

# Summer Flora (EEB 4272) Summer Session I, 2015

## University of Connecticut, Storrs

Nora Mitchell

Phone: 585-802-3769

Email: nora.mitchell@uconn.edu

Office hours: By appointment

**Lecture:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 1:00-1:50 p.m., TLS 179.

**Field:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 2:00-5:00 p.m., TLS 179 or field trips.

**Course dates:** Mon. June 1 – Wednesday July 1

**Course description:** This course will cover the identification of the local Connecticut flora, with a heavy emphasis on angiosperms. Some gymnosperms, ferns and fern allies, and bryophytes will also be covered. The course will take a habitat/ecosystem approach to understanding and identifying local flora. Habitats to be visited include, but are not limited to, deciduous temperate second growth forest, freshwater wetlands (marshes, swamps, bogs), salt water wetlands (i.e. salt marsh), old fields/disturbed lands, and lakes.

Through this course students will learn:

- Process of identifying Connecticut flora
- Plant family characteristics
- Techniques for collecting and preserving plant specimens
- Plant ecology techniques
- Conservation/invasive plant issues

### Requirements:

- 1) **Text:** *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide* by L. Newcomb, 1977 or 1989 reprint,
- 2) **Text:** *Fern Finder* by A. C. Hallowell and B. G. Hallowell, 1981
- 3) **Field notebook:** Rite in the Rain field-flex bound book, No. 374
- 4) **Pencils**
- 5) **Water**
- 7) **Closed-toed shoes**

**Suggested items to bring/wear on field trips:** Hat, long pants, insect repellent, sunscreen, hand sanitizer, snacks, rain coat, towel, a keen interest in plants and love of the outdoors.

**Note: field trips will take place rain or shine!** Be prepared. The only weather that will cancel a field trip is lightning. In the case of thunderstorms, the field trip will be replaced by indoor laboratory work.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance for all class periods is expected. This is an intensive five-week course and participation in labs and field trips is mandatory. There will be no make-ups for missed labs, or field trips. Late quizzes and assignments will be -10% for every class period late. If you miss three field trips/labs, your final grade will be lowered by one letter grade (e.g. a B would become a C). If you miss four field trips/labs your final grade will be lowered by two whole letter grades (e.g. a B would become a D). If you miss five or more labs/field trips you

will receive an F for the course. If you have a legitimate personal or family emergency please speak to me.

**Prerequisite:** Introduction to Botany (EEB 1100), or Evolution of Green Plants (EEB 3220), or Principles of Biology (BIO 1108), or other plant diversity course.

**Grading:**

Quizzes 20%

Field notebook 10%

Mid-term exam 25%

Final exam 25%

Plant collection/preservation project 20%

**Grade scale:** A 93-100, A- 90-92, B+ 87-89, B 83-86, B- 80-82, C+ 77-79, C 73-76, C- 70-72, D+ 67-69, D 63-66, D- 60-62, F 0-59 or five or more missed labs/field trips.

**Honor Code**

As a member of the university community, you have sworn to participate in and uphold the standards of the University of Connecticut Honor Code. All work submitted as evidence of your performance in this course must represent your own efforts and achievements. **Any case of cheating or other misconduct will be referred to the Dean, and at the minimum could result in failure of this course.**

**Note on cell phone use:** It is a distraction to your instructor, and your fellow students, (and to yourself!) to be texting on your cell phone during class. Cell phones are to be put away for the duration of class time, but may be used during breaks or to take pictures during lab.

**Important Dates:**

**Mid-term Exam on Monday, June 15**

**Final Exam on Wednesday, July 1**

**Pressed and mounted plant specimens due by 5 pm on Wednesday, July 1**