

# **Biology 2217B—Economic Botany**

## **Course Outline (Syllabus) Winter 2022**

### **1. Course Information**

#### Bio 2217B Economic Botany

An introduction to economically important plants and their products, especially as a source of food, fuel, drugs, and industrial raw materials.

#### **List of Prerequisites**

Either Biology 1001A or Biology 1201A and either Biology 1002B or Biology 1202B, or Integrated Science 1001X; or registration in Foods and Nutrition modules. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

#### **Outcomes**

- Identify and describe the basic anatomical structure of economically important plants.
- Describe the history and involvement of humans with plants.
- Identify the major plant species that have played an important role in human affairs.
- Demonstrate a knowledge of the economic value of plants in our everyday lives.
- Describe the origins of many plant products used around the world
- From the laboratory portion of the course students will be able to identify plant anatomy and structure and will be able to recognize the important plant families we have discussed.

### **2. Instructor Information**

#### **Office hours:**

Dr. Richard Gardiner  
Email: [rgardine@uwo.ca](mailto:rgardine@uwo.ca)  
Office: Room 301 J North Campus Building  
Available by appointment

#### **Administration Inquires:**

Any administrative concerns (such as accommodations, medical absences, SRAs/self-reported absences) or questions should be sent to Dr. Anne Simon ([asimon28@uwo.ca](mailto:asimon28@uwo.ca)).

#### **Teaching Assistants:**

Contact information for TAs and Lab Technical Staff is available on OWL under “Administration”

#### **Communicating with instructors and TAs:**

**Use your uwo email account only.** We will not respond to emails originating from non-uwo email accounts. **Make sure, at all times, that your official UWO account inbox doesn't go over quota as you may not be able to receive any messages or responses from us.**

### 3. Delivery mode

**Lectures:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 to 12:30 PM NSC – 1  
(online until at least January 31<sup>st</sup>, Zoom links provided on the OWL Site)

**Labs:** Monday /Tuesday (2:30 to 5:30) and Thursdays 8:30 to 11:30 and 2:30 to 5:30 PM - MC 110 (online until January 31<sup>st</sup>, information is provided on the OWL site)

Attendance at laboratories is required except with valid documentation from Dean's Office or SRA– you should then arrange with TAs to attend an alternate lab.

**Tutorials:** Monday ( PAB 34), Tuesday (VAC 100), Thursday morning section (PAD 150), Thursday afternoon section (PAB 117)  
(online until January 31<sup>st</sup>, information is provided on the OWL site)

You must attend your designated section unless you have received permission in writing from the instructor.

### 4. Course Material

#### Required Course Materials:

**Text Book:** Plants and Society 8<sup>th</sup> Edition Levetin and McMahon (Bookstore)

**Lab Book:** Photographic Atlas for the Botany Laboratory (Bookstore)

Students are responsible for checking the course OWL site (<http://owl.uwo.ca>) on a regular basis for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class.

If students need assistance with the course OWL site, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

#### Technical Requirements

Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the system requirements for Zoom. Information about the system requirements are available at the following link: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>

Please note that Zoom servers are located outside Canada. If you would prefer to use only your first name or a nickname to login to Zoom, please provide this information to the instructor in advance of the test or examination.

Proctortrack will require you to provide personal information (including some biometric data). The session will be recorded. By taking this course, you are consenting to the use of this software. More information about remote proctoring is available in the Online Proctoring Guidelines at the following link:

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/onlineproctorguidelines.pdf>

**Course material** (i.e. lecture slides, videos, and other supplementary material posted on OWL) is the intellectual property of your instructor and is made available to you for your personal use in this course. Sharing, posting or using this material outside of your personal use in this course is considered an infringement of intellectual property rights.

If you would like to make an audio recording of the lectures/tutorials in this course, you **MUST** ask permission first. According to intellectual property laws, not asking permission constitutes stealing. We do **NOT** permit videotaping or photographing lectures.

#### **Contingency plan for an in-person class pivoting to 100% online learning**

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction again (after January 31<sup>st</sup>), all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

## 5. Methods of Evaluation

**The overall course grade will be calculated as listed below:**

Labs	25%	
Tutorials	10%	
Midterm	15%	March 5 <sup>th</sup>
Lab Test	15%	Last week of classes (session dates TBD)
Final	35%	

#### **Important Information:**

The final exam must be attempted for credit in the course.

#### **Attendance**

Attendance in each lab session is mandatory. Students who are absent and/or do not hand in lab assignments for two of the five sessions will receive a grade of "F" for the entire course. This "F" may be revised to "INC" (incomplete) only upon recommendation from the academic counsellors in your Dean's Office in cases of documented health or compassionate concerns. You must initial the attendance sheet at the appropriate time. **If you fail to do so, you will be**

**considered absent.** Labs run over a two-week period and so there are plenty of opportunities to replace a missed lab – must have permission of TAs or Dr. Gardiner

### **Conflict/Absences**

- 1) Conflict with a term test, please see me at least three days before the test.
- 2) Missing a term test because of illness, accident, etc... please notify admin ASAP.
- 3) Requiring religious accommodation, please notify administrative support (Dr. Anne Simon) at least two weeks before the test.

Make up tests occur 1 to 6 days after the regularly scheduled test. If a makeup cannot be arranged, the grades for that test will be assigned to the final (i.e. the value of the final exam will be appropriately higher).

## **6. Accommodation and Accessibility**

### **Accommodation Policies**

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities policy can be found at: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic\\_Accommodation\\_disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Accommodation_disabilities.pdf)

### **Academic Consideration for Student Absence**

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the semester, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.

For policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs, see:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic\\_Consideration\\_for\\_absences.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf) and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:  
[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

### **Religious Accommodations**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar:

<https://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>

### **Absences from Final Examinations**

If you miss the Final Exam, please contact the Academic Counselling office of your Faculty of Registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a “Multiple Exam Situation” (see [http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/exam\\_schedule.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/exam_schedule.html) ). If a student fails to write a scheduled Special Examination, the date of the next Special Examination (if granted) normally will be the scheduled date for the final exam the next time this course is offered. The maximum course load for that term will be reduced by the credit of the course(s) for which the final examination has been deferred. See Academic Calendar for details (under [Special Examinations](#)).

## **7. Academic Policies**

The website for Registrar Services is <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca> .

In accordance with policy, <http://www.uwo.ca/its/identity/activatenonstudent.html>, the centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner.

Electronic devices (such as smart watches, laptops, phones, graphing/modified calculators) are not permitted in examinations or tests.

**Scholastic offences** are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf) .

Turnitin ***aids*** in identifying plagiarism. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such

checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Tests and examinations in this course may be conducted using the remote proctoring service, such as Proctortrack if course delivery remains online. By taking this course, you are consenting to the use of this software and acknowledge that you will be required to provide personal information (including some biometric data) and the session will be recorded. More information about this remote proctoring service is available in the Online Proctoring Guidelines at the following link:

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/onlineproctorguidelines.pdf> .

## 8. Support Services

Please visit the Science & Basic Medical Sciences Academic Counselling webpage for information on add/drop courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters: <https://www.uwo.ca/sci/counselling/>

Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at (519) 661-2147 if you have any questions regarding accommodations.

Western University is committed to a thriving campus as we deliver our courses in the mixed model of both virtual and face-to-face formats. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being: <https://www.uwo.ca/se/digital/>

Learning-skills counsellors at the Student Development Centre (<http://www.sdc.uwo.ca>) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<http://www.health.uwo.ca/mentalhealth>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC: <https://westernusc.ca/your-services/>