

**BIOLOGY 334 – PLANTS AND PEOPLE**  
**Spring 2017**  
**Department of Biology, University of Victoria**

**Course description: Units: 1.5, Hours: 3-0**

Plants as sources of food, fiber, drugs, and industrial raw materials from historical and contemporary perspectives. Aspects of plant growth, development, physiology, genetics and pathology, particularly as they relate to the economic uses of plants.

**Note:** Credit for this course will not be counted toward degree programs in Biology, but Biology students may take this course as an elective (but not as a science elective).

**Prerequisite:** Third-year standing.

**Course philosophy:** The course is intended to cover the biology, evolution and history of some economic plants important in western societies. It is not my intention to duplicate courses that discuss First Nations' or non-western uses of plants.

**Instructor:** Professor **Patrick von Aderkas**

Office hours: Tuesday 9:30-10:30, Petch 052a

250 721 8925 (telephone & voice mail)

Website – <http://web.uvic.ca/~pvonader/>

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**Lectures:**

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays 8:30-9:20 p.m., HSD A240

**Required text:** *Plants and Society*, Seventh Edition (2011), by Estelle Levetin and Karen McMahon, McGraw-Hill, Available in the UVic bookstore: \$149.75 (I talked the publisher down from \$228 !).

**Evaluation:**

Midterm 1 - Friday, January 27, 2014	30 %
Midterm 2 - Friday, March 3, 2014	30 %
Final Exam (final exam period, date TBA)	40 %

**Exam and Grading Policy:**

No electronic devices will be permitted during any exam.

Midterms cannot be deferred. If you must miss a midterm for a valid, documented reason (documented illness, accident, family affliction, or sporting commitments as a UVic athlete), your final mark will be calculated on the basis of the other completed components of the course, and you will not incur any penalty. If you miss two midterms, you cannot complete the course and you will not be allowed to write the final.

The final exam can be deferred if missed for a valid reason (documented illness, accident, family affliction, or sporting commitments as a UVic athlete). The UVic rule is that deferred exams are normally written during the last three working days of July, although other arrangements can be made in exceptional situations.

If you expect to miss a midterm or final for any of the above reasons, please notify me beforehand and produce supporting documentation upon your return. If you are

not able to give prior notice, get in touch with me as soon as you are able. Travel plans are not a valid reason for missing any exam.

No supplemental final exam is given in this course.

In determining final grades for the course, fractional percentages will be rounded up when the number is 0.49 or less from a cutoff point. For example, 79.50 remains a B+, but 79.51-79.99 is an A-

<b>Grading system:</b>						Relationship of percentages to letter grades
A+ 90-100	A 85-89	A- 80-84	B+ 77-79	B 73-76	B- 70-72	
C+ 65-69	C 60-64	D 50-59	F 0-49			

### **Important dates in the Spring Term**

**January 17, Tuesday:** Last day for 100% reduction of second term fees for standard courses. 50% of tuition fees will be assessed for courses dropped after this date. For non-standard courses see [www.registrar.uvic.ca](http://www.registrar.uvic.ca)

**January 20, Friday:** Last day for adding this course.

**January 31, Tuesday:** Last day for paying second-term fees without financial penalty.

**February 7, Tuesday:** Last day to drop courses for a 50% reduction of tuition fees. 100% of tuition fees will be assessed for this course dropped after this date.

**February 13, Monday:** Family Day Holiday

**February 13-17:** Reading Break

**February 28, Tuesday:** Last day for withdrawing from this course without penalty of failure.

**April 4, Tuesday:** Last day of class in the second term.

**April 7-25:** Exam period

**April 14:** Good Friday holiday

**April 17:** Easter Monday holiday

## **Lecture Schedule (Tentative)**

<b>Lecture Number</b>	<b>Day &amp; Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>WEEK 1 (January 4-6)</b>		
1	W 4	vodka
2	F 6	King Wheat
<b>WEEK 2 (January 9-13)</b>		
3	T 10	Citizen Wheat
4	W 11	Madam Geneva
5	F 13	John Barleycorn
<b>WEEK 3 (January 16-20)</b>		
6	T 17	food & climate & birth of the Third World
7	W 18	botanical barriers
8	F 20	TBA
<b>WEEK 4 (January 23-27)</b>		
9	T 24	hot drinks I
10	W 25	hot drinks II
	F 27	<b>Midterm I – 30 %</b>
<b>WEEK 5 (January 30 - February 3)</b>		
11	T 31	the cane fields are on fire
12	W 1	psychoactive drugs
13	F 3	opium & heroin
<b>WEEK 6 (February 6-10)</b>		
14	T 7	Golden Age of Marijuana
15	W 8	tobacco
16	F 10	TBA
<b>WEEK 7 (February 13-17) Reading Break</b>		
<b>WEEK 8 (February 20-24)</b>		
17	T 21	plants with malice aforethought
18	W 22	plants in medicine & alternative medicine
19	F 24	tomatoes & peppers

Lecture No.	Day/Date	Topic
<b>WEEK 9 (February 27 - March 3)</b>		
20	T 28	olive oil
21	W 1	orchids
	<b>F 3</b>	<b>Midterm II (30 %)</b>
<b>WEEK 10 (March 6-10)</b>		
22	T 7	roses
23	W 8	cotton
24	F 10	lemons
<b>WEEK 11 (March 13-17)</b>		
25	T 14	bananas
26	W 15	wine I
27	F 17	“Understanding wine style: factors influencing flavours and food pairing” Sabrina Lueck, Enology and Viticulture Dept., Walla Walla Community College
<b>WEEK 12 (March 20-24)</b>		
28	T 21	genetically modified plants I
		genetically modified plants II
29	W 22	tulips
30	F 24	rice
<b>WEEK 13 (Mar 27-31)</b>		
31	T 28	pine
32	W 29	"The Pesto Connection: How a BC bug is rescuing the Italian pine nut industry" Ward Strong, guest lecturer BC Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations Kalamalka
33	F 31	gardening & class votes on lectures
<b>WEEK 14 (Apr 3 – Apr 4)</b>		
34	T 4	last lecture: Victoria gardens & evaluation

FINAL EXAM (40 %) Date during exam period TBA