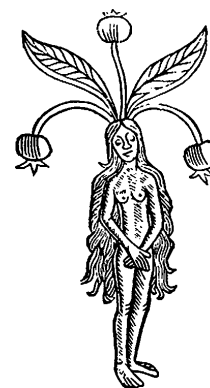


BIOL 310 —Ethnobotany (4 credits)

Alexey Shipunov

Spring 2015



SYLLABUS

Class Dates : January 14 to May 14, 2015

Course Description :

The field of ethnobotany studies the uses of plants by humans. This course will focus on the diversity of plant uses, covering approaches of diverse cultures, including introduction to medicinal plants, plant uses specific to North Dakota, and Native American plant use. Students will have the integral picture of plant uses and their respective cultural background/histories; will be able to analyze information accompanying different plant-based products (including pharmaceutical); will know basic principles of plant cultivation, useful plant identification and survival based on plant use. They will perform individual project and demonstrate their knowledge in a classroom presentations. Laboratories will concentrate on plant cultivation, identification, collection and databases.

Central Concepts :

The course relies on the pre-existed knowledge of botany and covers all aspects of plant use.

Instructor : Dr. Alexey Shipunov

Office : Moore 229

Office Hours : Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Phone : 858-3116

E-mail : alexey.shipunov@minotstateu.edu — this is the preferable way of communication

Lectures : Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m., Moore 211

Textbook : None.

Reference texts : Several reference texts will be available on-line. Another reference (Heinrich et al. 2012. Fundamentals of Pharmacognosy and Phytotherapy) covers the pharmacognosy part of course. For the basic knowledge of botany, the on-line textbook “Introduction to Botany” (draft) is available.

Web site : http://ashipunov.info/shipunov/school/biol_310/

Please note that lecture slides from the Web site are **not** containing all information which is given on lectures.

Laboratories : Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Moore 213

Lab sections will be additionally split to fit in the greenhouse. In some cases, labs will be spread over the weekdays. We also will have two outdoor excursions (one is planned to Peace Garden) which last longer.

Grading :

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

Receiving zero points for more than one laboratory results in a failed course. However, there are five legitimate reasons for absence: (1) emergency situations, (2) attested medical conditions, (3) military duty, (4) participation in MSU sports events, and (5) dependent sick leave. Absence from exams or laboratories must be announced to me in advance. I strongly recommend to attend lectures regularly since lectures are the main reference.

Grading of laboratories is based on reports. Written reports are prepared and finished during laboratory sessions and passed to the instructor right after the particular laboratory session.

Every Wednesday lecture will start from a short presentation(s) and degustation (tasting) of cultivated plant. Every student in a class will have a project including this presentation, tasting, and growing the plant in the greenhouse. Presentation is mandatory and counted as an exam. Growing the project plant is considering as a lab part.

Points can be earned are distributed as follows (grading points may vary):

Three best exams : ≤ 240 points (assuming 80 points per exam)

Presentation : ≤ 80 points

Laboratories : ≤ 240 points (20 points per lab \times 12 labs)

Letter Grades : A $\geq 90\%$, B $\geq 80\%$, C $\geq 70\%$ D $\geq 60\%$, F $< 60\%$.

Academic Honesty : Honesty and integrity are central to academic life at Minot State University. Cheating may affect the student in accordance with the grading policy: a **minimum** of one letter grade will be deducted from the grade for academic dishonesty / plagiarism.

Disability Needs : In coordination with Disability Support services, reasonable accommodations will be provided for qualified students with disabilities. Please contact the instructor during the first week of class to make arrangements. Additional information is available from MSU Disability Support Services.

Tentative Course Schedule :

Week 1	Jan 14, 16	Introduction, classification, main food source plants; no lab
Week 2	Jan 21, 23	Main food source plants; Lab 1
Week 3	Jan 26, 28, 30	Main food source plants; Lab 2
Week 4	Feb 2, 4, 6	Centers of origin; sugar and oil plants; Lab 3
"		1st exam: Feb 9
Week 5	Feb 11, 13	Sugar and oil plants; Lab 4
Week 6	Feb 18, 20	Fruit and vegetable plants; Lab 5
Week 7	Feb 23, 25, 27	Fruit and vegetable plants; Lab 6
Week 8	Mar 2, 4, 6	Fruit and vegetable plants; Lab 7
"		2nd exam: Mar 9
Week 9	Mar 11, 13	Fruit and vegetable plants; no lab
		<i>Week 10: Spring break</i>
Week 11	Mar 23, 25, 27	Aromatic plants (herbs and spices); Lab 8
Week 12	Mar 30, Apr 1	Medicinal plants; no lab
Week 13	Apr 8, 10	Medicinal plants; no lab
"		3rd exam: Apr 13
Week 14	Apr 15, 17	Medicinal plants; Lab 9
Week 15	Apr 20, 22, 24	Medicinal plants; Lab 10
Week 16	Apr 27, 29, May 1	Harmful plants; technical plants; Lab 11
Week 17	May 4, 6, 8	Ornamental plants; Lab 12
Week 18		4th Exam: Thursday May 14, 9:00–9:50 a.m.

Please note that this schedule is a subject to change. Only exam dates are fixed.