

# GENERAL BOTANY

BIOL 1311

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

FALL 2021

**Instructor:** Jeff Keeling

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**Course Meeting Times:** MWF 11:00-11:50 a.m. in Room 201 and Lab on Wednesday 1:00-2:50 p.m. in Room 206.

**Office Hours:** still pending, but feel free to email me at any time (please expect a delayed response on weekends), and we can also meet up virtually on Blackboard Course Room.

**Recommended Text:** Biology of Plants, 8th Ed.; Raven, Evert, and Eichhorn

## **Tentative Schedule of Lectures and Topics (subject to change)**

Week 1 (8/23 – 8/27)	Introduction to Biology/Botany; Subdisciplines
Week 2 (8/30 – 9/3)	Subdisciplines; Building Blocks of Life
Week 3 (9/6 – 9/10)	Cellular Structure, Function, and Cycle
Week 4 (9/13 – 9/17)	EXAM 1; DNA Structure and Replication
Week 5 (9/20 – 9/24)	Protein Synthesis
Week 6 (9/27 – 10/1)	Plant Anatomy and Morphology (Roots, Stems, and Leaves)
Week 7 (10/4 – 10/8)	Plant Physiology (Photosynthesis, Aerobic Respiration)
Week 8 (10/11 – 10/15)	Plant Physiology (Water and Sugar Transport)
Week 9 (10/18 – 10/22)	EXAM 2; Taxonomy and Systematics
Week 10 (10/25 – 10/29)	Alternation of Generations Part I: Non-Vascular Plants (Bryophytes)
Week 11 (11/1 – 11/5)	Alternation of Generations Part II: Seedless Vascular Plants (Ferns and Fern Allies)
Week 12 (11/8 – 11/12)	Alternation of Generations Part III: Seed Vascular Plants (Gymnosperms)
NOVEMBER 12	LAST DAY TO DROP WITH A “W”
Week 13 (11/15 – 11/19)	EXAM 3; Alternation of Generations Part IV: Seed Vascular Plants (Angiosperms)
Week 14 (11/22 – 11/26)	Flower and Fruit Morphology; THANKSGIVING BREAK (11/23 – 11/26)
Week 15 (11/29 – 12/3)	Role of Plants in Ecology
Week 16 (12/6 – 12/10)	EXAM 4 (FINAL)

Grades: Exams will cover both lecture and lab material.

Exam 1	appx. 140 points
Exam 2	appx. 140 points
Exam 3	appx. 110 points
Exam 4	appx. 90 points
Total	appx. 480 points

### Learning Objectives

1. The student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of basic biological concepts, including but not limited to the makeup of biological molecules, cell structures and functions, the structural hierarchy and physiological processes of living organisms; plant evolution via natural selection, taxonomy, and plant life cycles.
2. The student will be taught how to utilize the general and specialized knowledge learned in this class in various subdisciplines of applied plant sciences including but not limited to agronomy, forestry, floriculture, floristics, systematics, plant propagation, fruit and vegetable culture, landscape design, ecology and natural resource management, and others that involve specialized field techniques.
3. The student will be able to demonstrate effective knowledge on the role plants have had throughout the course of geologic history as well as the vast significance they have in both our modern economy and ecology.

**SRSU Attendance Policy.** Roll will be taken during each class meeting. The SRSU catalog states “The instructor may, at his discretion, drop a student from a course when the student has a total of nine absences. An absence is defined as non-attendance in fifty minutes of class. Nonattendance in a one and one-half hour class will constitute one and one-half absences.” **RULE TO LIVE BY: DON’T MISS ANY CLASSES!**

**Academic Integrity.** Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared, and focused; meaningful and pertinent participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person’s work as one’s own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden.

**SRSU Disability Services.** SRSU Disability Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Rebecca Greathouse Wren, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email [rebecca.wren@sulross.edu](mailto:rebecca.wren@sulross.edu). Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, SUI Ross State University, Alpine. Texas, 79832.

**Technical Support.** SRSU 24/7 Blackboard Technical Support: Toll Free: 888.837.6055.

Email: [blackboardsupport@sulross.edu](mailto:blackboardsupport@sulross.edu)

### **SRSU Library Services.**

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library in Alpine offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library’s website, [library.sulross.edu](http://library.sulross.edu). Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or phone (432-837-8123).

The Southwest Texas Junior College (SWTJC) Libraries at Uvalde, Del Rio, and Eagle Pass.

Offer additional access to library spaces and resources. Del Rio, Eagle Pass, and Uvalde students may also use online resources available through SWTJC website, <https://library.swtjc.edu>. The SWTJC Libraries serve as pick-up locations for InterLibrary Loan (ILL) and Document Delivery from the Alpine campus.

### **Classroom Climate of Respect**

Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

### **Diversity Statement**

"I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and honors your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, socioeconomic class, age, nationality, etc.). I also understand that the crisis of COVID, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events could impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create an inclusive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you."