



Plant and People
Department of Biology
Winter Term

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Qianshi Lin
Office Location: CB4015
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Office Hours: CB4015 10:30 to 11:30 Tuesday and Thursday. *Otherwise by appointment*

Teaching Assistant (TA) Information:

Course Identification

Course Number: BIOL 3351
Course Name: Plant and People
Course Location: AT 2006 (Lecture)
Class Times: Lecture: Monday Wednesday 11:30 to 13:00
Prerequisites:

Course Description/Overview - Plants and people have been interacting since prehistoric time. In this course we shall discuss this interaction from the perspectives of history, geography, politics and economics. We shall start with man's use of plants in hunting gathering society, hydraulic society, discuss agricultural organization, talk about green revolution and modern agriculture. We shall discuss how spice trade opened up the intercontinental sea routes beginning the era of discovery, plantation agriculture, slave trade and the idea of monopoly. We shall discuss some plants of economic importance such as food, fibre, medicine, and narcotic plants in a greater detail. At the end of this course, you will have a good grasp of how plants and people have always been intimately associated with each other. Through expedition, modification, cultivation, and trade man moved plants around the world and plants useful traits in turn changed our society.

Course Resources

- Plants & Society by Estelle Levetin and Karen McMehan (9th Ed.) Price, paperback CND\$139.95 at the Lakehead University Bookstore
- A different edition is acceptable

Course Schedule/ Lecture Outline*

Date(week of)	Tentative Topic	Deadline
Jan 5	Jan 5: Course introduction: Plant and Agriculture Jan 7: Wheat	
Jan 12	Jan 12: Rice Jan 14: Potato	Form group of 3-4. Email me by Jan 16
Jan 19	Jan 19: Maize Jan 21: Bean	
Jan 26	Jan 26: Squash Jan 28: Cabbage	Choose a plant as topic. Email me by Jan 30
Feb 2	Feb 2: Citrus fruit Feb 4: Apple	
Feb 9	Feb 9: Tea & Coffee Feb 11: Chocolate	
Feb 16	Winter Reading Week	
Feb 23	Feb 23: Sugar Feb 25: Rapeseed and Olive	
Mar 2	Mar 2: Presentation 1 Mar 4: Midterm	
Mar 9	Mar 9: Wine Mar 11: Beer	
Mar 16	Mar 16: Hot peppers Mar 18: Spices	
Mar 23	Mar 23: Cotton Mar 25: Tulip	
Mar 30	Mar 30: Wood April 1: Presentation 2	Final group report submitted by April 3
	Final exam. TBA	

***subject to change at the discretion of the instructor**

Assignments and Evaluations

Item	Date(s)	Value
Mid term		20%
Final exam		30%
Group Presentation 1		15%
Group Presentation 2		15%
Final Report		20%
Total		100%

Assignments

All assignments will be distributed during your scheduled lab time. Written instructions will be provided during the lab time as well as on the D2L (myCounselink) site.

Late Assignments

Term tests must be written on the designated date, in class, unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor or a doctor's note is provided. Late assignments will lose 10% of the designated mark, per day (holidays and weekends included). Presentations must be completed on the assigned day unless prior arrangements have been made.

Course Policies

- Students are expected to adhere to the Lakehead University code of student behavior and disciplinary procedures (The code): [Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures](#)

Regulations

“It is the responsibility of each student registered at Lakehead University to be familiar with, and comply with all the terms, requirements, regulations, policies and conditions in the Lakehead University Academic Calendar. This includes, but is not limited to, Academic Program Requirements, Academic Schedule of Dates, University and Faculty/School Policies and Regulations and the Fees and Refund Policies and Schedules.”

Collaboration/Plagiarism

While cooperative learning is encouraged, academic misconduct (including plagiarism) is strictly forbidden. All tests and assignments are to be completed individually unless explicitly stated otherwise. The penalty for plagiarism is a null grade on the assignment and will be reported to the department.

Plagiarism is defined in [University Regulation IX](#) with additional examples in Article I, Section 1 of The Code. Sanctions associated with Academic Misconduct are defined in Article II of The Code and Enforcement Procedures are outlined in Article III of The Code.

Students wishing to learn more about Academic Misconduct are encouraged to read the [University and relevant Faculty Regulations](#) and The Code (noted above) and access other resources on the [Teaching Commons](#) website.

Any use of GenAI systems to produce assignments for this course is not permitted. All work submitted for evaluation in this course must be the student's original work. The submission of any work containing AI generated content will be considered a violation of academic integrity.

University Policies – all University Policies can be found [here](#). Pay particular attention to those found under the Category of “Regulations” and “Student-Related”. If you have a question, please let me know by email or in-class. If you have a question, it is likely that at least a few others in the class are wondering the same thing.

Supports for Students – there are many resources available to support our students. These include but are not limited to:

- [Health and Wellness](#)
- [Student Success Centre](#)
- [Student Accessibility Centre](#)
- [Library](#)
- [Academic Support Zone](#) (Writing and Math Tutoring Centre)

Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities and/or medical conditions to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and register as early as possible. For more information, please contact Student Accessibility Services <http://studentaccessibility.lakeheadu.ca> (SC0003, 343-8047 or sas@lakeheadu.ca)

Additional Information

Course Fees

- none

Course Supplies

- none