Biology 2131 – Regional Flowering Plants

Fall Term 2013 - Lectures: Mon., Wed. 12:30-1:30pm

Labs: Fri. 12:30-3:30pm (all in CB 3013)

Instructor: Erika North, curator of Claude Garton Herbarium (CB 3027)

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This course will emphasize the identification of flowering plants, with the focus on regional species. The use of botanical terminology and identification keys to genus and species level will be required. The species concept will be explained in evolutionary terms.

The lab work will consist of examining in detail, both fresh plant material, where possible, as well as herbarium sheets. Hand drawings of selected features will be part of the lab work. These will be handed in at the end of term to be marked and should be in a small, bound book(let). Use of identification keys will be practised.

A plant collection of 10 specimens will be required. They must have some flowering parts or with identifiable seed structures. Specimens with only leaves will not be accepted. The collection must be dried and pressed, but does not have to be mounted. A proper identification label (i.e. herbarium type) must be included. The collection, due before the final exam, can be handed in between sheets of newspaper, held together.

For reference, "The Kew Plant Glossary" will be used. A few copies will be available on loan from the Herbarium.

It is recommended to purchase the "Checklist of Vascular Plants of the Thunder Bay District" from the Herbarium.