

BOT 5725
Taxonomy of Vascular Plants
Spring 2024

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 is restricted to faculty (or graduate students with approved systematic research projects).

Lecture: Tuesdays & Thursdays periods 7-10 (1:55-6:00 pm); Rolfs Hall room 105.

Textbook (required): Judd et al. (2015) *Plant Systematics: a phylogenetic approach*. Sinauer Associates, 4th edition. 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.

Lectures and labs Schedule – Spring 2024

Week 1:		
9 Jan	NC	Introduction to the course. Taxonomy, systematics, and classification
11 Jan	LM	Dickinson Hall (1659 Museum Rd.): Herbarium Tour; best practices, field and herbarium methods
Week 2:		
16 Jan	NC	Nomenclature
18 Jan	NC	Phylogenetics, clades vs species

Week 3:		
23 Jan	DS	Hybridization, polyploidy, and apomixis
25 Jan	PS	Characteristics of vascular plants: a brief evolutionary history, seed plant relationships
Week 4:		
30 Jan	PS	Lycophytes and Monilophytes
1 Feb	PS	Cycads and Ginkgo
Week 5:		
6 Feb	PS	Conifers and Gnetophytes
8 Feb	LM	Angiosperm morphology overview
Week 6:		
13 Feb	DS	Introduction to flowering plants and phylogenetic relationships of major clades
15 Feb	LM	Magnoliid clades
Week 7:		
20 Feb	LM	Ranunculales, Proteales, Saxifragales
22 Feb	LM	Oxalidales, Malpighiales (axile taxa)
Week 8:		
27 Feb	LM	Malpighiales (parietal taxa), Fabales
29 Feb	LM	Rosales, Fagales
Week 9:		
5 Mar	DS	Cucurbitales, Myrtales
7 Mar		Mid-Term Exam
Spring Break		
Week 10:		

19 Mar	DS	Brassicales, Malvales
21 Mar	DS	Sapindales, Introduction to Superasterids
Week 11:		
26 Mar	DS	Caryophyllales, Santalales
28 Mar	DS	Cornales, Ericales
Week 12:		
2 Apr	NC	Lamiids I
4 Apr	NC	Lamiids II
Week 13:		
9 Apr	NC	Campanulids I
11 Apr	NC	Campanulids II
Week 14:		
16 Apr	PS	Monocots I
18 Apr	PS	Monocots II
Week 15:		
23 Apr	PS	Monocots III
30 Apr		Final Exam

Attendance and make-ups:

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. [Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms](#). Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. Refer to the above link for more information on the university's attendance policy.

Accommodations:

Students who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluations:

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/

Academic Integrity:

“UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Resources Available to Students:

Health and Wellness

- *U Matter, We Care:* umatter@ufl.edu; 392-1575
- *Counseling and Wellness Center:* <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>; 392-1575
- *Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS):* Student Health Care Center; 392-1161
- *University Police Department:* <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>; 392-1111 (911 for emergencies)

Academic Resources

- *E-learning technical support*: Learningsupport@ufl.edu; <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>; 352-392-4357 (opt. 2)
- *Career Resource Center*: Reitz Union; <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>; 392-1601
- *Library Support*: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>
- *Teaching Center*: Broward Hall; 392-2010 or 392-6420
- *Writing Studio*: 302 Tigert Hall; <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>; 846-1138

Procedure for Conflict Resolution:

Any classroom issues, disagreements or grade disputes should be discussed first between the instructor and the student. If the problem cannot be resolved, please contact the Graduate Coordinator or the Department Chair. Be prepared to provide documentation of the problem, as well as all graded materials for the semester. Issues that cannot be resolved departmentally will be referred to the University Ombuds Office (<http://www.ombuds.ufl.edu>; 392-1308) or the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu>; 392-1261). For further information refer to https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf (for residential classes) or <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaintprocess> (for online classes).