Plants and People
(3.0 credits)

Normally Offered:  Spring every year. By Dr. Wulster and Dr. Helsel.

Pre-requisites and other registration restrictions:

While there are no “pre-requisites”; Courses in General Biology and Introduction to Horticulture (11:76:211) are highly recommended. The course enrollment is capped at 250 students. Class is approved for science credits for SAS students.

Format:  Two 80-minute lectures

Description:
This is a survey course that introduces the student to the central dependency of all animals including man upon plants.

This course is appropriate for students who are curious about the biology, production and role of plants in relation to human health, history and culture. Students will learn which plants are produced and how they are put to use. Most of the major agronomic and horticultural crops will be covered.

Learning Goals:
• Students will learn and understand the role of plants in contributing to all aspects of human existence and well being.
• Students will learn how plants provide the air we breathe, food, shelter, medicines, clothing, fuel, contribute to the arts and countless other necessities for mankind’s survival.

Measures of Assessment:
• Six (6) quizzes with multiple choice and true/false questions are used as the major assessment tool for evaluation of student comprehension.
• Sample quiz questions are available early in the semester to allow students to assess their comprehension of important materials and quiz content style.
• Question and answer dialogue is used in lectures to allow instructors to assess student understanding.

Course Website:
eCollege/eCompanion
Topics:

- Domestication of Plants
- Origins of Agriculture
- Plant Production in controlled Environments
- Plants and or crops discussed include:
  - Grain crops, oil crops, sugar crops, tuber and root crops, fruit crops, vegetable crops, Tea, wine, coffee, chocolate, beer, distilled spirits, medicinal and drug crops, tobacco, Rubber, wood, fibers, spices, perfumes, resins, biomass and energy crops.
  - The therapeutic role of plants in human life along with their contribution to the arts are also discussed.

Required and Recommended Course materials:
There is no text book required; however students are responsible for obtaining the lecture material from the E-companion site. While this material is extensive it is no substitute for attending classes where additional testable information is provided and used for evaluation.

Policies for Exams, Assignments, Attendance, and Grading
There are SIX lecture quizzes, each with 35 multiple choice and true/false questions. Quiz questions are formulated from the information provided during the classroom lectures. The information (Power Point Slides and Handouts) provided on E-Companion is provided for background material and not a substitute for attending lectures. On quiz days there is a 45 minute lecture before the quiz. Makeup quizzes are given on the last day of class, only if valid excuse(s) conforming to University rules is presented.

Other Information: