BZ 325 PLANT SYSTEMATICS
Spring 2014

Instructor: Mark P. Simmons
  Office: E212B Anatomy / Zoology Building; phone 491-2154; e-mail: psimmons@rams.colostate.edu
  Office hours: Monday 12 AM – 1 PM; Thursday 2 – 3 PM

Teaching Assistant: Jessica Warren
  Office: E204 Anatomy / Zoology Building; phone 816-585-8842; e-mail: warrenj@rams.colostate.edu
  Office hours: Wednesday 1 – 3 PM

Lecture: Tuesday / Thursday 12:30 – 1:45 PM; Yates 301
Lab: Tuesday 2:00 – 3:40 PM; Yates 301

Required Text:

Course web site: http://info.canvas.colostate.edu/login.aspx
  ▪ Course number: BZ325 Plant Systematics
  ▪ Instructor: Mark P. Simmons

Objectives:
Students will be able to understand the methods and interpret the results of phylogenetic analyses using both genotypic
and phenotypic characters. Students will be able to trace the inferred phylogeny of the vascular-plant orders and describe
the derived phenotypic characters for each of the major clades. Students will be able to describe morphological structures
of vascular plants using botanical terminology. Students will be able to identify prominent vascular-plant families using
diagnostic morphological characters. Students will be able to describe the life histories of, and evolutionary processes
acting on, vascular plants.

Grading:
  Two preliminary exams 75 (each)
  Cumulative final exam 100
  Lab quizzes and assignments 60 (total)
  Cumulative lab final 40
  Course project
    - lab presentation: 20
    - written paper: 30

Total: 400 points

Exam information:
  ■ exams keys from two years ago are posted on Canvas
  ■ a review session will be scheduled before each test
  ■ the final exam is cumulative, the second preliminary exam is not
  ■ be parsimonious in your answers to test questions. If you answer a question correctly, but provide additional
    information that is incorrect, points will be taken off for the incorrect part(s)

Suggested plant-image web sites
  ■ Texas A & M: http://www.cSDL.tamu.edu/FLORA/gallery.htm
  ■ University of Hawaii: http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/carr/phylo_fpfamilies.htm#MAGNOLIID
    COMPLEX
  ■ Digital Flowers: http://www.life.uiuc.edu/plantbio/digitalflowers/
  ■ University of Wisconsin: http://botit.botany.wisc.edu/courses/systematics/index.html
  ■ PlantSystematics.org: http://www.plantsystematics.org/
  ■ Noble Foundation: http://www.noble.org/apps/plantimagegallery/
  ■ Don’t forget the “Photo Gallery of Vascular Plants” on the inside front cover of Judd et al. (2015)!