

# **BIOLOGY 334 – PLANTS AND PEOPLE**

## **Spring 2020**

### **Department of Biology, University of Victoria**

**Course description: Units: 1.5, Hours: 3-0**

Plants as sources of food, fibre, drugs, and industrial raw materials from historical and contemporary perspectives. Aspects of plant growth, development, physiology, genetics and pathology, particularly as they relate to the economic uses of plants.

**Note:** Credit for this course will not be counted toward degree programs in Biology, but Biology students may take this course as an elective (but not as a science elective).

**Prerequisite:** Minimum third-year standing.

**Course philosophy:** The course is intended to cover the biology, evolution and history of some economic and non-economic plants important in western societies. It is not my intention to duplicate courses that discuss First Nations' or non-western uses of plants.

**Instructor: Patrick von Aderkas, Professor**

Patrick's office: Petch 052a (to get there, see map on CourseSpaces)

Office hours: Tuesdays 9:30-10:30,

Phone & voicemail: 250 721 8925

Website: <http://web.uvic.ca/~pvonader/>

Email: [pvonader@uvic.ca](mailto:pvonader@uvic.ca)

**Lectures:** Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays 8:30-9:20 p.m., HSD A240

**Required text:** Levetin and McMahon–*Plants and Society*. McGraw-Hill. Seventh (2015) and eighth editions (2020). UVic bookstore: price–\$137.95 (8<sup>th</sup>) Other purchase possibilities available online.

**Evaluation:**

Midterm 1 - Wednesday, January 29, 2020	30 %
Midterm 2 - Friday, March 6, 2020	30 %
Final Exam (final exam period, date TBA)	40 %

**Exam and Grading Policy:**

No electronic devices will be permitted during any exam.

Midterms cannot be deferred. If you must miss a midterm for a valid, documented reason (documented illness, accident, family affliction, or sporting commitments as a UVic athlete), your final mark will be calculated on the basis of the other completed components of the course, and you will not incur any penalty. If you miss two midterms, you cannot complete the course and you will not be allowed to write the final.

The final exam can be deferred if missed for a valid reason (documented illness, accident, family affliction, or sporting commitments as a UVic athlete). The UVic rule is that deferred exams are normally written during the last three working days of July, although other arrangements can be made in exceptional situations.

If you expect to miss a midterm or final for any of the above reasons, please notify me before the exam if possible and produce supporting documentation upon your return. If you are not able to give prior notice, get in touch with me as soon as you are able. Travel plans are not a valid reason for missing any exam.

No supplemental final exam is given in this course.

All grades at UVic are submitted as percentiles. The academic transcript will include the percentile grade and a letter grade. Percentiles will be rounded to the nearest whole number; e.g. a grade of xx.5 will be rounded up.

**Grading system:** Percentages converted to letter grades

**A+** 90-100 **A** 85-89 **A-** 80-84 **B+** 77-79 **B** 73-76 **B-** 70-72 **C+** 65-69 **C** 60-64

## Tentative Lecture Schedule

Lecture Number	Day & Date	Topic
<b>WEEK 1 (January 6-10)</b>		
1	T 7	introduction & wine I
2	W 8	grain and vodka
3	F 10	grain and gin
<b>WEEK 2 (January 13-19)</b>		
4	T 14	beer
5	W 15	tea and coffee
6	F 17	chocolate
<b>WEEK 3 (January 20-24)</b>		
7	T 21	sugar
8	W 22	

Lecture Number	Day & Date	Topic
<b>WEEK 10 (March 9-13)</b>		
23	T 10	tomatoes & peppers
24	W 11	olive oil
25	F 13	tobacco
<b>WEEK 11 (March 16-20)</b>		
26	T 17	potato
27	W 18	TBA
28	F 20	dearth
<b>WEEK 12 (March 23-27)</b>		
29	T 24	El Niño
30	W 25	botanical barriers
31	F 27	wine II - guest lecture: S. Lueck
<b>WEEK 13 (March 30 - April 3)</b>		
32	T 31	popular art
33	W 1	gardening
34	F 3	Victoria gardens

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**FINAL EXAM (40 %) Date & time TBA**

The final is *not* cumulative.