

Syllabus for PLSOIL 280

Herbs, Spices, and Medicinal Plants

Instructor: L.E. Craker
 Room: 12A Stockbridge Hall
 Tel: 545-2347
 Office Hours: By appointment

Lecture: TuTh 9:30
 Holdsworth 203
 Lab: Tu or Th 10:30 - 12:00
 Bowditch 209

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE		LABORATORY	READINGS		
HERBAL BASICS			Text 1	Text 3A ²	Text 3B
Jan 29	Introduction to herbs		-	3-4	3-4
Feb 3	Terminology of herbs	LAB 1: Production & safety	6-11	-	-
5	Herbs in history		24-31	-	5-8
10	Herbs in myth & magic	LAB 2: Propagation	pages of interest		
12	Commercial uses of herbs		pages of interest		
HERBAL SCIENCES					
17	Botany of herbs	LAB 3: Identification	12-21	4-6	-
19	Botany of herbs		30-31	7-9	-
24	Botany/chemistry of herbs	LAB 4: Maintenance & pest control	22-23	-	-
26	Chemistry of herbs		pages of interest		
Mar 2	Chemistry of herbs	LAB 5: Transplanting & landscaping	pages of interest		
4	Chemistry of herbs		-	-	-
9	TERM EXAM	LAB 6: Growth & physiology	-	-	-
11	Agroecology				
16	SPRING BREAK		-	-	9-18
18	SPRING BREAK		-	-	-
23	Agroecology	LAB 7: Harvesting & processing	-	9-19	-
25	Agroecology		-	-	-
HERBAL PRODUCTION & PROCESSING					
30	Culture of selected species	LAB 8: Essential oils	-	25-38	95-100
Apr 1	Culture of selected species		-	39-58	-
6	Harvesting	LAB 9: Chemistry	-	19-21	-
8	Post-harvest operations		-	95-99	-
HERBAL APPLICATIONS AND MARKETS					
13	Market and legal issues	LAB 10: Evaluation and standardization	-	59-64	-
15	Spices		-	65-78	-
20	TERM EXAM	No laboratory	-	79-90	-
22	Monday schedule		-	-	-
27	Herbal remedies	LAB 11: Pharmacognosy	-	-	-
29	Medicinal plants		-	-	37-48
May 4	HERBFEST	LAB 14: HerbFest	-	-	49-68
6	Medicinal plants	LAB 13: Field experience	-	-	69-84
11	Medicinal botanicals		-	-	-
13	Course review		-	-	-

¹ Textbooks: Textbooks are available in Textbook Annex Class page: <http://www-unix.oit.umass.edu/~psoil280/>
 (1) *Herbs*, Latest Ed., ISBN 1-56458-496-8 (**Required**) User name: arnica63
 (2) *Exercises in Herb Sciences*, 4th ed. 2004, ISBN 0-9629686-2-8 (**Required**) Password: Herbs04
 (3) *Students Guide to Herb and Medicinal Plant Cultivation*, 2004 (**Recommended**) ²**Note:** This text is a combination of the *Manual for Northern Herbs Growers* (3A) and the *Growers Guide to Medicinal Plants* (3B).

Course grade:	Portion of grade	Note: Class projects consist of a student activity utilizing herbs, oral presentation, 1 page handout and participation in HerbFest. Projects must be approved by the instructor.
2 hour exams	35 %	
1 final exam	20 %	
6 quizzes & 6 herb papers/library	20 %	Herb papers are 1-2 paragraph reports on herbs of your choice. Late papers will not be graded.
Class project	20 %	
Class participation	5 %	Library exercises are associated with labs & must be completed.

PLEASE NOTE - We want this to be a fun learning experience. If you have any problems in understanding the material, see the instructor early for extra help. The lowest quiz score will be dropped. Missed quizzes are recorded as zero. All students that will miss class during the semester due to religious holidays should notify the instructor of these dates during the first week of class. All class notes, handouts, and other materials are copyrighted and cannot be distributed without the written permission of the instructor. © 2004 Lyle E. Craker