Mycology - 20373 - BIOL 415C - A01

Jan - Apr 2018

Course Outline

Instructor: **Dr. Paul de la Bastide**
email: pdelabas@uvic.ca
office: Petch 055

Class time: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 10:30 – 11:20 pm.

Classes start Wednesday January 3rd and will end on Friday April 6th

Location: Cunningham (CUN) 146

Pre-requisites: BIOL 215, BIOL 225, and BIOL 230

What is the course about?

The course is designed to give you a better understanding of how different fungal taxa are related to one another, what we have learned about eukaryotes and fungi by the study of fungal genetics, the importance of fungi to human activities, and a deeper appreciation for the role of fungi in human-modified and natural systems. We will begin with a series of lectures introducing you to the different taxa of fungi and how they differ in their growth, morphology and life strategies. We will then move on to a range of topics that include fungal genetics, the development of mating systems, growth and biochemical processes, fungal plant pathology and the ecological role of fungi.

The lectures will also consider current research topics in mycology of general interest to the class. The course will include individual presentations by students on a research topic selected by the student, as well as a written critique of published mycological research.

Textbook: There is no official text book for the course, although there will be assigned readings from the primary literature.

Lecture outlines will be posted on CourseSpaces for you. I recommend that you bring the outline to class to add comments during lectures. The primary source of course information will be provided through the lecture material, as well as some assigned readings.

Lecture Topics (including but not limited to the following)

Introduction to Fungi

Fungal Classification

The Phylum Chytridiomycota

The Phyla Neocallimastigomycota, Blastocladiomycota and Microsporidia

The Phylum formerly known as Zygomycota

The Phylum Ascomycota

The Phylum Basidiomycota

Growth and physiology

Topics in fungal genetics

Fungi and human health

Topics in fungal plant pathology

Mycorrhizal fungi

Topics in fungal ecology

Truffle fungi (Guest lecturer – to be confirmed)

The use of molecular approaches to identify fungi (Guest lecturer - to be confirmed)

Evaluation:

Midterm	35 points	(in class in February)
Individual Written Scientific Critique	15 points	
Individual Seminar Presentation	5 points	
Final exam	45 points	(scheduled by registrar)

No electronic devices of any kind will be permitted during the exams.

If you cannot attend the mid-term exam for a valid reason (illness, accident, family crisis), it is your responsibility to inform me as soon as possible and provide suitable documentation (doctor's note or counselor's note). No supplemental mid-term exams will be offered.

You are eligible to write deferred final exam if you have a valid reason for missing the final exam.

General regulations:

Grading system: Percentages converted to letter grades

A+ 90.0-100	A 85.0-89.9	A- 80.0-84.9	
B+ 77.0-79.9	B 73.0-76.9	B- 70.0-72.9	
C+ 65.0-69.9	C 60.0-64.9	D 50.0-59.9	F 0-49.9

Failure to complete at least 70 points of coursework (either midterm and final or all assignments and final) will result in a grade of "N". An N is a failing grade, and it factors into a student's GPA as O. The maximum percentage that can accompany an N on a student's transcript is 49.

Please read the appropriate section of the current UVic Academic Calendar regarding your rights and obligations.

It is your responsibility to be aware of ADD/DROP dates published in the Calendar.

You are expected to observe UVic standards of scholarly integrity especially with regards to plagiarism and cheating.

UVic is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a supportive and safe learning and working environment for all of its members.