

Power of Plants: Plants in Medicine and Agriculture

BIOL-22500 Class Schedule Fall 2008



***Dates marked with an asterisk are the due dates for reflective journals**

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Reading/Activity	4 th Hour Activity
1	Aug 28	1. Course Introduction	Research Projects-Overview	----none----
2	Sept 2 Sept 4	2. What is Ethnography? (S. Zabusky) 3. Introduction to Plant Families	“Baseball Magic”; “Culture & Ethnography”-Bb “Placebos Have Side Effects”-Bb Stern- Introduction to Plant Families (HO)	Plant ID-outside on campus Research Project Topics Due
Part I: Plants in Agriculture				
3	Sept 9 *Sept 11	4. Origins of Agriculture 5. Plant Breeding I	Ten Thousand Years of Crop Evolution-(HO) Plant Genomes (weblink-Bb) The Molecular Genetics of Crop Domestication-Bb	Plant Quiz
4	Sept 16 Sept 18	6. Plant breeding II 7. Children of the Corn	Green Genes, GMPapaya, GoldenRice -Bb Is Ethanol for the Long Haul?-Bb	Literature Review Due PGRU Geneva-Field Trip Sept 20
5	Sept 23 Sept 25	8. Cotton (Wendy Skinner) 9. Sustainable Ag I	King Cotton; GM & Cotton-Bb Future Farming-Bb	Interviewing Technique Workshop (S. Zabusky)
6	Sept 30 *Oct 2	10. Sustainable Ag II 11. VIDEO: Corporate Agriculture DVD 2291	No-Till: the Quiet Revolution-Bb	Project Proposals Due
7	Oct 7 Oct 9	12. Ominvore’s Dilemma Ch 1-3 13. Ominvore’s Dilemma Ch 4-6	Student led discussion _____ Student-led discussion _____	Project Meetings with Susan
8	Oct 14 Oct 16	14. Quest 1 (material from 9/2 – 10/2) FALL BREAK		VIDEO: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil

Part 2: Plants in Medicine				
9	Oct 21	15. Omnivore's Dilemma Ch 8-14	Student-led discussion _____	Project Meetings with Susan
	Oct 23	16. Omnivore's Dilemma Ch 15-20	Student-led discussion _____	
10	Oct 28	17. Midterm Project Presentations	Sumner Ch. 1 & 2; Hopkins Ch. 14	Midterm Project Presentations
	Oct 30	18. VIDEO: Treasury of plant medicines DVD 2671		
11	*Nov 4	19. Plant Secondary Chemistry	Reading TBA	Extracting Plant Medicines
	Nov. 6	20. Significant Medicinal Discoveries	Is the Drought Over for Pharming?-Bb Plant-made Follicular Lymphoma Vaccine-Bb	
12	Nov 11	21. Plant-derived Hallucinogenics	Student-led discussion _____	Project Meetings with Susan
	Nov. 13	22. Taxol Bioynthesis (Z. Nims)	The Story of Taxol (weblink-Bb), Nims et al., 2006	
13	Nov 18	23. Plant Poisons	Reading TBA	Project Meetings with Susan
	Nov 20	24. Agave (P. Turkon)	Parson article	
14	Nov 25	THANKSGIVING BREAK	-----	----none---
	Nov 27	THANKSGIVING BREAK		
15	Dec 2	25. Peppers (Mike Mazourek)	Feel the Burn, Dying Breed, Plant Scents-Bb	Research Paper Rough Draft Due Dec 2
	Dec 4	26. VIDEO: Whose plants are they anyway? DVD 2672		
16	Dec. 9	27. Intellectual Property Rights	Student-led discussion _____	----none---
	*Dec 11	28. Quest 2 (material from 11/4 – 12/2)		
17	Dec 16 (Tues)	FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS 10:30 am - 1 pm		Final Project Papers due Dec. 19 @ 5 pm

HO = Handout; **Bb** = reading available on Blackboard ***Due dates for reflective journals**

Relevant Videos:

Edible Wild Plants (60 min) VIDEO 2313

Polyface Farm (2001; 126 min) DVD 2918

Broken limbs: apples, agriculture, and the new American farmer (2004; 57 min.) [DVD 1777](#)

Corporate agriculture: cultivating trouble (2005; 46 min) [DVD 2291 CORE](#)

My Father's Garden (1996; 56 min)

Good Food (2008; 72 min) -A look at how local farmers and ranchers in the Pacific NW US develop sustainable and organic agriculture.

Sustainable Table: What's on Your Plate? (2006; 52 min)

Food Fight (2008; 83 min) A fascinating look at how American agricultural policy and food culture developed in the 20th century, and how the California food movement rebelled against big agribusiness to launch the local organic food movement (Michael Pollan in cast)

Shaman's Apprentice (2001; 54 min) Ethnobotanist Mark Plotkin first traveled to the Amazon twenty years ago seeking a cure for diabetes. There he found extraordinary biological riches and a mysterious world of shape-shifting shamans who healed with sophisticated plant medicines. Filmed in Suriname.