# BIOL 1411 - General Botany

**Fall 2022 Syllabus**

**Course Description:** Fundamental biological concepts relevant to plant physiology, life cycle, growth and development, structure and function, and cellular and molecular metabolism. The role of plants in the environment, evolution, and phylogeny of major plant groups, algae, and fungi.

**Course Information:**

*BIOL* ***1411-001*** *Lecture*: 9:30 AM – 10:45 AM, MW, Science 188

*BIOL* ***1411-001*** *Lab*: 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM, MW, Science 128

**Instructor:** Mark A. Lee, MS

**Contact:**

*Email*: [mlee@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:mlee@southplainscollege.edu)

*Office*: Science 79

*Office Phone*: 806-716-2319 (leave a message)

*Office Hours*: MW 1:00 PM – 3:45 PM, F 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

**Textbooks**

I am not requiring any textbooks this semester; however, students may be interested in picking up the following to use as an additional resource:

*Stern’s Introductory Plant Biology*, 15th edition. Bidlack & Jansky 2021. ISBN13: 9781260240832.

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

* *Apply scientific reasoning to investigate questions and utilize scientific tools such as microscopes and laboratory equipment to collect and analyze data (lab).*
* *Use critical thinking and scientific problem-solving to make informed decisions in the laboratory (lab).*
* *Communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations (lab).*
* Compare and contrast the structures, reproduction, and characteristics of plants, algae, and fungi.
* Describe the characteristics of life and the basic properties of substances needed for life.
* Identify the principles of inheritance and solve classical genetic problems.
* Describe phylogenetic relationships and classification schemes.
* Identify the major phyla of life with an emphasis on plants, including the basis for classification, structural and physiological adaptations, evolutionary history, and ecological significance.
* Identify the chemical structures, synthesis, and regulation of nucleic acids and proteins.
* Identify the substrates, products, and important chemical pathways in photosynthesis and respiration.
* Describe the unity and diversity of plants and the evidence for evolution through natural selection.
* Compare different sexual and asexual life cycles noting their adaptive advantages.
* Describe the reasoning processes applied to scientific investigations and thinking.

**Course Schedule**

The following schedule is tentative and subject to change. The instructor reserves the rights to make modifications to the course content and curriculum at any time. Students will be notified of these changes ahead of time.



**Policies and Procedures**

*Attendance Policy:*

Attendance is required for both lecture and lab. Excessive unexcused absences will result in points being deducted from your final grade. If you show up to lecture but not lab (or vice versa), this will count as an absence for both. Unexcused absences will result in an automatic zero for any tests and assignments missed. If you have a valid excuse for being absent, it is your responsibility to let me know (preferably beforehand) so that reasonable accommodations can be made. I will decide whether an excuse is valid.

*Classroom/Lab Policy:*

Students are expected to pay attention and not be disruptive. Food and drink will be permitted during lecture (but not lab) as long as it is not messy and/or disruptive. I reserve the right to change this policy should students abuse it. Tobacco is not permitted in lab or lecture. Furthermore, long pants/dresses and close-toed shoes are required for lab.

*Phone Policy:*

Students may have their phone in lecture and lab so long as they are not disruptive to other students and aren’t using it when they should be paying attention. I reserve the right to change this policy should students abuse it. Students can step out into the hallway if they need to make a phone call.

*Course Grade Policy:*

The grade for this course will be based on:

First three exams (100 points each)

Final exam (150 points)

Weekly Quiz (x13, 10 points each)

Weekly Blackboard Discussion (x13, 20 points each)

Daily Lab Assignment (x30, 5 points each)

*Exam Policy:* The first three exams will not be cumulative, and can consist of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, true-false, and short answer questions. Exams will be split between lecture and lab. Unless you have an excused absence, missing the exam will earn an automatic zero. The final exam is cumulative.

*Quiz/Assignment Policy:* Quizzes will be given at the beginning of lecture and will cover the previous week’s material. If you miss it, you will receive a zero unless your absence is excused. Lab assignments will be completed and turned in by the end of each lab – if you miss lab or fail to turn in the assignment before leaving, you will receive a zero unless your absence is excused. Blackboard discussions will be assigned on Friday and will consist of two parts – you will answer an online prompt by Monday the following week (10 points), and respond to the answers of at least two other students by that Thursday (5 points). If you do not complete part or all of the assignment, you will lose points accordingly.

*Drop Procedure:* Students who wish to drop the course during the semester will have until December 1st to do so.

**Student Conduct**

Failure to comply with lawful direction of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is  
considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated or severe violations of disrupting a class may result in the student being dropped from that course. Refer to the *South Plains College Student Guide* for more information.

**Academic Integrity**

It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension. Refer to the *South Plains College Student Guide* for more information.

**COVID-19 Statement**

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or test for COVID-19.

* Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
* Fever or chills
* Muscles or body aches
* Vomiting or diarrhea
* New loss of taste and smell

Please also notify DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu) or 806-716-2376.  Proof of a positive test is required.  A home test is sufficient but students must submit a photo of the positive result. The date of test must be written on the test result and an ID included in the photo. If tested elsewhere (clinic, pharmacy, etc.), please submit a copy of the doctor’s note or email notification. Results may be emailed to DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu).

A student is clear to return to class without further assessment from DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN if they have completed the 5-day isolation period, symptoms have improved, and they are without fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

Students must communicate with DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN prior to their return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 5-day isolation.

**Diversity Statement**

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

**Disabilities Statement**

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

**Non-discrimination Statement**

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX  79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

**Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement:**

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education.  To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness.  Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors.  It is the student’s responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations.  Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email [rcanon@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:rcanon@southplainscollege.edu?subject=) for assistance.