

BOT 3015 BM01**Principles of Plant Science****Summer 2020****Instructor:** Dr. Rani Vajravelu

Biology Department

University of Central Florida

Office: Virtual (Webcourses)**Phone:** N/A**Email:** 'Inbox' in Webcourses**Lecture:** M, T, W, R: 11: 30 AM - 1: 20 PM**Location:** Virtual through Webcourses & Zoom**Pre-Req:** BSC 2011C**Credit:** 3(3,0)**Online Office Hours:** M, T & W: 1:20 PM – 2:20 PM*Other options like chat and one-one video conferencing available with prior request.*

e-mail: Contact through Webcourses Inbox (expect 2 business days for a reply). Redundant info may not receive a reply. I will address most general concerns regarding course content/procedure in class.

Course home page: <http://webcourses.ucf.edu> **BOT3015 Summer 20**

Find more course policies marked with (*) on this website. Consider them as extension of this syllabus.

Browser recommendations: See <http://guides.instructure.com> Search "Browser Recommendations"**Tech help:** webcourses@ucf.edu or call CDWS 3-0407 / helpdesk@mail.ucf.edu 3-5117**McGraw-Hill Connect:** <https://mhedu.force.com/CXG/s/ContactUs> 1.800.331.5094

Course Description: Introduction to core botanical concepts: diversity in the Plant Kingdom, structure and function, growth and development, photosynthesis, water relations and ecology.

Objectives:

- An understanding of the major groups of land plants (Embryophyta), their evolutionary history and what distinguishes the major lineages from each other.
- Competency with plant cell and tissue types and their basic function in vascular plants.
- Knowledge of the unique growth and development patterns and tissues seen in plants.
- Understanding of basic metabolism in plants with regards to photosynthesis.
- Understanding the significance of water relations, water uptake and nutrient uptake strategies.
- Overview of plants in the environment and their importance in human civilization.

Required material:Stern's Introductory Plant Biology, 14th edition, by McGraw-Hill Education, **with** Connect access.Choose **one of the following two** options and register for Learn Smart Adaptive Learning tool:1a. Connect Access Card for Stern's Introductory Plant Biology with eBook 9781260030136 **OR**

1b. Connect Access Card for Stern's Introductory Plant Biology with Loose Leaf Textbook 9781260149357

And,

2. Access to Webcourses and a secure internet connection for all class meetings & assignments.

3. CANVAS App - free to download from UCF (enable 'notifications' from Webcourses).

4. A camera-enabled device for online proctoring tools such as PROCTORHUB. Policy is supported by the Office of Academic Conduct, UCF.

Attendance:

Regular class attendance is expected of all students.

Your attendance is determined by your 'online presence' that is, participation in online live lectures, discussions, completion of assignments within the announced deadline.

You are responsible for all materials covered and all announcements made in every class, whether you are logged into online lectures or not. Random poll during class will record your participation.

Quizzes, tests and exams often include questions on material presented in class, so performance on these indirectly reflects attendance. You need not bring class absence excuses unless you missed a test/exam.

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 "Pre-test" 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 June 26. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Late Registration: June 22- 26; **DROP / SWAP:** June 25; **Withdrawal Deadline:** July 16

University Holidays: Friday, Jul 3 (N/A for this course)

Date / Day	Live Zoom lectures 11:30 am – 1:20 pm Chapter # is tentative.	Online (any place of your choice with your own device) Due date/time/duration for submission may vary with each assignment.
Week 1		
June 22 Monday	Chapter 3	Ch 1 Reading on your own. Pre-test on LS online Ch 1 due by 6/25
June 23 Tuesday	Chapter 4	
June 24 Wednesday	Chapter 5	
June 25 Thursday	No live lecture	Ch 3, 4 & 5 LS Online homework due by 6/28
Week 2		
June 29 Monday	Chapter 6	
June 30 Tuesday	Chapter 6	Ch 6 LS Online homework due by 6/30
July 1 Wednesday	Quiz 1 & Review for Exam	
July 2 Thursday	Test 1	
Week 3		
July 06 Monday	Chapter 7 & part of Ch10	
July 07 Tuesday	Chapter 8	
July 08 Wednesday	Quiz 2 & Chapter 8	
July 09 Thursday	No live lecture	Chapters 7, 8 & 10 LS Online work due by 7/12
Week 4		
July 13 Monday	Chapter 11	
July 14 Tuesday	Chapter 14	Chapters 11 & 14 LS Online work due by 7/14
July 15 Wednesday	Quiz 3 & Review for Exam	
July 16 Thursday	Test 2	
Week 5		
July 20 Monday	Chapter 20	
July 21 Tuesday	Chapter 21	
July 22 Wednesday	Quiz 4 & Chapter 22	
July 23 Thursday	No live lecture	Chapters 20, 21 & 22 LS Online work due by 7/26
Week 6		
July 27 Monday	Chapter 23	
July 28 Tuesday	Chapter 24 (if time permits)	Post-test on LS Online Ch 23 due by 7/29
July 29 Wednesday	Quiz 5 & Review for Exam	Last day to resolve grade-related concerns.
Jul 30 Thursday	Test 3 (Final)	

Evaluation:

Pre- Test & Post-test (10 points each)	20 points
@Tests: 3 @ 100 pts each (none will be dropped)	300 points
#Learn Smart homework: Best 10 @ 10 pts each	100 points
\$In-class Quiz Best 4 @ 20 pts each	80 points
Total	500 points

@Portion of each test may include interactive components including, but not limited to group video submissions, personal reflection statements, and media games. More information will be posted on Webcourses closer to each test.

