[BI694L] [Ethnobotany of Micronesia]
Course Syllabus and Calendar

Section Information
Section [Number] TBT
Course Delivery Mode: Face-to-Face
[Course Schedule Days/Times] Monday 8:30-11:30am
[Location/Room] Marine Lab, classroom 205

Instructor Information
Else Demeulenaere
Email: else@uog.edu
Office: Center for Island Sustainability,
Dean Circle, House 32
[Office Hours - Schedule] TBT
Office Phone Number: 735-2918

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION

The fieldwork and lab portion of the course "Ethnobotany of Micronesia" uses the concepts of ethnobotany, with an emphasis on Micronesia, and puts them into practice. Ethnobotany is the study of interrelationships between people and plants of a particular Indigenous/traditional culture and region and how humans in an historical and current context use plants and represent them in their knowledge and value systems. Students gain a basic understanding of ethnobotanical research methodologies, inclusive of ethical principles. Students learn about Micronesia's plants used for food, medicines, fishing, construction, and ways that traditional knowledge contributes to other fields of study, such as sea fearing, sustainable resource management, socio-economic development, climate change science, and human health.
The course consists of three hours of field/lab work per week. Prerequisites: BI157, BI147/L (Principles of Biology I/ Principles of Biology I lab) and BI 158/ BI 158L (Principles of Biology II/ Principles of Biology II lab). The course, BI 694, MUST be taken concurrently. Corequisite: BI 694.

COURSE CONTENT

The course "Ethnobotany of Micronesia" centers around the four major topics taught during the BI 694 course. The first part familiarizes the students with the field of ethnobotany. Part two deals with methods and techniques in ethnobotany, literature, and project design. Part three covers ethnobotanical fieldwork. Part four covers a wide variety of plant uses. The course consists of fieldtrips which facilitate ethnobotanical research, ethnoecological fieldtrips covering various ecosystems, and interviews with traditional knowledge holders.

EEO/ADA STATEMENT

The University is committed to maintaining the campus community as a place of work and study for faculty, staff, and students, free of all forms of discrimination and harassment. If you experience harassment or discrimination, then you should report it immediately to the EEO Director at the **EEO/ADA &Title IX Office**, Institutional Compliance Officer (671) 735-2244 located in Dorm 1. For immediate assistance in an emergency call 911.

DSS (Disability Support Services) Accommodation

If you are a student with a disability who will require an accommodation(s) to participate in this course, please contact the Student Counseling and Advising Service Disability Support Services office to discuss your specific accommodation needs confidentially. A Faculty Notification letter will be emailed to me specifying your approved accommodation. If you are not registered, you should do so immediately at the Student Center, Rotunda office #5, sssablan@triton.uog.edu or ph/TTY: 735-2460, to coordinate your accommodation request.

TOBACCO-FREE/SMOKE-FREE CAMPUS

UOG is a tobacco-free campus. Thank you for not using tobacco products on campus, and for helping make UOG a healthy learning and living environment. For more information visit: http://www.uog.edu/smoke-free-uog

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR CLASSMATES

Write the names and contact information for two or three classmates you can contact if you miss a class or want a study partner. Study groups are encouraged!

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ALIGNMENT MATRIX

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)	Grad Bio Program (PLO)	Institutional (IGLO)	Activities/Assessments
Describe the interdisciplinary concepts of ethnobotany in the context of Micronesia's Indigenous cultures.	1, 3, 5, 6	1, 2, 4, 5	exam, research notes, essays, class discussion
Understand how ethnobotany and ethnoecology principles can be applied in conservation and sustainability (relating for instance to food and medicine sovereignty).	1, 3, 4, 5, 6	1, 2	exam, research notes, essays, class discussion
Develop taxonomic knowledge about Micronesia's rich flora with a focus on Guam.	3, 5, 6	1, 2	exam, research notes, essays, class discussion
Identify culturally useful plants by name (CHamoru and scientific name), type, usefulness, importance to CHamoru culture (and Micronesia)	3, 5, 6	1, 2	exam, research notes, essays, class discussion
Develop the skills and methods used to collect and preserve plant materials and document their uses.	1, 5, 6	1, 2	exam, research notes, essays, class discussion
Understand and discuss ethical awareness issues involved in human subject research, traditional knowledge, and intellectual property rights.	5, 6	4, 5	exam, research notes, essays, class discussion
Gain skills and experience in ethnobotanical research methodologies	1, 5, 6	1, 2, 4, 5	exam, research notes, essays, class discussion
Advance ethnographic skills in gathering and analyzing data, and scientific writing.	1, 2, 5, 6, 7	1, 2, 3	exam, research notes, essays, class discussion
Interact respectfully with Micronesia's Indigenous Elders and traditional knowledge holders to learn about traditional plant uses, respecting their knowledge and practices.	5, 6	3, 4, 5	exam, research notes, essays, class discussion
Present research findings	5, 6, 7	3	exam, research notes, essays, class discussion

Graduate Biology Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

Upon successful completion of the program, students will demonstrate the following:
PLO #1 – Demonstrate ability to analyze data and design experiments using standard statistical procedures
PLO #2 – Demonstrate ability to write technical scientific reports and articles
PLO #3 – Demonstrate knowledge of basic organismal and ecological principles
PLO #4 – Demonstrate knowledge of basic cellular and molecular-level principles
PLO#5 – Demonstrate knowledge of the latest advances in a variety of fields in biology
PLO #6 – Demonstrate ability to conceive, conduct and report original research
PLO #7 – Demonstrate the ability to disseminate scientific concepts and research findings in a variety of formats (e.g., written and oral)

