

**Botany 3015-0001 (85271)**  
**Principles of Plant Science, Fall 2020,**  
**V1 Synchronous mode**

<updated: 8-20-2020>

This course will be taught completely online with some independent student-led activities occurring IRL on campus OR other locations.

Online-Lecture: T, Th 12-1:20

Pre-Requisite: BSC 2011C

Credit: 3 (3, 0)

**Instructor:** Dr. Elizabeth Harris

**Office:** BIO 102A, my craft room

**Phone:** (BIO main office, leave message)  
407 823-2141

**Email:** elizabeth.harris@ucf.edu or through WebCourses

Please note: I will check my email from 9am to 5 pm. I do not check my email regularly during Evening hours so if you send something to me late at night, I might not see it until the next morning so please plan accordingly.

**Office Hours:** Individual meetings with students via Zoom or Skype by appointment arranged by email. Lecture Chats on T and Th from 12-2 in WebCourses.

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

**Prerequisite:** BSC 2011 (Biology II)

**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 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 plant macro- and micro-nutrient uptake strategies
- Overview of plants in the environment and their importance in different terrestrial habitats
- Combating Plant Blindness!

**Required material:**

-Stern's Introductory Plant Biology, 15<sup>th</sup> edition, by McGraw-Hill Education, **with** Connect access. If purchasing from the UCF Bookstore, make sure to specify that Dr. Harris is the instructor (the other section will be using slightly different materials). If purchasing before August 29, you may choose the "opt-in" option which gives you a better price and automatically places the

charge on your UCF account. This can be done directly from the WebCourses site by clicking “course materials” in the left column.

-Computer, internet access, browser, and e-mail required. Webcams and microphones will be required for exams.

-Smartphone with a camera will be required for weekly Get Outside assignments

### **Required Statement Regarding COVID-19:**

To protect members of our community, everyone is required to wear a facial covering inside all common spaces including classrooms

(<https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/PolicyEmergencyCOVIDReturnPolicy.pdf>). Students who choose not to wear facial coverings will be asked to leave the classroom by the instructor. If they refuse to leave the classroom or put on a facial covering, they may be considered disruptive (please see the [Golden Rule](#) for student behavior expectations). Faculty have the right to cancel class if the safety and well-being of class members are in jeopardy. Students will be responsible for the material that would have been covered in class as provided by the instructor.

**Lectures:** Classroom lectures will take place online via Panopto recorded videos posted in the course WebCourses site and will offer captions as an option. These will be made available for viewing at the scheduled class times (T, TH at noon). After the first showing, they may be viewed as many times as the student desires. Lectures generally follow the sequence of the concepts given in the textbook. Additional concepts/facts/examples and images that are not in textbook will also be presented.

**Exams:** All scheduled exams are mandatory; none are dropped in this course. The course pre-test will be given on-line and will be given the first week of the semester. Taking the pre-test and the survey will activate the subsequent 15 modules in a sequential manner. ( The course post-test questions will be embedded in the final exam.)

All exams will be given online using Proctorio.

### **Proctorio is a Learning Integrity resource**

This course will use Proctorio, a browser-locking and remote proctoring solution designed to protect the integrity of this course’s assessments, within some of your Connect assignments. As your instructor, I’ve chosen the secure exam settings required by this course, and only I will make a judgment as to any potential academic integrity violation.

### **Assignments with Proctorio**

You’ll be able to see which assignments in Connect include Proctorio settings because they will be clearly labeled with “Proctoring Enabled” in the assignment title. The settings that I use may vary depending on the assignment. When you start a proctored assignment, the settings in use will be indicated.

### **Equity and Fairness**

The reason I’ve chosen to enable Proctorio settings for specific assignments in this course is to make education more equal by allowing each student to earn the grades they deserve. The US Federal Government also requires that all schools have a process in place for verifying student identity to protect against Federal Student Aid (FSA) fraud.

## Privacy

Proctorio is a trusted resource for remote proctoring because of the company's commitment to student privacy. Proctorio uses single sign-on through Connect, and only I or approved individuals, here at our institution, will have access to your exam data. Proctorio never requires personally identifiable information from students, and Proctorio will never sell your data to third parties. Read more about [Proctorio's approach to privacy](#).

