



Indigenous Ethnobotany
Department of Biology
Fall Term

Instructor

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Technician

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Teaching Assistant (TA)

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Course Information	
Course Number:	BIOL 3012
Course Name:	Indigenous Ethnobotany
Course Location:	UC 2011 (Lecture) CB 3013 (Lab)
Course site	Announcements, resources and assignment instructions will be posted on MycourseLink.
Class Times:	Lecture: Monday 12:30 to 2:30pm Lab: Wednesday 11:30 am to 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>
 - Cost: \$33.95 from bookstore. No restriction on different edition.

Lecture Schedule

Date	Tentative Topic
Sep 14	Course introduction
Sep 21	Ethnobotany in the world
Sep 28	Plant taxonomy
Oct 5	Folk taxonomy and Ojibwe taxonomy
Oct. 12	Reading week (no lecture)
Oct 19	Seedless plants and gymnosperms
Oct 26	Midterm
Nov 2	Angiosperms
Nov 9	Angiosperms
Nov 16	Angiosperms
Nov 23	Plant as food
Nov 30	Plant as medicine
	Final exam: TBA

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

Lab Schedule

Lab	Date	Tentative Topic
Lab 1	Sept. 9	Guided medicinal plant walk/collect for antioxidant lab * runs rain or shine so be prepared to go outside!
Lab 2	Sept. 16	Medicinal Plant collecting/Land based reflection #1
Lab 3	Sept. 23	Antioxidants in traditional medicines
NO LAB	Sept. 30	NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION
Lab 4	Oct. 7	Botany and Ojibway plant ID
NO LAB	Oct. 14	READING WEEK
Lab 5	Oct. 21	Botany and Ojibway plant ID
Lab 6	Oct. 28	
Lab 7	Nov. 7	Lab Exam
Lab 8	Nov. 11	Mounting medicinal plant collection
Lab 9	Nov. 18	Medicinal plant collection due
Lab 10	Nov. 25	Student presentations
Lab 11	Nov. 2	Tradition dyes with special guest

Assignments and Evaluations

Assessment	Date(s)	Value
Lecture		50%
Mid term	October 26	15%
Final exam	TBA	25%
Presentation	Nov. 25	10%
Labs		50%
Antioxidant report	Nov. 9	12%

Assessment	Date(s)	Value
Oji-cree Plant tax. poster	Nov. 4	15%
Medicinal Plant collection	Nov. 18	14%
Land based reflection #1	Sept.21	4%
Land based reflection #2	Oct. 28	4%
Participation	Dec 1	1%
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 (myCourselink) 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.

Support 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 accommodation 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