

Introductory Plant Pathology (BTNY 301) Fall, 2006

Lecture: T/TH 9:30 AM - 10:20 AM Room 3-410, Lilly Hall Laboratory: TH 11:30 PM-1:20 PM / 1:30 PM -2:20 PM Room 1-410, Lilly Hall

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Introduction: Plant pathology is the study of plant diseases, the organisms that cause them, and our attempts to manage them. The ultimate goal of plant pathologists is to reduce the losses caused by diseases thereby increasing both the quality and quantity of the world food supply. Plant diseases are caused by many of the same types of microorganisms that cause disease in animals (including humans); As such, many of the principles that apply to human and animal medicine apply to plant diseases. It is the objective of this course to introduce the student to the diagnosis and management of plant diseases based upon a sound understanding of many different types of plant pathogens and their basic biology.

Level: This is a junior level course, introducing students to plant pathology. The prerequisites for this course are Introductory Biology and/or Botany (that are taught at the Freshman/Sophomore level). Success in this course depends upon a working knowledge of biological and botanical terms and concepts.

Textbook: The recommended textbook for the course is: Essential Plant Pathology by Gail Shumann and Cleo d'Arcy, and is packaged with a CD-ROM. This text is brand new, but roughly follows the course outline. Additional **required** reading material during the semester may be placed on reserve for you, handed out in class, placed on line, or made available through the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology office (Lilly 1-423).

Preparation: In accord with University philosophy, you should anticipate spending a minimum of six (6) hours/week outside of class in study, preparation, and other activities related to this three (3) unit course.

Attendance: You are expected to be present for every class and laboratory. It is your responsibility to arrange for obtaining handouts. Lecture note outlines will be available on the BTNY 301 web site for you to download and bring to class. As there are numerous studies showing a very strong correlation between attendance and higher scores, attendance will be scored for extra credit at a rate of 1-2 points per class, at my discretion. Attendance will be scored through the use of index cards that are turned in at the beginning of each class. Should attendance levels dip to an unsatisfactory level, bonus cards (gold = 10 extra credit; silver= 5 extra credit) will be called at the beginning of class and will only apply to those students present when offered. Late comers will not be provided this opportunity for extra-credit.

Office Hours: We will be available after each class to answer questions, and in lab. Additionally, feel free to come by our offices any time when you have questions. Also, bring questions to class; if you don't understand a point, other students probably don't either. We don't maintain scheduled office hours; however, we are happy to make appointments as needed. E-mail is also an easy way to reach us to set up a meeting or to ask questions.

Laboratory: The laboratory will emphasize principles and concepts of plant pathology through field trips, demonstrations, and hands-on exercises using living organisms and prepared specimens. You will be working primarily in pairs or small groups. Some lab exercises will be written up individually and some will be "group" write-ups; all will be turned in upon completion of the exercises. The lab write-ups will be worth about half of the lab grade; the exams will make-up the other half of the laboratory grade. There will be two lab exams that will cover the material

discussed in lab, on the lab handouts, and on previous exercises. The entire lab grade will consist of scores for the lab exams and scores for the lab write-ups, and will make-up 50% of the final grade for the course. Laboratories are due no later than the end of class, unless otherwise noted. Failure to return a laboratory no later than Friday at 12 pm (unless otherwise noted) will result in a reduction of points (25% after noon on Friday, 50% by Monday, 75% by Tuesday, 100% by Wednesday). We know everyone has off moments, therefore, students receive only one pass, one time to this rule.

Exams and Grading: There will be three scheduled exams (given during the lecture sessions), two laboratory practicals, plus a final. The final exam will cover material after the third exam, as well as previous material. Of the six exams (3 lecture exams, 2 laboratory practicals plus the final), the lowest exam score will be dropped. Questions on the exams will come from the lecture material, assigned readings, if any, and principles learned in lab exercises. Exam questions will be T/F, fill-in-blank, multiple choice, and matching, as well as short answer questions. Questions will come from turned in note cards, the back of the book chapters, laboratory questions, etc.

Grades will be posted on WebCT and continually updated.

Grading Scale: A =90-100%; B=80-89.4%; C=70-79.4%; D=60-69.4%; F, <60%.

All exams are held during the laboratory section to provide additional time for completion.

<u>Exercise</u>	<u>points</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
First Lecture Exam	100	September 21
Second Lecture Exam	100	October 12
Third Lecture Exam	100	November 16
Lab Exams	2X 100	October 26, December 5
Lab Assignments	200	Due no later than December 6
Final Exam	100	Dec 18

Students with an A, B, or C prior to the final may choose whether to take the final exam or not. Of the six exams, the lowest exam score will be dropped.

Make-up Exam Policy: You are expected to make every possible effort to take exams on the assigned day and time. There will be no make-up exams unless you make arrangements with us **prior** to the exam or quiz. Call us and leave a phone message or send us an e-mail message if you are ill the day of the exam or quiz. Let us know when you will be away on field trips for other classes. Written documentation of the doctor's care may be requested. Extenuating circumstances are handled individually and must be reported immediately.

Cheating and Academic Dishonesty: Students involved in academic dishonesty may receive a failing grade in the course, with the case referred to the Dean of Students for possible further disciplinary action. This action may range from academic probation to expulsion from Purdue with encumbered records (meaning that your credit at Purdue is not transferable to any other institution--ever). Students supplying materials in a dishonesty case are as guilty as those receiving the materials. If you are not clear on this subject, please review University Regulations Section III-B at <http://www.purdue.edu/ODOS/osrr/conductcode.htm>

BTNY 301 Web Site: All course information will be available via WebCT Vista (www.itap.purdue.edu/ilt/ecourses/). Login in to Vista and select the BTNY 301 link.