

BOT 3018C
University of Central Florida
SPRING 2019

CULINARY BOTANY ACROSS THE CULTURES
Biology Department
Pre req: BOT 3802

Credits: 3
LECTURE SYLLABUS [LAB INTEGRATED]

LECTURES: 0001	W, F:	12: 30 PM - 1: 50 PM	BL 104
LAB: 0011	W:	2: 00 PM – 3: 50 PM	BL 104

Instructor: **Dr. Rani Vajravelu** ["DR. RANI"]
Office: **Biology 201 D**
Phone: **(407) 823 –0990**

Office hours (Walk-in, no appointment needed): {
Monday: 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Friday: 10:30 –11: 30AM
On-line Office hours (thro' Webcourses): → **Friday** 2:00–3:00 PM
If the above hours are not convenient, you may see me with a prior appointment.

e-mail: use the Inbox feature within BOT3018C homepage for all of your course-related concerns. For other purposes: **Rani.Vajravelu@ucf.edu** (a reply cannot be guaranteed with this email)
Phone: (407) 823 – 0990 [emails & phone calls on redundant info will not receive a reply]

Course homepage: <https://webcourses.ucf.edu> Access BOT3018C
Find additional course policies with * on homepage. Consider them as extension of this syllabus.

Browser recommendations: <http://guides.instructure.com> Read through Canvas Student Guide
Tech help: onlinesupport@ucf.edu or call CDWS 3-0407 / helpdesk@mail.ucf.edu, 3-5117

Course Description: Cultural food traditions and the connections between plants, people and health; examines the preparation methods that enhance the nutritional values.

PLEASE NOTE:

This is NOT a cooking course.
Lecture and lab sessions may be switched or extended to the other in order to use the class time efficiently.
Students are expected to attend the entire session on both days and not to miss either one or both.

Objectives:

1. Find out the role of plants as applicable to ethnic cuisines.
2. Learn the vocabulary related to plants & their products as used in culinary practices.
3. Explore the scientific connection between plants & nutrition.
4. Develop research techniques that apply to current trends in food, health & society.

Required:

1. Textbook: "Culinary Botany", A custom textbook, Pearson Custom Library, 2012. ISBN 1-269-04853-8
2. Classroom access to Webcourses@ucf.edu through a Wi Fi enabled mobile device.
3. Your own access to lecture outline: either printed papers or digital files.

Important:

Part of the course will include ethnic, vegetarian food sampling (either store-bought or prepared at home by students or instructor). If you are allergic to certain food type, it is your responsibility to refrain from tasting them. Instructor is not responsible for keeping track of your food allergies, preferences or health issues related to the food samples provided in this course.

Attendance: Regular class attendance is expected of all enrolled students. You are responsible for all materials covered and all announcements made in every class, whether you are present or not. Undocumented class absences and/or tardiness (more than 2) will result in the deduction of 2% of

your final grade. If you are in University related activities, you must inform the instructor ahead of time to have your excuses approved; not right before or during class. Quizzes, tests and exams often include questions on material presented in class, so performance on these indirectly reflects attendance.

All faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete the academic activity marked as "Introduce yourself" on course homepage by the end of the first week of classes, or as soon as possible after adding the course, but no later than January 11. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Late Registration: January 07– 11; **DROP / SWAP:** January 10; **Withdrawal Deadline:** Mar 20
University Holidays: Monday, Jan 21; and Mar 11 – 16

Evaluation Policy for the entire course: A 10-point scale will be used to convert numerical grade in to letter grade. That is,

92% and above =A	82% - 84% = B	72% - 74% = C	62% - 64% = D
89% - 91% = A-	79% - 81% = B-	69% - 71% = C-	59% - 61% = D-
85% - 88 = B+	75% - 78% = C+	65% - 68% = D+	58% and below = F

NC grades are **NOT** given.

Incomplete Grade: 'I' is given only for students who have completed all of the course assessments with a minimum 'C' average and missed the final exam with a valid, documented excuse (see **make up** below) submitted to the instructor within 24 hours of missing the final exam.

Evaluation: Total points for the course: 500 SEE DETAILS below.

Tests: 2 tests (lecture & lab-based), variable, for a total of 200 points = 40%
Laboratory work & Quizzes (10 points each) Best 10 taken 100 points = 20%
Group project and presentation: Guidelines will be online. 100 points = 20%
Final exam is comprehensive, worth 100 points (lecture and lab combined) = 20%

Class participation: Expect surprise opportunities to earn extra points (quiz, online activity, participation). There is no make up for a missed bonus activity. Maximum 10 points = +2%.

Those who are not in attendance cannot make up a missed lab / quiz at other times.
 Be prepared at all times.

Lecture Syllabus [tentative] / test schedule: Any change in the following schedule will be announced in class.

Jan. 09: Syllabus distribution, Course procedures. Chapter 1.

Jan. 11 through Feb. 08: Chapters 1, 2

Test 1: Feb. 13 Wednesday [100 points] (based on both lecture & lab material)

Feb. 15 through Mar. 22: Chapters 3, 4, 5 & 6

Test 2: Mar 27 Wednesday [100 points] (based on both lecture & lab material)

Mar 29 through Apr.17: Appendix- Nutritive value of foods from Chapters 1- 6

Group projects & presentations: Apr. 03 - 12 tentative dates [50 points]

Final Lab exam Apr 19: 12:30 – 1:50 pm

Majority of the content for each test will cover the material since the last test. However, due to the nature of the course content, it is strongly advised that students keep track of the basic concepts & vocabulary from previous test material.

