



Field Botany

Important Information:

Meeting times:

Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 pm to 11:50 pm

Meeting dates:

The week of
Aug 25 —Nov 3, 2008

Meeting place:

Pearson 322
and Outdoors on
Campus

Off Campus field trips:

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

Instructor:

Susannah B. J. Fulton

- Office: 386 Pearson
- Email:
fultonsb@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 |
| 3 | Flowers; 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 | 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

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------|---------------|-------|
| Exam 1 | 100 points | | |
| Exam 2 | 100 points | Percent Score | Grade |
| 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 |
| TOTAL | 700 points | | |

