

NR405, Selected Topics in Natural Resources - Aquatic Vascular Plants

Fall 2020

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I am primarily off-campus now and available through email. I am also available to meet via Zoom or by phone by appointment as needed.

This class will be primarily in a virtual format using Canvas, Zoom, and YouTube. Please familiarize yourself with these applications before the beginning of the course. More information about Canvas can be found in the Canvas Student Orientation here: <https://uwstp.instructure.com/enroll/36GKLY>. Access Canvas through the UWSP home page by selecting it from the dropdown menu in the upper right corner, or by clicking this direct link: <https://www.uwsp.edu/canvas/Pages/default.aspx>

Learn more about Zoom at their website www.zoom.us by clicking the Resources button at the top.

The final exam will be in-person around the shelter in the southwest corner of Schmeckle Reserve (near the intersection of Maria Dr. and Reserve St.) on September 19th. The class will be split into three groups, with each arriving at different times to minimize group size. Masks will be required at all times during the exam.

Group One will arrive at 9:00am and finish by 9:50am

Group Two will arrive at 10:00am and finish by 10:50am

Group Three will arrive at 11:00am and finish by 11:50am.

There are two required texts for this course - *Aquatic Plants of the Upper Midwest* and *Aquatic Vascular Plants: a lab manual for BIO347/547*. *Aquatic Plants of the Upper Midwest* is \$40 and the lab manual is free for NR405 students. You **MUST** order *Aquatic Plants of the Upper Midwest* through the UW-Extension Lakes online bookstore here:

<https://wcee.asapconnected.com/ProductDetail.aspx?ProductId=12743>

After ordering, you **MUST** complete this survey to let the Extension Lakes staff know whether you would prefer to have your books shipped to you or if you would prefer to pick them up in person next Monday (9am-12pm), Tuesday (10am-2pm), or Wednesday (9am-11am).

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CHXFK9Q>

I sent the class list to the Extension Lakes office assistants, so they will know that you are a student and will add a lab manual to your order at no charge.

The course grade will be based on 400 points distributed as follows:

Lecture assignments.....200 points

Plant photo collection due via email or Canvas on September 17th 100 points

Extra credit: Turn in your COMPLETE collection by Sept. 14th10 points

Final exam on September 21st100 points

Letter grades will be based entirely on the total points accumulated by the student on the following scale:

93% +	= A	78-79%	= C+
90-92%,	= A-	73-77%	= C
88-89%	= B+	70-72%	= C-
83-87%	= B	68-69%	= D+
80-82%	= B-	60-67%	= D

A photo collection of 15 correctly identified aquatic plant specimens must be turned in via email or Canvas by September 17th. Please carefully read the rules below and refer to the example photo collection document posted to Canvas.

Photos should be taken on-site rather than bringing specimens home for later photographing. It is illegal in Wisconsin to transport aquatic plants away from water bodies unless you are documenting a new invasive species population and you are taking it to an expert for verification. If you believe you have found a new population of an invasive species, you may collect it and report it to me immediately via email. Refer to the Wisconsin DNR's list of known aquatic invasive species populations here to see if it is in fact new to that waterbody (select the appropriate county in the dropdown box):

<https://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/invasives/AISByWaterbody.aspx?location=50>

Each photo must have only one individual plant in the photo. DO NOT photograph clumps of plants, whether it is a clump of a single species or multiple species.

Keep plants wet until you take the photos. Aquatic plants shrivel up VERY quickly in direct sun.

Photos must be clear and well-lit, and plants must be laid out ON YOUR HAND(S). This is to provide a sense of scale to the photograph and minimize need for any additional objects for backgrounds.

If your camera cannot focus on a small plant like a duckweed, then choose larger plants for your collection.

Identifying features should be emphasized in the photograph (i.e. by separating an individual leaf, clearly showing leaf arrangement, etc.).

Your 15 photos must be of 15 different species. No repeats.

You must identify all 15 plants to species level and give their Latin names and common names, location of the collection, and the date of collection.

Plants can be collected from any waterbody in Wisconsin or another state.