plagiarism. Using the ideas of another to support an argument without citing the source of those ideas is another form of simple plagiarism, regardless of whether the wording is verbatim or has been paraphrased.
- b. **Under-citation**:
 - i. If you write a paragraph and only cite the last sentence but used more than one source for that paragraph, you have under-cited.
 - ii. If you include a source in the list of references at the end of the paper but do not cite that source within the text (within the sentence where the material was used), you have under-cited.
- c. **Mis-citation**:
 - i. Indirect citation is when you cite a source that was cited by the source you actually read.

- ii. Citing the wrong source is when you state that some material came from Jones (2004) but it really came from Smith (2003).
- iii. Incorrectly citing the source is when you give an incomplete or inaccurate reference that, if followed, does not lead the reader to the source material. Citing web pages requires very careful listing of the URL. One misplaced character can lead to a dead end rather than the correct source. If you direct the reader to a web page that LEADS to the source, that web page *is not* your source; the ultimate page *is*. That is the URL you should use.

If it is found that you have committed plagiarism, you will receive a zero for the assignment. We will maintain a list of offenders and if plagiarism occurs in another class it will be considered a repeat offense. The Senior Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs also keeps records of students who commit academic dishonesty.