Institutional Graduate Learning Outcomes (IGLOs)

Upon completion of their degree program, graduate students will:
IGLO #1 – Demonstrate mastery of critical skills, theories, methodologies, and other content knowledge at a level that will enable them to address fundamental questions in their primary area of study
IGLO #2 – Plan, conduct, and complete a significant research or creative project
IGLO #3 – Exercise oral and written communication skills sufficient to publish and present work in their field
IGLO #4 – Adhere to the ethical principles of academia and their respective disciplines in coursework, fieldwork, and other appropriate situations
IGLO #5 – Exemplify, through service, the value of their discipline to the academy and the community at large, interacting productively and professionally with people from diverse backgrounds

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

REQUIRED TEXTS

A collection of ethnobotany and botany textbooks of Micronesia will be available for students (either through MARC, RFK library, or my personal collection at House 32, Dean Circle). Ethnobotanical reading materials and videos will be provided. Reading materials are listed per lecture and will be provided a week before class. Additional literature will be provided during the lectures and PowerPoint presentations.

GRADING INFORMATION

COURSE FINAL GRADES

Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Percent Grade	Definition	
A+	4.00	98-100%	Outstanding	Honors-level performance with superior quality and extraordinary distinction.
A	4.00	93-97%		
A-	3.67	90-92%		
B+	3.33	87-89%	Good	Solid accomplishment, indicating a substantial mastery of course materials and a good Command of skills required by the course.
B	3.00	83-86%		
B-	2.67	80-82%		
C+	2.33	77-179%	Adequate	Students have achieved the level of competency needed for advancing to a subsequent course which has this course as pre-requisite.
C	2.00	70-76%		
D	1.00	60-69%	Deficient	Minimal passing, but not adequate to take a subsequent course which has this course as pre-requisite.
F	0.00	<60%	Failure	Inadequate to receive credits

P Pass
I Incomplete
NC No Credit. *Note: This Course Grade must be stated in the approve Course Catalog Description.*

UW: Unofficial withdrawal assigned by Registrar. Student stopped attending classes and did not submit required documents to the Admissions & Records office.

W: Withdrawal assigned by Registrar. Student stopped attending classes and submitted required documents to the Admissions & Records office.

GRADE CATEGORIES: ASSIGNMENTS AND PERCENTAGES

Course Requirements	Points	Percent (%)
Lab/Field trip participation and reports	50	50%
Individual/group project/Oral Presentation	40	40%
Outreach material	10	10%
Total	100	

LAB/FIELDTRIPS

Lectures will occur at the scheduled times and location. While attendance is expected, absence notes, excused or unexcused, can be submitted in advance or after the absence.

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

The total grade will be based on field trip participation and reports and the overall individual or group report or paper, and presentation.
The dates for field trips will be announced during class. If any assignments are missed due to excused absence, the instructor can provide a make-up date.

STUDENT WORKLOAD

Time outside the classroom – It is recommended to study an average of 2 h for every hour of lecture class time. I suggest you spend 1 hour pre-reading the reading materials before class, spend 2 hours re-reading the reading materials and revising your notes after class, and spend 4 hours completing your assignments.

COURSE CALENDAR

The dates and times will be discussed with the students

PART 1: The field of ethnobotany

WEEK 1
No lab (the 3 hours will be combined with another lab for a field trip)

PART 2: Methods and techniques in Ethnobotany, literature, project design

WEEK 2 August 19
Citi training
Project proposal

WEEK 3 August 26

Visit to Museum and Hagåtña library **or** Visit to MARC and herbarium (terrestrial and marine collection)

WEEK 4 September 2
Design questionnaire

WEEK 5 September 9
Fill in IRB forms and complete city training

PART 3: Fieldwork in Ethnobotany

WEEK 6 September 16
Field trip (6 hours) collect voucher specimen, pictures, notes

WEEK 7 September 23
Search the literature and herbaria (at UOG or online)

WEEK 8 September 30
MIDTERM EXAM

WEEK 9 break (no classes) October 7-12

WEEK 10 October 14
Collecting ecological data, distribution area pertaining to the species you study and/or area you are studying (6 hour day).

PART 4: Plant uses

WEEK 11 October 21
Botanical drawing
Assignment: draw your specimen and write your own species description.

WEEK 12 November 4
Selection of participants and how to reach out to them.

WEEK 13 November 11
Conducting interviews, participant observation

WEEK 14 November 18
Transcribing ethnobotanical data
Coding ethnobotanical data and analysis
Quantitative data analysis

WEEK 15 November 25
Ethnobotanical writing
Assignment: writing

WEEK 16: FINALS WEEK
December 10-12

FINALS WEEK
[Date TBD]
[Exam Time TBD]

- Work on final project, exam week
- Presentation of project, paper, exam week (FINAL EXAM – Date TBA)
- The paper will cover both research notes from both lectures and essays, lab results.

*During Final Exam Week, the class meets according to the Approved Exam Schedule. All UOG classes are required to meet during Final Exam Week.