

**SENIOR SEMINAR - ETHNOBOTANY (BIOLOGY 490)
SPRING, 2019**

Instructor: Ph.D. Virginia Freire
Office: CBB 216
Phone: 346-4252
e-mail: vfreire@uwsp.edu

Office hours: T, R 14:00 to 14:00

Meetings: T, R 13:00 to 13:50

Goal: To prepare biology senior students for professional life. Skills needed for oral and written communication, critical thinking, resume writing and job interview tips will be introduced.

Expected outcomes: By the end of the semester you should be able to:

1. Conduct a literature search using online resources.
2. Read and critically analyze scientific literature.
3. Deliver effective oral presentations.
4. Lead an objective discussion based on scientific literature.
5. Write a research proposal.
6. Prepare an effective power point presentation.

Grading and Attendance: Active participation is expected and evaluated for all activities. Attendance will be taken at every meeting time and points will be assigned for active participation.

Research Project: Working in groups of 2, you will choose a hypothesis-based ethnobotanical research topic. Topic ideas should be presented during the second week of classes. Each group will select 5 relevant sources to prepare a short literature review and a research proposal. Research will be developed during the semester and a final report will be presented in written format and orally.

Journal Article Presentation: Working individually, you will select and orally present one journal article related to your project, the presentation is to be followed by a discussion. Journal articles need to be available at least one full week before each presentation. We are all required to read the paper before meeting time.

Points:	Research proposal	20 points
	Journal Article presentation	20 points
	Final written report	20 points
	Project oral presentation	20 points
	Participation	<u>20 points</u>
	Total	100 points

Scale: Your grade is based on a total of 100 points. The grading scale for the course is:

93%	A
90%	A-
87%	B+
83%	B
80%	B-
75%	C+
70%	C
65%	C-
62%	D+
55%	D
< 55	F

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPIC
01/22	Introduction. Time to gather and think about research topics.
01/24	Time to gather and choose a research topic.
01/29	Presentation of research topic ideas. Time for literature search.
01/31	Literature search.
02/05	Research proposal guidelines. Time to prepare research proposal.
02/07	Time to prepare research proposal.
02/12	Turn in first drafts of research proposal. Informally present your proposal.
02/14	Journal Article presentations
02/19	Journal Article presentations
02/21	Journal Article presentations
02/26	Journal Article presentations
02/28	Time to work on research proposals
03/05	Journal Article Presentations. Research proposals are due.
03/12	Journal Article Presentations.
03/14	Journal Article Presentations.
03/26	Time to work on projects.
03/28	Time to work on projects.
04/02	Final report guidelines.
04/04	Time to work on final report.
04/09	Oral presentation guidelines.
04/11	Time to work on oral presentations.
04/16	Oral presentations
04/18	Oral presentations
04/23	Oral presentations
04/25	Oral presentations
04/30	How to prepare a good resume, tips for a good job interview
05/02	Time for resume preparation
05/07	Turn in your resume
05/09	Resumes with comments will be returned