

Vascular Flora of Wisconsin

Botany 401, Spring 2008

http://botit.botany.wisc.edu/courses/botany_401/

Vascular Flora of Wisconsin is a taxonomic survey and the natural history of the ferns, lycopods, horsetails, conifers and flowering plants of Wisconsin, with emphasis on the flowering plants. Emphasis is on the use of keys and on the ability to identify by sight a representative sample of families, genera, and species in the vascular flora of Wisconsin. Lecture and lab are integrated. The final portion of the course (no lecture or lab) is conducted by the student in the forest setting where the student identifies all trees and shrubs and all plants in flower, fruit, or with spores, and makes a representative plant collection of which some will be mounted.

Prerequisite:

5 credit introductory course in Botany or equivalent.

Schedule:

- Lecture - 9:55-10:45 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, 346 Birge
- Lab 301 - 1:30-3:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, 243 Birge
- Lab 302 - 1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, 243 Birge

Staff:

- Ken Sytsma, 250 Birge Hall, 262-4490 - Lecture
 - kjsytsma@wisc.edu
 - office hour - Mon / Wed 11-12 or by appointment
- Ben Grady, 258 Birge, 262-4422 - Lab 301
 - brgrady@wisc.edu
 - office hour - by appointment
- Bryan Drew, 256 Birge, 262-4422 - Lab 302
 - bdrew@wisc.edu
 - office hour - by appointment

Textbooks:

- Fassett, Norman C. 1976. *Spring Flora of Wisconsin: a manual of plants growing without cultivation and flowering before June 15*. 4th ed. Revised and enlarged by Olive S. Thomson. The University of Wisconsin Press. Madison. 413 pp.

Recommended books:

- Harris, J. G. and M. W. Harris. 1994. *Plant Identification Terminology. An Illustrated Glossary*. Spring Lake Publ. Spring Lake, Utah.

- Newcomb, L. 1977. *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide*. Little, Brown & Co. - nicely illustrated wildflower guide for NE and N Central USA.
- Petrides, G. A. 1986. *Peterson Field Guides: Trees and Shrubs*. Houghton Mifflin Co. - superb guide to all woody plants (trees, shrubs, vines) in NE and N Central USA and adjacent parts of Canada.
- Gleason, H. A. and A. Cronquist. 1991. *Manual of Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada* (2nd edition). New York Bot. Gard. (**copies available in laboratory**; but you may wish to purchase this if you are continuing in the field).
- You may also wish to purchase a hand lens, forceps and dissecting kit for use in the lab - all are available at the University Bookstore.

Grading: 400 points

- 2 lecture/lab examinations (100 points each) on **Mar 3-4** and **APRIL 21-22**. The examinations will be during the laboratory session.
- 1 field final examination (100 points) during exam week (**MAY 10-17**). Scheduling to be done later.
- Forest plot plant collection and report (80 points) due during exam week. See later handout on forest plots for more information.
- Class participation (20 points).

Field Trips:

- Several local field trips will be scheduled during lab periods after the 2nd exam.
- An optional half to full day field trip to a beech-maple forest and dry prairie in southern Wisconsin will be given on **Saturday, April 26**. We will see plants and communities that will have been discussed during class.

2008 Lecture Schedule

Links for PowerPoint lectures available online

Week	Date	Lecture Topic
1	Jan 21	No Class - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
	Jan 23	Introduction, Wisconsin Flora and Vegetation
2	Jan 28	Nomenclature, Classification, Lower Vascular Plants I
	Jan 30	Lower Vascular Plants II, Gymnosperms
3	Feb 4	Flower and Fruit Morphology in Angiosperms
	Feb 6	Water Lilies and Buttercups
4	Feb 11	May Apples and Sycamores
	Feb 13	Spring Beauty and Sundews
5	Feb 18	Currants and Raspberries
	Feb 21	Elms, Mulberries, and Legumes
6	Feb 25	Violets, Aspens, and Gourds
	Feb 27	Oaks, Birches, and Evening Primroses [No Lab - Review]
7	Mar 3	Flora of Wisconsin Project [Exam 1 in lab, Mar 3, 4]
	Mar 5	Mustards, Mallows, and Maples
8	Mar 10	Blueberries and Dogwoods
	Mar 12	Gentians, Milkweeds, and Nightshades
Spring Break		
9	Mar 24	Morning Glories and Mints
	Mar 26	Snapdragons and Honeysuckles
10	Mar 31	Carrots and Bellflowers
	Apr 2	Asters and Goldenrods
11	Apr 7	Arums and Lilies
	Apr 9	Orchids and Spiderworts
12	Apr 14	Sedges and Grasses
	Apr 16	Wisconsin's Endangered Flora [no lab - Review]

13	Apr 21	Wisconsin's Invasive New Flora [Exam 2 in lab, Apr 21-22]
	Apr 23	DNA Barcoding of our Flora [local field trip, Apr 23-24]
	Apr 26	Saturday Field Trip
14	Apr 28	[no lecture] [local field trip, Apr 28-29]
	Apr 30	Field Work [no lecture or lab]
15	May 5	Field Work [no lecture or lab]
	May 7	Field Work [no lecture or lab]
MAY 10-17 FINAL EXAM IN THE FIELD		

2008 Laboratory Schedule

Links for lab sessions available online

(dates shown for Monday/Wednesday lab, topics are same for Tuesday/Thursday lab)

Week	Date	Lab Topic
1	Jan 21	No Lab
	Jan 23	1 Vegetative characters of Vascular Plants; Keying
2	Jan 28	2 Vascular Cryptogams
	Jan 30	3 Gymnosperms
3	Feb 4	4 Flower and Fruit Morphology in Angiosperms
	Feb 6	5 Water Lilies and Buttercups
4	Feb 11	6 Mayapples and Sycamores
	Feb 13	7 Spring Beauty and Sundews
5	Feb 18	8 Currants and Raspberries
	Feb 20	9 Elms, Mulberries, and Legumes
6	Feb 25	10 Violets, Aspens, and Gourds
	Feb 27	Open review session in lab
7	Mar 3	[Exam 1 in lab, Mar 3-4 - labs 1-10]
	Mar 4	11 Oaks, Birches, and Evening Primroses
8	Mar 10	12 Mustards, Mallows, and Maples
	Mar 12	13 Blueberries and Dogwoods
Spring Break		
9	Mar 24	14 Gentians, Milkweeds, and Nightshades
	Mar 26	15 Mints and Snapdragons
10	Mar 31	16 Carrots and Honeysuckles
	Apr 2	17 Bellflowers, Asters, and Goldenrods
11	Apr 7	18 Arums and Lilies
	Apr 9	19 Orchids and Spiderworts
12	Apr 14	20 Sedges and Grasses
	Apr 16	Open review session in lab

13	Apr 21	[Exam 2 in lab, Apr 17/18 - labs 11-20]
	Apr 23	Local Field Trip
	Apr 26	Saturday Field Trip - optional

14	Apr 28	Local Field Trip
	Apr 30	Field Work [no lecture or lab]

15	May 5	Field Work [no lecture or lab]
	May 7	Field Work [no lecture or lab]

MAY 10-17 FINAL EXAM IN THE FIELD