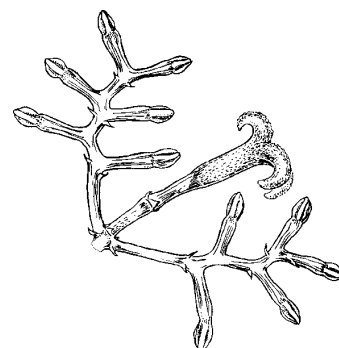


BIOL 448—Systematic Botany (4 credits)

Alexey Shipunov

Fall 2015



SYLLABUS

Class Dates : August to December 2015

Course Description : Systematic Botany will cover a diversity of North Dakota plants. We will learn the most important plant families of the state, determine most common plant genera and species, with the emphasis on plants of ecological, economical and cultural importance. While we still have living plants outdoor, the labs will be field trips, with a main goal of herbarium collection. As winter approaches, we will move to the indoor databasing and collection management.

Please note that Systematic Botany is a strictly practical, field-oriented class.

Instructor : Dr. Alexey Shipunov

Office : Moore 229

Office Hours : Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 11 a.m. to 12 a.m.

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Lectures (seminars) : Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 1:00 p.m. to 1:50 p.m., Moore 213. Most of the lecture time is devoted to plant determination.

Textbook : **None**. However, we will use manuals for plant determination and botany reference books. Main source is an on-line “Flora of North Dakota: Checklist”.

Web site : http://ashipunov.info/shipunov/school/biol_448/. While lecture slides will be made available on the Web site, they will **not** contain all information given on lectures.

Laboratories : Thursdays from 1:00 p.m as a field trip involving transportation within and/or out of town (approximately 6 hours every second week from August to October), or in Moore 213 (approximately 3 hours, in November and December).

For the purpose of field trips, class is divided into **two sub-sections**. Your sub-section has a field trip every second week from August to October. Within sub-section, we **work in pairs**. Each pair is responsible for all plants which they collect during field trips. Apart from the field trip, **each pair have a weekday duty** of collection management. On Sundays, I will be on duty myself.

Grading :

Four exams are given. Missed exams count zero points. There is a possibility to **one make-up** exam. Exams will be based on plant identification and herbarium presentation.

There are five legitimate reasons for absence from exams and labs: (1) emergency situations, (2) attested medical conditions, (3) military duty, (4) participation in MSU sports events, and (5) dependent sick leave. Absence from exams or laboratories must be announced to the instructor in advance.

Receiving zero points for more than one laboratory results in a failed course. Same is true for exams: two failed exams mean the failed class. Grading of laboratories is based on reports, collection performance, and/or drawings. Field trips might be graded with a delay because you will need to finalize your herbarium first.

I strongly recommend to attend lectures (seminars) regularly. Without training in plant determination, you will not pass exams. All determined plants must be signed with me.

A total of \approx 640 points (the actual total could be different) can be earned. Points will be distributed as follows (values may vary):

Four best exams : \approx 400 points.

Laboratories : 240 points (20 points per singular lab, 40 points per field trip)

Letter Grades : A \geq 90%, B \geq 80%, C \geq 70% D \geq 60%, F < 60% of a total. A minimum of one letter grade will be deducted from the grade for academic dishonesty / plagiarism.

Minot State University interpersonal abuse statement (Title IX) : Minot State University strives to create a campus community free from interpersonal abuse including sexual misconduct. In working to achieve this intent, Minot State University commits to: taking action to stop sexual misconduct; taking action to remedy its effects by providing advocacy, support and appropriate referral services for recipients of the behavior; taking action to prevent recurrences; educating individuals and promoting discussions on interpersonal abuse and violence; and conducting impartial investigation of all reports/notices of sexual misconduct through fair, equitable and prompt procedures. Investigations will be independent of and separate from law enforcement investigations of criminal activity.

Tentative Course Schedule : Please note that the schedule is a subject to change. Only exam dates are fixed.

Field trip labs are numbered with prospective location IDs (LIDs).

Week 1	Aug 26 (LID 166), 28	Intro; Aug 27: LID 167, 1st sub-section
Week 2	Aug 31, Sep 2, 4	Families; Sep 3: LID 168, 2nd sub-section
Week 3	Sep 9, 11	Families; Sep 10: LID 169/1
"		1st exam: September 14
Week 4	Sep 16, 18	Compositae; Sep 17: LID 170/2
Week 5	Sep 21, 23, 25	Compositae; Sep 24: LID 171/1
Week 6	Sep 28, 30, Oct 2	Gramineae; Oct 1: LID 172/2
Week 7	Oct 5, 7, 9	Gramineae; Oct 8: LID 173/1
"		2nd exam: October 12
Week 8	Oct 16	Cyperaceae, Juncaceae, Typhaceae; Oct 15: LID 174/2
Week 9	Oct 19, 21	Cyperaceae, Juncaceae, Typhaceae; Oct 22: LID 175/1
Week 10	Oct 26, 28, 30	<i>Salix</i> , <i>Chamaesyce</i> and <i>Equisetum</i> , Caryophyllales; Oct 29: LID 176/2
Week 11	Nov 2, 4	Caryophyllales; Nov 5: Lab 11 (indoor)
"		3rd exam: November 6
Week 12	Nov 9, 13	Rosanae and Malvanae; no lab
Week 13	Nov 16, 18, 20	Rosanae and Malvanae, Lamiales; no lab
Week 14	Nov 23, 25	Lamiales, Smaller families; no lab
Week 15	Nov 30, Dec 2, 4	Smaller families; Dec 3: Lab 12 (indoor)
Week 16	Dec 7, 9, 11	Smaller families; no lab
		4th Exam: Tuesday December 15, 12:00–1:50 am, Moore 213