

**Biology 130: Introduction to Plant Biology**

Instructor: Dr. Brian C. Barringer  
Email: [bbarring@uwsp.edu](mailto:bbarring@uwsp.edu)  
Phone: 715-346-2452  
Office: TNR 337  
Office Hours: Thur/Fri 10:00 – 12:30 or by appointment

Lecture: Mon/Wed 2:00 – 3:15 TNR 170

Lab:  
Section 7 (Demchik): Tue/Thur 9:00 – 10:50 TNR 157  
Section 8 (Demchik): Tue/Thur 12:00 – 1:50 TNR 157  
Section 9 (Demchik): Tue/Thur 2:00 – 3:50 TNR 157  
Section 10 (Hardy): Mon/Wed 4:00 – 5:50 TNR 157

**Required Texts:** *Raven Biology of Plants* by Evert and Eichhorn, 8<sup>th</sup> ed. (rental)  
*Biology 130 Lab Manual*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Fall 2016 Revision (purchase)

**Course Description:** This course introduces students to the fundamental principles of biology, with special emphasis on the molecular and cellular biology, growth, reproduction, structure, function, genetics, diversity, ecology, and evolution of plants.

**Lab:** In addition to attending lecture you will meet in lab twice per week throughout the semester. There are a number of assignments and quizzes/exams associated specifically with lab. A separate syllabus for lab will be given to you during your first lab meeting.

**Exams:** The lecture component of this course includes four exams total: three midterms and a final. Exams are entirely multiple choice. Midterm exams will occur during our regular lecture time (see lecture schedule, below, for dates). Midterm exams are not cumulative, per se; however, topics covered later in the semester build upon ideas covered earlier in the semester. The final exam is cumulative though it will be weighted slightly toward material covered at the very end of the semester (i.e., material covered after midterm III). The final exam is also worth a bit more than the midterms (see grading, below). Bring a #2 pencil to all exams. You will also need to know your student ID number.

**Quizzes:** A number (3-5) of short, unannounced (i.e., “pop”) quizzes will be given to you during lecture at various times throughout the semester. Quizzes are not meant to be particularly difficult. If you attend and participate in lecture and study your notes and my lecture slides on a regular basis you should find them to be relatively easy. Quizzes will always be administered promptly at the start of our meeting and collected after 4-5 minutes. Note that I will drop your lowest quiz score so if you miss or perform badly on one quiz it will not impact your final grade.

**Attendance:** I do not formally take attendance during lecture. However, I assure you that students who regularly attend and participate in lecture do significantly better than students who habitually skip and/or are late. Do not fool yourself into thinking that your textbook and access to my lecture slides is a substitute for attending lecture! In addition, missing or being late to lecture carries with it a finite chance of missing a quiz.

**Extra credit:** On occasion I might offer a small amount of extra credit (usually for attending relevant seminars held on campus or in the community). If/when these opportunities occur I will announce them in class and via email. I do not offer extra credit in response to student requests.

**Grading:** The total number of points possible in this course is 725-745 (depending on how many quizzes I offer and taking into account that I drop the lowest quiz score). Of these, 360-380 points are allocated to lecture and 365 points are allocated to lab. A breakdown of these points follows:

	<b>Activity</b>	<b># points possible</b>
<b>Lecture</b>	Midterm exams (3)	80 each
	Final exam	100
	Quizzes (3-5)	10 each
<b>Lab</b>	See lab syllabus for details	365

Your final grade in this course will be based on the percentage of all possible points (from both lecture and lab) that you earn throughout the semester. To determine your final grade, the following metric will be used:

≥	90-	87-	84-	80-	77-	74-	70-	67-	60-	≤
94%	93%	89%	86%	83%	79%	76%	73%	69%	66%	59%
A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F

**Make-up policy:** Make-ups for missed exams and quizzes are given only in truly extraordinary situations. Make-ups are time-consuming and difficult to administer and students usually do poorly on them. However, if you have a university-sanctioned event or have an emergent medical situation, death in the family, etc., you can take a make-up. In order to qualify for a make-up, you must talk with me and provide a written, verifiable excuse from an authority figure (medical doctor, minister, coach, etc.) preferably at least a week before and certainly no later than 48 hours after the missed exam or quiz. I reserve the right to verify the legitimacy of all excuses by contacting the authority figure.

**Students with disabilities:** I will be happy to help you if you need special accommodations to succeed in this course. Please visit the UWSP Student Disability and Assistive Technology Center (located in LRC 609) to document your needs and contact me so that appropriate arrangements can be made. More information: <http://www.uwsp.edu/disability/Pages/default.aspx>

**Academic integrity:** It is your responsibility to be aware of your rights and responsibilities as a UWSP student. Please take the time to read and understand the information found here (and let me know of any questions): <http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf>

**Lecture and exam schedule:** All lecture topics are associated with reading assignments in your textbook. Note that I reserve the right to change this schedule, with due notice, as we progress through the semester.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Associated reading (chapters in textbook)</b>
1/23	Course introduction; biochemistry	1 (and "chemistry review" slides on D2L)
1/25	Biochemistry	2
1/30	Plant cells	3
2/1	Plant cells	3
2/6	Plant tissues, meristems, and primary growth	23
2/8	Secondary growth	26
2/13	Roots	24
<b>2/15</b>	<b>*** Midterm I ***</b>	
2/20	Shoots	25
2/22	Plants and water	4 & 30
2/27	Enzymes and respiration	5 & 6
3/1	Photosynthesis	7
3/6	Hormones	27
3/8	Genetics	8
3/13	Genetics	8
<b>3/15</b>	<b>*** Midterm II ***</b>	
3/20	<b>*** Spring break ***</b>	
3/22	<b>*** Spring break ***</b>	
3/27	Biodiversity; viruses; bacteria	12 & 13
3/29	Fungi	14
4/3	Protists	15
4/5	Bryophytes	16
4/10	Seedless vascular plants	17
4/12	Gymnosperms	18
4/17	Angiosperms	19 & 20
4/19	Angiosperms	19 & 20
4/24	Angiosperms	19 & 20
<b>4/26</b>	<b>*** Midterm III ***</b>	
5/1	Introduction to ecological and evolutionary theories	
5/3	Introduction to ecological and evolutionary theories	
5/8	Introduction to ecological and evolutionary theories	
5/10	Introduction to ecological and evolutionary theories	
<b>5/16</b>	<b>Final exam 8:00 – 10:00 AM</b>	