#All LS Homework due by 11:59 pm on the announced submission date.

\$Students who log in late (more than 5 minutes) after the scheduled start for any of the test/quiz will be marked absent. For any concerns, check with Dr. Rani Vajravelu a week in advance right after a scheduled Zoom review session.

Evaluation Policy for the entire course:

A 10-point scale will be used to convert numerical grade in to a letter grade. That is, 90 - 100% = A; 80 - 89% = B, 70 - 79% = C; 60 - 69% = D; 0 - 59% = F
+ or – grades are not issued. NC grade is not given for this course.

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 submitted to the instructor within 24 hours of missing the final exam.

Grade posting:

Log in to Webcourses course homepage and click "Grades." Use Webcourses as a resource only to find out your individual assignment grade. Be advised that your grade average will continue to go up or down as you complete each assignment. Your overall course grade will be calculated based on assignment group weight as per syllabus policy. Instructor will notify you when your final grade average is posted on Webcourses which is expected to be released after the final exam. Grade posting may take about a week after each graded activity. Instructor is not responsible for network problems and log in difficulties.

Bring concerns regarding posted grades to the attention of the instructor within two days (24 hrs. for final exam) from the date the grade was issued. After this time, the posted grades will become final. Instructor retains the right to change the grade if an error was made in recording student grades. If such a change is made, student will be informed through UCF Knight's email. If you do not have one, set up an account at <https://www.secure.net.ucf.edu/KnightsEmailSelfService>

Graded exams:

For all online quizzes, individual feedback will be available on Webcourses once the entire class has completed the quiz. Any personal issue with quiz should be resolved during posted online office hours by the following business day. Email your concern prior to the office hour to allow enough time to locate your quiz/exam of concern. Test answers will not be released; however, a feedback will be given during the next Zoom class meeting only after the entire class has completed the test. Prior appointment, ID verifications and video chat required for individual test feedback. This measure is essential due to online nature of the course.

Make up Policy:

If an exam is missed with a valid reason, a makeup can be requested along with the submission of valid, signed documents that support your excuse. A student can have a maximum of one chance for a make up for the entire course unless the reason is University- approved. The make up exam will be of a different version and format and, may include short essays and fill-in the blank type questions. Makeup date & time will be discussed only after the verification of the documents.

There is NO MAKE UP for a missed online homework and in-class quiz and no points will be given for late submission. Instructor is NOT responsible for internet problems (unless from Webcourses that affects the entire class) including but not limited to late attempt, last minute submission issues, browser problem, etc. Any personal issue with homework should be resolved during posted office hours by the following Monday.

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 quizzes/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 online classroom or with assignments, students must schedule an online meeting with the professor right after the first day of class to help in executing such accommodations in a timely manner. Email requests alone will not guarantee any Zoom 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/>

Other important policies:

1. Students who are officially registered for this course only can attend the Zoom lectures and take the quizzes and tests. Instructor is not responsible for any problems related to registration and any missed activity that results from late 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. Log in to Zoom at least five minutes prior to each synchronous lecture to test your tech accessories.
4. Avoid late log in to Zoom as it disrupts the lecture and you risk missing polls that record participation.
5. Log in to Zoom with your registered full name. Nick names/unrecognizable persons will be removed from Zoom.
6. Duplication and distribution of class lectures and quiz questions strongly prohibited. *Third parties are selling class notes and other materials from this class without my authorization. Please be aware that such class materials may contain errors. Use these materials at your own risk.*
7. Anyone who interrupts the classroom-learning environment by any kind of repeated disruptive behavior (including #4 above) that interferes with the instructor's right to teach and fellow students' right to learn, will be removed from the classroom and appropriate University disciplinary action will be initiated.
8. You are advised to use the course homepage for BOT3015 related posting only.
9. Your instructor is not the person to resolve your tech issues. Reach out to the following centers for your tech solutions: webcourses@ucf.edu and UCF IT Support Center <https://ucf.service-now.com/ucfit>
Connect Plus: <https://mhedu.force.com/CXG/s/ContactUs>
10. Keep track of all announcements and new uploads on Webcourses course homepage.

General Policy:

Changes will be made in the above policy if, in my judgment, the interest of learning and fairness dictate such changes. Any concern on the course proceedings or grades should be resolved by 12 pm Aug 03, 2020.

If you want to succeed in this course:

- Attend all the classes. Buy the required textbook and register for Connect Plus.
- Log in to Zoom at least five minutes before class start time. Choose a distraction free area for class work.
- Have a positive attitude towards learning. Be prepared for long hours of intensive work.
- Read all lecture and lab materials from previous class meeting.
- Complete the assigned work.
- *Remember your final grade is what you earn.*

From my side, I will do everything possible in my capacity to make this course a pleasant experience for you!

