

Introduction to Botany. Lecture 1

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 - Importance



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Course in general

Description



Course description

This course will introduce the principles of plant

- structure,
- function,
- diversity

as evolved over time. You will gain a better understanding of plant life, diversity and distribution on this planet and learn to appreciate plants as elaborate and **beautiful** organisms, which are a significant part of our culture. You will learn about historical experiments and persons, who had a significant impact on the field and get introduced to current findings. In the labs you will observe plant structure and gain experience on how to collect and analyze experimental data.



Instructor

- Dr. Alexey Shipunov
- Office: Moore 229
- Office Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 11 am to 12 am
- Phone: 858-3116
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Lectures Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:00 am to 10:50 am, Moore 16

Laboratories Mondays and Wednesdays, Moore 210



Web site

Shipunov, A. Introduction to Botany [Electronic resource]. 2010—onwards.
Mode of access: http://herba.msu.ru/shipunov/school/biol_154/index.htm

BIOL 154: Introduction to Botany



Class materials:

- [Syllabus](#) (PDF, 0.2 Mb)
- [All points and grades](#) (Excel, 0.1 Mb)

Folders:

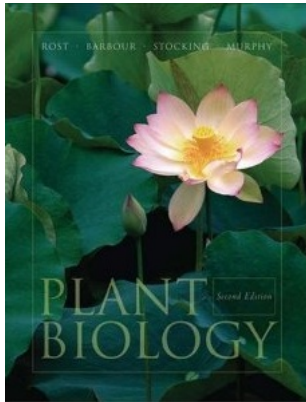
- [Old lectures \(2010\)](#)
- [Old lectures \(2011\)](#)
- [Old lectures \(2012\)](#)
- [Movies](#)

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http://ashipunov.info/shipunov/school/biol_154




Textbook



“Rost” Plant Biology (Rost et al., 2 ed., Thomson Brooks/Cole)

Wikibook “Botany”



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Botany

Study Guide to the Science of Botany

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A **printable version** of Botany is available.
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Plant Biology [\[edit\]](#)

Chapter 1 ~ An Introduction to Botany ■


- Botany as a Science
- Living Systems
- Plants and their Uses
- Introduction to Classification

Chapter 2 ~ Plant cells ■

- Plant Cell Structure
- Basic Cell Function
- Plant Cell Specializations
 - [Microscopy laboratory](#) ■

Chapter 3 ~ Plant tissues ■

- Meristems



Plants tend to dominate both natural and rural landscapes in all but the most rigorous of environments

<http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Botany>

Course in general

Grading



Exams

- Four exams are given during the semester.
- Only three best exams contribute to the final grade.
- Missed exams count zero points. There are **no make-up** exams.



Exam preparation and grading

- First exams will be based on graded curve; I will use **trimmed maximum** approach.
- To prepare for the exam, you should:
 - 1 go through lecture slides
 - 2 clarify remaining questions with textbook
 - 3 use external sources (like Wikipedia) to explore the rest



Labs

- This is a **laboratory course**, meaning that receiving zero points for more than one laboratory results in a failed course.
- Grading of laboratories is based on reports and/or drawings.
- Written reports and/or drawings are prepared and finished during laboratory sessions and passed to the instructor right after the particular laboratory session.
- Some labs will be outdoor



Absence

There are five legitimate reasons for absence from exams or labs:

- 1 emergency situations,
- 2 attested medical conditions
- 3 military duty,
- 4 participation in MSU sports events,
- 5 dependent sick leave.

Absence from exams or laboratories needs to be announced to the instructor in advance.



Lectures

- I strongly recommend attending lectures regularly. Lecture contents will supersede the textbook.
- Make notes based on my explanations and board drawings, do not copy slides!
- At the end of every lecture I will give one short test question to answer. Each question will give from 1 to 3 points.



Points

A total of 540 points can be earned and are distributed as follows:

Lecture tests : 60 points (1–3 points per question)

Three best exams : 240 points

Laboratories : 240 points (20 points per lab)

Grading points may vary between exams, tests, and labs.



Letter grades

- $A \geq 90\%$
- $B \geq 80\%$
- $C \geq 70\%$
- $D \geq 60\%$
- $F < 60\%$

A minimum of one letter grade will be deducted from the grade for academic dishonesty / plagiarism.



Course in general

Course schedule



Tentative course sequence

- Photosynthesis
- Symbiogenesis
- Life cycle
- Tissues
- Living skyscrapers: plant organs
- Seed
- Flower and flowering plants



Plants: importance and definition

Importance



Plant is not an animal!



Importance of plants

Why are plants important?



Final question (1 point)



Final question (1 point)

Why are plants important?



Summary

- BIOL 154: download the syllabus from the Web site
(http://ashipunov.info/shipunov/school/biol_154/)
- Plant is not an animal!
- Plants are extremely important, highly diverse and deserve a scientific study



For Further Reading



A. Shipunov.

Introduction to Botany [Electronic resource].

2010—onwards.

Mode of access:

http://ashipunov.info/shipunov/school/biol_154



Th. L. Rost, M. G. Barbour, C. R. Stocking, T. M. Murphy.

Plant Biology. 2nd edition.

Thomson Brooks/Cole, 2006.

Chapter 1.