## Security

Proctorio only runs as an extension in your Chrome browser. This means that Proctorio works within a sandbox and has limited access to your computer system, unlike traditionally installed software applications that have complete access to your computer's hard drive, or other resources.

Proctorio does not continuously run in Connect. Proctorio only runs while you are taking your proctored Connect assignment. After your proctored assignment ends, you may uninstall the extension by right-clicking on it, to bring you peace of mind. Just remember, if you choose to do this, you'll need to reinstall the extension again before starting your next proctored assignment.

All student data is kept safe using zero-knowledge encryption, meaning student data is scrambled and unreadable by anyone outside of our institution's learning platform. Proctorio cannot see your proctored assignment data. Read more about [Proctorio security](#).

## Getting Started

Before getting started on your first proctored assignment, please watch the Student Orientation Video on Proctorio, and then make sure to follow the instructions in [Proctorio's Quick Start Test Taker Guide](#) for the extension. To verify your computer system meets the requirements, take the practice quiz. This will ensure that everything will run smoothly on the day of the proctored assignment.

If, after reading the Quick Start Test Taker Guide, you have any trouble while using Connect & Proctorio, you can access quick help guides or reach out to Connect or Proctorio support for troubleshooting. Support can assist in troubleshooting any extension related issues before, during, and after your proctored assignment.

**Makeup Policy:** All late or missed exams/assignments will be assigned a value of "0" within 24 hours of the due date of the assignment. (Note on the course schedule that all weekly quizzes and online homework assignments are due on Saturdays at 11:59 pm).

If there is a legitimate reason/excuse for missing an assignment/quiz or exam due date, it is the student's responsibility to communicate with me. If you have a valid, documented reason for missing a scheduled exam (from doctor, police, judge, official UCF event, etc.), you must contact me **within 24 hours of the start of that class and make arrangements to provide me with appropriate documentation of your absence**. After that, I will schedule a make-up or open up the assignment again, etc.

## Grading Policy:

Course Survey	5
Proctorio Quiz	5
Exams (no drops): 5 @ 100 pts each	500
Online Connect homework: 20 @ 15 pts each	300
Weekly Get Outside assignments & online quizzes: 15 @ 10 pts each	150
Final Exam (cumulative)	100
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Total	1060

All points are equal in value; none are weighted. Students can track their total points in the Gradebook on Webcourses.

I award grades based on the percentage of total points that you have accumulated in the course. You can see my point cut-offs below. There is no extra credit in this course, nor do I round up beyond what I have listed below. Please do not ask for extra work or extra credit at the end of the class in order to gain a few more points and make a certain grade threshold.

89.5-100% = A	948 - 1060	points
79.5-89.4% = B	842 - 947.4	
69.5-79.4% = C	736 - 841.4	
59.5-69.4% = D	630 - 735.4	
0-59.4% = F	0 - 629.4	

**Weekly Get Outside Assignments and Quizzes:** The weekly Get Outside assignments have been designed to add a self-directed active learning component outside of the lecture setting. Each week there will be a different assignment that relates to one of the concepts presented in lecture that week. The student will be asked to get outside on the UCF campus OR surrounding areas and find specific examples of plant material and take a picture of the subject for that week with a cell phone (and the student's ID or the student themselves, depending on the item for the week). The student will then email or download the picture to their computer and then upload the image as the first portion of the weekly quiz. They will then answer a few short questions pertaining to their subject for the week. If a particular assignment presents some sort of problem, please contact me **by noon on the Wednesday** of that week so that we can work out an accommodation.

