

PLB 451 – FLORA OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
Summer Semester 2012

Instructor: Mr. Christopher Benda, M.S.
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Phone: 217-417-4145
Lectures: Saturdays from 9:00am to 10:00am
Field Trips: Saturdays from 10:00am to 5:00pm
Class Dates: June 16th, 2012 to August 3rd, 2012
Lecture Room: PLB 423, LS II bldg.
Office Hours: By appointment only

Textbooks: Mohlenbrock, Vascular Flora of Illinois, 2002.
Other Materials: 14x Hand lens

All textbooks are recommended but not required

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, you will learn about the southern Illinois natural divisions and natural community classification with an emphasis on the identification, distribution, and ecology of the natural and introduced floristic components. This is a field-based course wherein the students travel to local natural areas for plant identification. The class will meet every Saturday from 9am to 5pm and travel to specific field sites throughout southern Illinois. Limited time will be spent in the laboratory. Prerequisite: PLB 304 or consent of instructor. Lab fee: \$15

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Southern Illinois is rich in its diversity of both plants and animals. The Flora of Southern Illinois is a course meant to provide students with a general understanding of the common vegetation of the area.

FIELD TRIPS:

You need to be physically fit to take this course. We will routinely travel to remote sites without trails and facilities. We will spend hours in the field in adverse conditions. You need to come to class prepared to spend all day in the field. Bring plenty of water. Always wear long pants with socks and closed-toed shoes. The instructor reserves the right to deny any students that show up unprepared. No extra people are allowed on the field trips. No pets are allowed on the field trips. You may wish to bring a roll of tape to adhere plant leaves and other plant materials to your notebook.

EXAMS AND ATTENDANCE:

This summer course only meets 8 days total. Since so much material is presented each class period, you are strongly encouraged to attend every class in full. Please report to room 423 in the Life Sciences II bldg promptly at 9:00am each class day.

No make-up exams will be offered.

This course adheres to all rules and policies indicated in the SIUC Undergraduate Catalog, student handbook, and all other pertinent materials.

GRADING:

Each session (except the first and the last) will have a 100 point exam. The exam will consist of material presented in lecture, as well as plant identification in the field. There will be a comprehensive plant identification final exam on the last day of class covering 150 plants and worth 300 points. A field notebook must be submitted on the second to last day of class. It is worth 100 points and will be returned on the last day of class.

The final exam is scheduled for Friday August 3rd, 2012.

6 regular exams – 100 points each	600 points	900 – 1000 points = A
1 final exam – 300 points	300 points	800 – 900 points = B
1 field notebook – 100 points	<u>100 points</u>	700 – 800 points = C
		600 – 700 points = D
	Course Total Points =1000 points	599 points or less = F

FIELD SCHEDULE:

Week One – June 16 th	Giant City State Park
Week Two – June 23 rd	Camp Ondessonk
Week Three – June 30 th	Little Grand Canyon, Rothrock Prairie
Week Four – July 7 th	Bell Smith Springs, Simpson Barrens
Week Five – July 14 th	Cave Creek Glade, Heron Pond
Week Six – July 21 st	Cave Hill, Stoneface, Dennison Hollow
Week Seven – July 28 th	Atwood Ridge, Berryville Shale Glade, Brown Barrens
Week Eight – August 3 rd	Ferne Clyffe State Park

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES:

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on BERT’s website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Safety’s website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to response to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building of sheltering within the facility.

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