

## HORT/PBIO/ANTH 3440: HERBS, SPICES AND MEDICINAL PLANTS

Instructors: James Affolter and David Giannasi

Syllabus for Fall 2002

### **Purpose:**

1. To develop an awareness of the effect of herbs, spices and medicinal plants on the development of human history and culture.
2. To examine the chemical, biological and ecological characteristics of these plants.
3. To examine commercial exploitation and current uses of these plants in modern society.
4. To examine the uses of these plants in other less technologically developed countries.
5. To consider current issues and conflicts in the use herbal medicine vs. modern pharmaceutical medicines.

### **Exams:**

- A. There will be **two class exams** and a **final exam**. These will consist of both short essay and objective-type questions and will be answered during normal class periods. **Each exam** will constitute **100 points**, all exams **totaling 300 points**. Exams will encompass readings from the class texts, journal articles and lecture notes.
- B. A **class project** is also required and entails a practicum to produce a product (e.g., food, potpourri, salve, garden plan, etc.) employing one or more of the herbs, spices or medicinal plants discussed in class. This **project is worth 100 points** along with the exams. A **short written summary of your proposed project is due** to the instructors by Friday, September 28, 2001. If approved by the instructors you may start work on the project ASAP. A HerbFest demonstration of your project will take place during the last lecture period, **Wednesday, December 5, 2002**. These finished projects will be graded by the instructors and the teaching assistant.
- C. Also, a **short lab exercise** outside of class on over the counter (OTCs) medicines is required (**50 points**) along with a **short botanical garden demonstration exercise**, also required, and also **worth 50 pts**. **Total points for the course is 500 points**. Although the above exercises are the main source of your class grade, attendance will be taken and will also be used in your class evaluation.

### **Readings:**

There will be several papers to read that are taken from modern journals, or popular articles, and will be used in class discussions and on the exams.

### **Textbook:**

Chevallier, Andrew. 2000. The Encyclopedia of Herbal Medicine. Dorling Kindersley, London.

### **Class Rules:**

1. If a student misses or knows that he/she will miss an exam it is the student's responsibility to notify the professors and/or class teaching assistants of their absence and provide a written excuse from a doctor or the Student Health Service before he/she will be allowed to take a makeup exam. Makeup exams are generally harder than normally scheduled exams simply because of the amount of class information used up in making the regularly scheduled exams.

2. There are **no extra credit exercises** given in this course to provide fall-back salvation in terms of grades. Please turn in all required exercises/exam promptly and on time. Assignments turned in late will lose two points per day for lateness in submitting an exercise.
3. Students should be aware of the campus wide prohibitions on cheating. Any student found cheating on an exam will forfeit that exam and be reported to the University Academic Affairs Office for review and possible dismissal from the University.
4. With large classes some in-class noise is inevitable but there should be no loud talking or disturbances that interrupt the instructor or disrupt the class. Rude or insulting behavior towards the instructor, teaching assistants or fellow students will result in removal of the student. This is done unilaterally and electronically by request of the professor and is an accepted reason for removal listed on the electronic drop form
5. If you wish to drop the course due to low grades or lack of time, please, request this **before** the official drop time listed in the catalogue. This drop system is now done electronically through the Registrar and the professor **no longer** has the flexibility of allowing a late drop form with a W. Any drop submitted after the drop date in the semester catalogue becomes a WF in the eyes of the Registrar no matter what the professor or/and student wish to do.

**Office Hours:** Instructor conference hours are: Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:00 am to 11:30 pm, Room 2510, D. Giannasi; Dr. Affolter, by appointment; 542- 6144.