**Connect/SmartBook Homework:** This adaptive online homework is supported by your textbook publisher and provides valuable practice in mastering concepts from the text. It can be accessed through the course's home page on WebCourses (it appears in the left column). The first time it is used, you will be asked to enter the access code that came with your textbook. (There is also an option to purchase the code then and there along with a digital version of the text, if desired). After that first time, clicking on the McGraw-Hill Connect button in WebCourses will take you directly to there. All homework assignments are due weekly on Saturdays at 11:59 p.m. and correspond to the week that that chapter is covered in lecture (with a few exceptions; check the schedule). They have been designed to take from 20-50 minutes to complete. If you are not well prepared, the assignments will take longer or you may even get booted out back to the ebook and told to read up on a particular section. I have personally authored many of the questions that will be popping up for you so you may well remember a turn of phrase that I used in lecture. Note that multiple wrong answers are not penalized; if you eventually answer questions correctly and thereby display mastery of the concept in each section, you will earn all of the possible points. So just keep working at it! Other best practices include: reading the chapter first and listening to the lecture at least once, using the latest version of Firefox, having a reliable internet connection and starting well before the due date. If you are having trouble accessing the site, try a different computer. If all else fails, call McGraw-Hill Customer Experience Group for help:

1-800-331-5094.

Make sure to get a case number. And then let me know what's happening (including your case number). I can extend deadlines if I know that there is a genuine issue (starting the assignment at 11:50 pm and not getting done in time is **not** a genuine issue). All of which is to say: please begin your assignment early so that if there are any problems, there is time to work them out.

**Disability Access Statement:** The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Accessibility Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

**General Conduct:** By enrolling at UCF, all students have agreed to abide by the Golden Rule. Please become familiar with this document at: <http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/>

***Note that the instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus or other aspects of the course at any time. These changes will be announced on WebCourses on the Announcements page.***

## Tentative BOT 3015, Fall 2020 Schedule

<b>Week/ Mod.</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Lecture</b>	<b>LearnSmart Homework</b>	<b>Get Outside Assignment</b> <i>Please check on full description of assignment in WebCourses each Monday. If it is problematic for you as described, communicate with Dr. Harris by Wednesday of that week to arrange for an acceptable alternative.</i>
<b>1</b>	8-25  8-27	Course Intro Ch. 1, What is Plant Bio  Ch. 3, Plant cells	<b>Ch. 1</b> , due 8-29 by 11:59pm  <b>Ch. 3</b> , due 8-29 by 11:59pm	-Read article on “Plant Blindness” in webCourses.  -Take <b>Quiz 1</b> on the article, due 8-29 by 11:59pm.
<b>2</b>	9-1  9-3	Ch. 4, Plant Tissues  Ch. 5, Roots and Soils	<b>Ch. 4</b> , due 9-5 by 11:59pm  <b>Ch. 5</b> , due 9-5 by 11:59pm	-Find 4 different examples of plant fibers in textiles (from your closet, or a store), take photos of tags with your ID.  -Take <b>Quiz 2</b> , upload photos and answer questions, due 9-5 by 11:59pm. -Take Proctorio Quiz
<b>3</b>	9-8  9-10	Ch. 6, Stems  <b>EXAM 1</b> (Chs. 1, 3, 4, 5)	<b>Ch. 6</b> , due 9-12 by 11:59pm	-Find an underground root or stem (from nature or from a grocery store), take photo with your ID. -Take <b>Quiz 3</b> , upload photo and answer questions, due 9-12 by 11:59pm.
<b>4</b>	9-15  9-17	Ch. 7, Leaves  Ch. 8, Flowers, Fruits & Seeds	<b>Ch. 7</b> , due 9-19 by 11:59pm <b>Ch. 8</b> , due 9-19 by 11:59pm	-Find a leaf, fruit and flower (from nature or from a grocery store), take photos with your ID. -Take <b>Quiz 4</b> , upload photos and answer questions, due 9-19 by 11:59pm.
<b>5</b>	9-22  9-24	Ch. 9, Water in Plants  Ch. 10, Plant Metabolism (Photosynthesis)	<b>Ch. 9</b> , due 9-26 by 11:59pm  <b>Ch. 10</b> , due 9-26 by 11:59pm	-Obtain 2 non-woody plants (from nature), place one in water and leave one out for 24 hours. Take photo of both with your ID. -Take <b>Quiz 5</b> , upload photo and answer questions, due 9-26 by 11:59pm.
<b>6</b>	9-29  10-1	<b>EXAM 2</b> (Chs. 6, 7, 8, 9)  Ch. 11, Growth & Development	<b>Ch. 11</b> , due 10-3 by 11:59pm	-Take a walk outside anywhere and take 2 different photos of “unwanted” plant growth with your ID. -Take <b>Quiz 6</b> , upload photos and answer questions, due 10-3 by 11:59pm.

