



# Field Botany

## Important Information:

### *Meeting times:*

Tuesday and Thursday  
9:30 am to 12:10 pm

### *Meeting dates:*

The weeks of  
Aug 24 —Nov 2, 2009

### *Meeting place:*

Boyd 133  
and Outdoors on  
Campus

### *Off Campus field trips:*

Local areas of interest  
including Hueston  
Woods, Ecology  
Research Center and  
Bachelor Preserve

### Instructor:

Mirabai McCarthy

- Office: 333 Pearson
- Email: mcartmr@muohio.edu
- Office hours:  
by appointment

## *General Course Information*

**Course Objectives:** Interpretive introduction to botany in the laboratory and regional outdoors. Emphasis given to identification, use, habit, habitat and communities of plants, in the context of local terrestrial and aquatic habitats.

**Textbooks:** Grimm, W.C. *Illustrated Book of Trees* Stackpole Books  
Newcomb L. *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide* Little Brown and Co.

**Required Equipment:** Field notebook, pencil, 10X hand lens and small plant press.

**Safety:** Much of the course will be spent out-of-doors. Please be prepared for exposure to sun, rain, and insects. **SENSIBLE SHOES REQUIRED.**

**Cell phones and Laptops:** Use of cell phones and laptop computers is prohibited during class

## *Course Attendance*

Attendance will be taken within the first 10 minutes of each class meeting. If you arrive after attendance is taken, you will be marked tardy. Your first 2 tardies will be excused. After that, each tardy will result in a five point deduction from your course point total. All absences will result in a 10 point deduction from your course point total unless you have a valid excuse for missing class. If you miss a quiz or any class assignment due to tardiness or absence, you will lose the points on those assignments. NO make-ups will be given. Exams must be taken when scheduled. Make-ups will be given only in extreme cases. If you miss more than two class meetings without a valid excuse, you will be dropped from the course.

## *Important Information*

Each student should become familiar with University policies and procedures with respect to academic dishonesty.

Students should also familiarize themselves with University deadlines for withdrawal from the course without penalty.

## Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Topics and Activities
1	Introduction; how to use keys to identify plants; vegetative characters
2	How to use keys to identify plants; Flowers
3	Fruit
4	EXAM 1 (written); EXAM 2 (plant identification and practical)
5	Visit to Ecology Research Center; Student tree presentations
6	Student tree presentations
7	Gymnosperms—First 25 plant collection specimens due
8	Field trip to Hueston woods; EXAM 3 (plant identification)
9	Non-vascular plants/seedless vasc. plants; Field trip to Bachelor Preserve
10	Second 25 plant collection specimens due; In class relevé report
11	Visit to Western or Marcum Woods; FINAL EXAM



## Course Projects

**Plant Collection:** Each student will be required to make a collection of 50 plant specimens. These specimens must be pressed, dried, mounted and identified. Details on how to complete this project will be supplied in a separate handout.

**Tree Presentation:** Early in the semester you will be given the name of a tree growing on campus. You will be responsible for creating a handout and giving a 10 minute presentation to the class on your tree. Details on how to complete this project will be provided in a separate handout.

## Course Grading

	Points	Percent Score	Grade
Exam 1	100 points		
Exam 2	100 points		
Exam 3	100 points	90 - 100	A
Activities	100 points	80 - 89	B
Plant Collection	100 points	70 - 79	C
Tree Presentation	100 points	60 - 69	D
Final	100 points	Less than 60	F
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>700 points</b>		

