



Indigenous Ethnobotany
Department of Biology
Fall Term

Instructor Information

Instructor: Keri Pidgen-Welyki
Office Location: BB1011F or/and Greenhouse
Telephone: 343-8010 x8621
E-mail: kpidgen@lakeheadu.ca
Office Hours: BB1011F 1030 to 1130 Monday to Wednesday. *Otherwise by appointment or chance.*

Technician: Paige Perrons and Kristi Dysievvick

Office Location: CB3012A (through CB3013)
Telephone: 343-8010 x8506
E-mail: prperron@lakeheadu.ca OR kedysiev@lakeheadu.ca
Office Hours: *By appointment*

Teaching Assistant (TA) Information: Nick Bel

Course Identification

Course Number: BIOL 3012
Course Name: Indigenous Ethnobotany
Course Location: RB 1044 (Lecture)
CB 3013 (Lab)
Class Times: Lecture: Tuesday and Thursday 7:30-8:30 pm
Lab: Wednesday 11:30 am or 2:30 pm
Prerequisites: [Biology 1130](#), [Chemistry 1110](#), [Chemistry 1130](#),
[Chemistry 2211](#)

Course Description/Overview - An examination of the relationship of indigenous people and the plant kingdom. The course will cover how plants are viewed by indigenous people and their usage of plants for nourishment, ceremonial, medicinal and utilitarian purposes. Emphasis will be on First Nations practices with plants in North America with a particular focus on Northwestern Ontario.

Course Resources

- 2015. Siisip Geniusz, M. Plants have so much to give us, all we have to do is ask. Anishnaabe botanical teachings. University of Minnesota Press. ISBN 978-0-8166-9676-5
 - <https://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/books/plants-have-so-much-to-give-us-all-we-have-to-do>

Course Schedule/ Lecture Outline*

Date(week of)	Tentative Topic	Readings
Sept 5/ 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course introduction • Traditional Smudging and Discussion with Anishnaabek Elder 	
Sept 12/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Ethnobotany; • Ethnobotany at large 	Introduction and chapter 1
Sept 19/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant uses • Ethnobotany in a global context 	TBA
Sept 26/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approaches to botany • Plant taxonomy 	TBA
October 3/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Term test 1 • TBD 	TBA
October 10/12	Thanksgiving/reading week	
October 17/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plants as food: Gathering and Farming • Domestication of Corn and other crops 	TBA
October 24/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Gathering • Nutrition of Wild Foods 	TBA
October 31/Nov 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functional Foods (food as medicine) • Holistic approach to medicine 	TBA
Nov 7/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Term Test 2 • Medicinal plants and preparation 	TBA
Nov 14/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnobotanical prospecting • Altering consciousness 	TBA
Nov 21/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilitarian Uses • Utilitarian Uses 	TBA
Nov 28/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD • Term Test 3 	

*subject to change at the discretion of the instructor

Lab Schedule

Date (week of)	Tentative Topic
Sept 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction, Plant Walk and antioxidant lab plant collection
Sept 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Sisters Project Set Up and Planting
Sept 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antioxidants Lab • Antioxidant Report due Wed. Oct. 4 (10%)
Sept 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terminology and Taxonomy of Traditional Foods (Pt. 1)
Oct 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant Family Taxonomy of Traditional Foods (Pt. 2)
Oct 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving/reading week
October 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxonomy of Medicinal Plants • QUIZ (Taxonomy 1&2) (4%)
October 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant Family Taxonomy: Utilitarian Purposes
Nov 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxonomy Lab Exam (Tax Labs 1–4) (15%)
Nov 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Sisters take down and report work period • Three sisters Hypothesis due (2.5%) • Three sisters data collection graded (2.5%)
Nov 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 sisters Report/ Student presentation work period
Nov 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Presentations (5%)
Nov 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 sisters report work period • Three sisters report due Due Friday Dec 1st (15%)

Assignments and Evaluations

Item	Date(s)	Value
Term Test 1	October 3	15%
Term Test 2	Nov 7	15%
Term Test 3	Nov 30	15%
Presentation		5%
Labs		50%
Antioxidant report	Oct 4	10%
Taxonomy quiz	Oct 18	4%
Taxonomy lab exam	Nov 1	15%
Three sisters: Hypothesis	Nov 8	2.5%
Three sisters: Data Collection	Nov 8	2.5%
Three sisters: Final report	Dec 1	15%
Participation	Dec 1	1%
Total		100%

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. Presentations must be completed on the assigned day unless prior arrangements have been made or a doctor's note is provided.

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 (myCourselink) site.

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.

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