<b>7</b>	10-6	Ch. 12, Meiosis & Alt.of Gen.	<b>Ch. 12</b> , due 10-10 by 11:59pm	-Take a walk around campus (or suitable substitute <b>with</b> approval) and take photos of 5 different plant labels with your ID.
	10-8	Ch. 14, Life Cycles & Taxonomy	<b>Ch. 14</b> , due 10-10 by 11:59pm	-Take <b>Quiz 7</b> , upload photos, due 10-10 by 11:59pm.
<b>8</b>	10-13	Ch. 18, Algae	<b>Ch. 18</b> , due 10-17 by 11:59 pm	-Visit a pet store that has aquaria. Take a photo of algae growing in a fish tank with your ID.
	10-15	<b>EXAM 3</b> (Chs. 10, 11, 12, 16)		-Take <b>Quiz 8</b> , upload photo, and answer questions, due 10-17 by 11:59pm.
<b>9</b>	10-20	Ch. 20, Plant Kingdom, Bryophytes	<b>Ch. 20</b> , due 10-24 by 11:59pm	-Take a walk on campus or in nature and take a closeup photo of a bryophyte and your ID.
	10-22	Ch. 21, Ferns & Fern Allies		-Take <b>Quiz 9</b> , upload photo, and answer questions, due 10-24 by 11:59pm.
<b>10</b>	10-27	Ch. 21, cont.	<b>Ch. 21</b> , due 10-31 by 11:59pm	-Take a walk on campus or in nature and take a photo of a fern or fern ally and your ID.
	10-29	Ch. 22, Gymnosperms		-Take <b>Quiz 10</b> , upload photo, and answer questions, due 10-31 by 11:59pm.
<b>11</b>	11-3	Ch. 22, cont.	<b>Ch. 22</b> , due 11-7 by 11:59pm	-Take a walk on campus or in nature and take a photo of a gymnosperm and your ID.
	11-5	<b>EXAM 4</b> (Chs. 18, 20, 21, 22)		-Take <b>Quiz 11</b> , upload photo, and answer questions, due 11-7 by 11:59pm.
<b>12</b>	11-10	Ch. 23, Angiosperms	<b>Ch. 23</b> , due 11-14 by 11:59pm	-Take a walk on campus or in nature and take a photo of an angiosperm and your ID.
	11-12	Ch. 23, cont.		-Take <b>Quiz 12</b> , upload photo, and answer questions, due 11-14 by 11:59pm.
<b>13</b>	11-17	Ch. 24, Ethnobotany	<b>Ch. 24</b> , due 11-21 by 11:59pm	-Go to a drugstore or grocery store vitamin & supplement aisle and take 5 different photos of medications or supplements derived from plants with your ID
	11-19	Ch. 25, Plant Ecology	<b>Ch. 25</b> , due 11-21 by 11:59pm	-Take <b>Quiz 13</b> , upload photos, and answer questions, due 11-21 by 11:59pm.

<b>14</b>	11-24	Ch. 26, Biomes	<b>No homework</b>	-Go to 3 different UCF Arboretum Trails or other natural areas and take a selfie with your ID <b>and</b> the signage located there.
	11-26	<b>THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY</b>		-Take <b>Quiz 14</b> , upload photos, and answer questions, due 12-5 by 11:59pm.
<b>15</b>	12-1	Ch. 26, cont.	<b>Ch. 26</b> , due 12-5 by 11:59pm	-Reflect on this course and what you have learned this semester
	12-3	<b>EXAM 5</b> (Chs. 23, 24, 25, 26)		-Take <b>Quiz 15</b> , and answer 2 reflection questions on your experience and learning in this course, due 12-5 by 11:59pm.
<b>Final</b>	<b>TBA</b>			