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BIOL 311.01: Survey of Plants I

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BIOL 311 Survey of Plants I Fall, 2001

Instructor: Dr. Kevin J. Murray; Office: HS 112; Phone: 243-4130, email: kmurray@selway.umt.edu

Course Overview. BIOL 311 is the first semester of a two-semester course exploring the biological diversity of photosynthetic organisms (plants, eukaryotic algae, cyanobacteria). Specifically, BIOL 311 is devoted to the study of the "algae" and the nonvascular plants, or bryophytes. We will also spend some time with the lichens. The central objectives in the course are: 1) understand the relationships of the algae/bryophytes to other photosynthetic organisms, 2) understand the functional biology of the algae/bryophytes including modes of reproduction, physiology and ecology, and 3) understand the taxonomy and diversity of these organisms. In-class exams, laboratory exams, a laboratory notebook, an independent project (optional) and classroom participation will be used to assess your meeting of the above objectives. There will be 2 writing assignments on topics of your choice relevant to the ecology, physiology and/or economic importance of algae and bryophytes.

Required texts: A Biology of the Algae. 3rd ed. 1998. Philip Sze. How to Know the Freshwater Algae. 3rd ed. Prescott.

Optional texts: <u>How to Know the Mosses and Liverworts</u>. 2nd ed. Conrad & Redfearn. <u>Mosses, Lichens</u> & Ferns of the <u>Northwest</u>. Vitt *et al*.

Grading: Your final grade will in part be based on 2 midterms, a final exam. Lecture exams will consist of short answer questions as well as objective questions (fill-in-the-blank, matching). Lab exams will take place on the same day as lecture exams and cover the same material. Lab exams will consist of sight identification of materials studied in lab as well as identification of "unknowns. The laboratory notebook can help you gain extra points based on organization, content and clarity of recorded information. The writing assignments will also contribute to your overall grade.

BIOL 311 Fall 2001 Projected Lecture Schedule

week of	<u>lecture topics</u>
03 Sep	Classifying living things; Overview of plant kingdom
	Algae in the fossil record
10 Sep	Characteristics of the "algae"
	Cyanophyta
17 Sep	Cyanophyta
	Chlorophyta
24 Sep	Chlorophyta
	Chrysophyta
01 Oct	Fresh water algal ecology
	Exam I
08 Oct	Origins of "plants" & Introduction to Descendants
08 001	Origins of "plants" & Introduction to Bryophytes Anthocerotae & Hepaticae
	Anthocerotae & riepaticae
15 Oct	Sphagnidae
	Sphagnidae
	•
22 Oct	Bryidae
	Bryidae
29 Oct	Polytrichidae

05 Nov Bryophyte ecology Exam II Dinoflagellates 12 Nov Euglenoids 19 Nov **Thanksgiving Holiday** Rhodophyta 26 Nov Phaeophyta 03 Dec Algal ecology Lichens 10 Dec Lichens Lichens

18 Dec

Final Exam 1:10 – 3:10 pm