

BOT 5725
Taxonomy of Vascular Plants
Spring 2018

Instructors:

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Office Hours: By appointment

Credits: 4

Herbarium: 379 Dickinson Hall; phone: 273-1990. Library is open between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, but plant collection usage restricted to faculty (or graduate students with approved systematic research projects).

Lecture: Tuesday & Thursday, periods 6-9 (12:50-4:55pm); Rolfs Hall room 105.

Textbook (required): Christenhusz et al. (2017) *Plants of the World*. Plus additional readings to be provided as PDFs on Canvas.

Laboratory tools: 2 dissecting needles, package of razor blades (or scalpel), tweezers, 10X hand-lens.

Grading: One mid-term exam (45% of final grade), one final exam (45% of final exam), class participation (10% of final grade). Grade based on total number of points, with 90% or above an "A", 89-80% "B", 79-70% "C", 69-60% "D", and below failing; plus and minus grades will be used. Exams will be based on lecture and laboratory material.

**Outline of lectures and labs
Spring 2017**

Week 1:		
9 Jan	PS	Introduction: What is taxonomy? Basic principles, digital resources
11 Jan	NC	12:50-1:40pm (Rolf): Field and herbarium methods; identification and introduction to nomenclature 2pm (Dickinson): Herbarium Tour
Week 2:		
16 Jan	NC	Species concepts, speciation
18 Jan	PS	Phylogenetics
Week 3:		
23 Jan	PS	Phylogenetics, cont.
25 Jan	ES	Hybridization, polyploidy, and apomixis
Week 4:		
30 Jan	ES	Characteristics of vascular plants: a brief evolutionary history, seed plant relationships
1 Feb	ES	Lycophytes and Monilophytes
Week 5:		
6 Feb	ES	Cycads and Ginkgo
8 Feb	ES	Conifers and Gnetophytes
Week 6:		
13 Feb	DS	Introduction to flowering plants and phylogenetic relationships of major clades
15 Feb	RF	Magnoliid clades
Week 7:		
20 Feb	PS	Monocots I
22 Feb	PS	Monocots II
Week 8:		
27 Feb	PS	Monocots III
1 Mar	ES	Exam #1

		Spring Break
Week 9:		
13 Mar	DS	Ranunculales, Proteales, Saxifragales
15 Mar	RF	Saxifragales (in part), Oxalidales, Malpighiales (axile taxa)
Week 10:		
20 Mar	RF	Malpighiales (parietal taxa), Fabales, Rosales (basal families)
22 Mar	DS	Rosales (former Urticales), Fagales
Week 11:		
27 Mar	DS	Cucurbitales, Myrtales
29 Mar	DS	Brassicales, Malvales
Week 12:		
3 Apr	DS	Sapindales, Introduction to Superasterids
5 Apr	RF	Caryophyllales, Santalales
Week 13:		
10 Apr	RF	Cornales, Ericales
12 Apr	NC	Lamiids, part I
Week 14:		
17 Apr	NC	Lamiids, part II
19 Apr	NC	Campanulids, part I
Week 15:		
24 Apr	NC	Campanulids, part II
3 May		Final exam: 12:50–2:50, Rolfs 105