



UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL FLORIDA

BOT 3015 - Principles of Plant Science

Section: A001

College of Sciences
Department of Biology

Course Information

Term: Summer 2024

Class Meeting Days: MTWR

Class Meeting Time: 14:00 - 15:50

Class Meeting Location: BA1 O119

Modality: P

Credit Hours: 3

Instructor Information

Dr. Matthew Tye

Office Location: Biology Building 201B

Office Hours:

MTuWTh 12-2

Email: Matthew.Tye@ucf.edu

Course Description

BOT 3015 COS-BIOL 3(3,0)Principles of Plant Science: PR: BSC 2011 Introduction to botanical concepts; plant biodiversity, structure and function, growth and development, photosynthesis and water relations and ecology. Fall, Spring.

Student Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

describe the different parts of a plant, their composition, role and the different forms they can take;

identify key challenges faced by plants in their environments and the potential adaptations they have developed to overcome them;

explain the role of different plant hormones in the growth of plants and their response to environmental stimuli;

describe basic plant metabolism with regards to photosynthesis;

explain the mechanisms behind water uptake and transport in plants

describe plant reproductive strategies, including flower characteristics and modes of dispersal;

identify the major groups of land plants, their evolutionary history, and the features that distinguish the major lineages.

Course Materials and Resources

• I have embedded materials from several texts into the webcourses modules. No outside purchases/books are required for this class.

Course Assessment and Grading Procedure



Question banking

(80 points)

As you study the material, you will need to create multiple choice questions that could be used in an exam. You need to submit **1 question per section** (see General Course Structure above) to webcourses (for a total of 4 questions). You will get 20 points per question. *At least 40% of exam questions will come from the question bank.*



Reading Quizzes

(200 points)

Short quizzes related to the reading in the canvas modules. Quizzes are untimed and you will have unlimited attempts for each quiz with the highest score being retained



Case studies/Active Learning

(120 points)

Before each exam, we will have a worked 'case study' exercise. Your grade will come from completing a case study exercise as well as a short quiz on canvas.



Exams

(600 points)

There will be 3 exams (non-cumulative) through the semester – see schedule. These will consist of 36 **multiple-choice Questions**.

1. The final grade for the course will be awarded using the scale below by calculating the percentage of your total earned points during the semester out of the 1000 possible.
2. Final grade percentages will be rounded up from half-points (0.5) to the highest whole number (e.g. an 89.6% would round to a 90%). Anything below half-point, will be rounded down (e.g. an 89.4% will be rounded to 89%).

Exams

- On exam days, you **MUST** bring a pencil and your student ID.
- Scantrons will be provided by the Department of Biology.
- Students with approved accommodations for exams are required to take their exams at Student Accessibility Services (SAS) on the same day exams are given to the class.

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-90%
C	70-80%
D	60-70%
F	0-60%

Policies for Course Grade

Makeup Work Policy

- Make-ups for missed exams or assignments must be approved at the discretion of the instructor and *require documentation*.
- Authorized University Events: Students who represent the university in an authorized event (e.g. student-athletes) and who are unable to meet a course deadline due to conflict with that event must provide documentation in advance to arrange a make-up.
- Personal reasons: If you miss an exam for a reason beyond your control (illness/hospitalization/court), you must notify the instructor as soon as possible, with a corresponding document (e.g. signed document from doctor, legal notice, etc).

Missed/Late Assignments

Late assignments will have grades reduced by 20% per day late.

Attendance

- *Attendance during lecture days is highly recommended but not required.*
- *All exams are in person only and attendance is compulsory on those days.*

Academic Activity Assignment

- Due date: Friday, May 17th at 5:00 pm.
- To document that you began this course for the purpose of financial aid distribution,

please complete the syllabus quiz on webcourses

- **Important:** This assignment is *required* even if you do not receive financial aid.

Course Accessibility

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need access to course content due to course design limitations should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with [Student Accessibility Services \(SAS\)](#) (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone 407-823-2371). For students connected with SAS, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential course access and accommodations that might be necessary and reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student. Further conversation with SAS, faculty and the student may be warranted to ensure an accessible course experience.

Academic Integrity

Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Rules of Conduct at [Student Conduct and Integrity Office](#). According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in:

1. Unauthorized assistance: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
2. Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.

3. Commercial Use of Academic Material: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.
4. Falsifying or misrepresenting the student's own academic work.
5. Plagiarism: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.
6. Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
7. Helping another violate academic behavior standards.
8. Soliciting assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements.

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating

Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, [The Golden Rule](#). UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and respond to academic misconduct when necessary. Penalties for violating rules, policies, and instructions within this course can range from a zero on the exercise to an "F" letter grade in the course. In addition, an Academic Misconduct report could be filed with the Office of Student Conduct, which could lead to disciplinary warning, disciplinary probation, or deferred suspension or separation from the University through suspension, dismissal, or expulsion with the addition of a "Z" designation on one's transcript.

Being found in violation of academic conduct standards could result in a student having to disclose such behavior on a graduate school application, being removed from a leadership position within a student organization, the recipient of scholarships, participation in University activities such as study abroad, internships, etc.

Let's avoid all of this by demonstrating values of honesty, trust, and integrity. No grade is worth compromising your integrity and moving your moral compass. Stay true to doing the right thing: take the zero, not a shortcut.

Title IX

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and retaliation. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find resources available to support the victim, including confidential resources and information concerning reporting options at [Let's Be Clear](#) and [UCF Cares](#).

For more information on diversity and inclusion, Title IX, accessibility, or UCF's complaint processes contact:

- Title IX – OIE – [Office of Institutional Equity](#) & askanadvocate@ucf.edu
- Disability Accommodation – Student Accessibility Services – [Student Accessibility Services](#) & sas@ucf.edu
- Diversity and Inclusion Training and Events – [Office of the VP for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion](#)
- UCF Compliance and Ethics Office – [Compliance, Ethics, and Risk Office](#) & complianceandethics@ucf.edu
- The [Ombuds Office](#) is a safe place to discuss concerns.

Deployed Active-Duty Military Students

Students who are deployed active duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should contact their instructors as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements.

Campus Safety

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise during class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of their surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.

- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door.
- Students should make a note of the guide's physical location and review the online version at [Safety](#).
- Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.
- If there is a medical emergency during class, students may need to access a first-aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those are located, see [AED Locations](#).
- To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to [RAVE Mobile Safety](#) and logging in. On the "My Account" tab, fill out the information, including e-mail address and cell phone number.
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.
- To learn about how to manage an active-shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this video from the UCF Police Department, [You CAN Survive an Active Shooter](#).

Campus Safety Statement for Students in Online-Only Courses

Though most emergency situations are primarily relevant to courses that meet in person, such incidents can also impact online students, either when they are on or near campus to participate in other courses or activities or when their course work is affected by off-campus emergencies. The following policies apply to courses in online modalities.

- To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to [RAVE Mobile Security](#) and logging in. On the "My Account" tab, fill out the information, including e-mail address and cell phone number.
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructor outside of class.

Financial Aid Accountability

All instructors/faculty are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete this activity by the end of the first week of classes or as soon as possible after adding the course. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Class Schedule

Week	Lecture/Reading Topic(s)
1	Cells, Growth, and Anatomy
2	Case Study, Exam review, and Exam 1
3	Evolution, Abiotic and Biotic challenges
4	Hormones, Water Movement, Case Study 2 and Exam 2
5	Soil, Light, Flowers and Fruits
6	Heredity, Major Plant groups and Exam 3

* See Homepage of canvas for more detailed day by day schedule