

## Syllabus for PLSOIL 280CE

### Herbs, Spices, and Medicinal Plants

Instructor: L.E. Craker  
 Room: 12A Stockbridge Hall  
 Tel: 545-2347, Email craker@pssci.umass.edu  
 Office Hours: By appointment

Lecture: Th 6:30-8:10  
 Holdsworth 203  
 Lab: Th 8:15 – 9:30  
 Bowditch 209

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE		LABORATORY	READINGS		
<b>HERBAL BASICS</b>			Text 1	Text 3A <sup>2</sup>	Text 3B
Jan 29	Introduction to herbs		-	3-4	3-4
	Terminology of herbs		6-11	-	-
5	Herbs in history	LAB 1: Production & safety	24-31	-	5-8
	Herbs in myth & magic		pages of interest		
12	Commercial uses of herbs	LAB 2: Propagation	pages of interest		
<b>HERBAL SCIENCES</b>					
	Botany of herbs		12-21	4-6	-
19	Botany of herbs	LAB 3: Identification	30-31	7-9	-
	Chemistry of herbs		22-23	-	-
26	Chemistry of herbs	LAB 4: Maintenance & pest control	pages of interest		
Mar 4	Chemistry of herbs	LAB 5: Transplanting & landscaping	pages of interest		
11	<b>TERM EXAM</b>	LAB 6: Growth & physiology		9-19	9-18
18	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>				
25	Agroecology	LAB 7: Harvesting & processing	-	25-38	95-100
<b>HERBAL PRODUCTION &amp; PROCESSING</b>					
Apr 1	Culture of selected species	LAB 8: Essential oils	-	39-58	-
	Harvesting/Post Harvest		-	19-21	-
8	Market and legal issues	LAB 9: Chemistry	-	59-64 & 95-99	-
<b>HERBAL APPLICATIONS AND MARKETS</b>					
15	Spices/Herbal remedies	LAB 10: Evaluation and standardization	-	65-78	-
			-	79-90	-
22	Monday schedule				
29	<b>TERM EXAM</b>	LAB 11: Pharmacognosy	-	-	37-48
May 4	<b>HERBFEST</b>	LAB 14: HerbFest	-	-	49-68
6	Medicinal plants	LAB 13: Field experience	-	-	69-84
	Medicinal botanicals				
13	Course review/Final Exam		-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> 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**) <sup>2</sup>**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	<b>Note:</b> 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