Final lecture exam [comprehensive and required to complete this course]: **Apr 26, 10:00 -12:50 PM***

*Students who show up late (more than 5 minutes after the scheduled start) for any of the above tests/ exams will be marked absent. You must have a valid UCF student ID in your possession in order to enter the exam room.

Graded exams: Exams will be either hand- or machine graded. Grades will be returned in class. Direct any question regarding the grades to the instructor on the same day. Tests will be available for review at Dr.Rani's office for two weeks after each test. Only one exam will be available for review at one time. You must have your graded test with you to compare the answers.

Unclaimed tests and other graded assignments are not the responsibility of the instructor.

Make-up opportunity: No make up for missed quizzes or bonus activities. If you miss a scheduled test, inform by 5 PM on that day and provide a valid, documented excuse (from doctor, police, judge, official UCF event, etc.) by Friday following the test date. With the approved reason, the final exam score will be counted twice, one in place of missed test, other as final exam score. It is the student's responsibility to initiate the request and follow through the make-up exam instructions. Excuses presented orally or through email will not be considered as valid excuse unless supplemented by official, dated documents. Since the lab set-up takes several hours of prior preparation, missed labs can not be made up.

***Group project and presentation:** Group assignment. Each group will consist of three students. Each group will choose a topic (submitted to and approved by Dr. Rani) on plant-derived foods as they relate to the current trends in nutrition, health, and environment. By the end of March, the group will:

Submit one group report and present their findings either in front of the class or in UGR showcase. Further, the group may write a proposal for funding and/or to find an internship.

The group work should be original, scientifically accurate and as complete and informative as possible. Submit the reports through turnitin.com. Guidelines will be on posted homepage. More Information will be given in class as we narrow down the project topics.

***Laboratory exercises:**

- No lab manual required. Lab instructions & report submissions are through Webcourses.
- Labs are designed to go along with lectures. Keep your lecture notes and required course materials with you for all labs.
- Lab work will be collected randomly. If they are graded, points will be based on completion, accuracy, neatness and submission by the specified time. In order to make sure that that you don't lose points, consider every lab exercise as important and worthy of your attention.
- There may be some **on your own** outdoor labs. Please be prepared to submit lab reports.
- Previous announcements will be made for any out of campus field trips.
- You are solely responsible for managing your health conditions, especially when being outdoors.
- Missed labs cannot be repeated and will not receive any grades unless the absence is University related or health-related.
- Students are expected to clean up after every lab exercise.

Please note:

1. Students who are officially registered for this particular course only are allowed to attend the lectures / labs and take the quizzes, tests and exam. Instructor is not responsible for any problems related to registration.
2. Students must follow the University standards for personal and academic conduct as outlined in The Golden Rule. See <http://www.ucf.edu/goldenrule>
3. Recording of class lectures and lab in video or audio form not allowed. All electronic devices, including cell phones and apple watch must be turned off in the classroom.
4. Walking in more than 5 minutes late or leaving before the entire class is dismissed is NOT allowed. **Avoid making outside appointments in the hope of leaving early from class.**
5. No dictionaries, books, pocket calculators or organizers, PDAs, scanning pens, cell phones, apple watches and/or any other electronic devices allowed for use during any testing activity including quizzes.

6. When a student leaves the exam hall once the exam is in progress, he/she is considered to have completed the exam and will not be allowed back in to the hall to continue the exam. This policy also includes the class quizzes and tests.
7. Instructor is not responsible for network problems and logging in difficulties related to submission of assignments and projects. Delayed submissions will not be considered for credit.
8. Last day to take care of any pending grade concern is Apr. 19. For final exam grade: 24 hrs after the grades are posted on course home page. Posted grades will become final after these dates.

Copyright statement:

The instructor may provide links to various external websites to enhance your understanding of the course content. Students are advised to use caution and good judgment in using such content that should not be copied, duplicated or downloaded. For more info visit:

http://www.copyright.com/content/cc3/en/toolbar/education/resources/copyright_on_campus.html

Course Accessibility Statement:

Students with disabilities who need accommodations for tests/exams must be registered with UCF Student Accessibility Services, phone (407) 823-2371. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request.

In addition, if accommodations are required within the classroom or with online assignments, students must schedule a meeting with the professor at the beginning of the semester to help in executing such accommodations in a timely manner. Email requests will not be sufficient for classroom/online accommodations.

Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating:

UCF faculty members have a responsibility for your education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to infringements of academic integrity. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty. Please read <https://ied.sdes.ucf.edu/integrity/>

If you want to succeed in this course:

- Develop an appreciation for different cultures.
- Stay motivated; learn to work in teams.
- Attend all the classes. Bring all needed supplies for the course.
- Arrive at least 5 minutes prior to class meeting time.
- Have a positive attitude towards learning.
- Be prepared for long hours of intensive work on lab days.
- Read all lecture and lab materials from previous class meeting.
- Complete the assigned work. Do not be afraid to ask for help.

Please Remember: Your final grade is what you earn.

General Policy:

Changes will be made in the above policy if, in my judgment, the interest of learning and fairness dictate such changes.

Test score sheets are to be retained by the student until the end of the course and for any questions on final grade.

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