

AGRO 462 & HORT 462 – INTRODUCTION TO PLANT BREEDING

Meeting times: T & Th – 1:10-2:25 p.m. 129W Skeen Hall

Office hours: T & Th – 2:25-4:00 p.m. 354N Skeen Hall

Instructor: Paul W. Bosland
354N Skeen Hall
646-5171

Teaching Assistant: Ariadna Licette Monroy
322W Skeen Hall

646-3250

Objective

This course is on the principles of plant breeding, and is introductory to, and often a prerequisite for, advanced courses in plant breeding. After completion of the course, the student will have the ability and skills to initiate a breeding program for any crop. The student will possess a basic knowledge of genetic principles, crop reproduction, and the relationship between plant genetics and plant breeding.

Organization

The class will be based on lectures and outside reading by the student. A paper written and presented to the class will be used to consolidate the ideas and concepts presented in the course. Attendance is not required, but the student is responsible for all information presented in class. All material presented in class can be considered material for examination.

Examinations

Exams will primarily be short essay. The first three exams are designated for one (1) hour, but students will have up to 2 hours to work. The comprehensive final exam is designated for 2 hours, but students will have up to 3 hours to work. No make-up exams are given. FINAL EXAM is December 8, 2009.

Text

Principles of Plant Genetics and Breeding by George Acquaah

(Available in the University Bookstore & on-line)

Grading

The final grade for the course will be based on the total points accumulated during the course. No extra credit projects will be permitted. A total of 500 points is possible:

EXAM I (prior to last withdrawal day)	- 100 points
EXAM II	- 100 points
EXAM III	- 100 points
TERM PAPER	- 100 points
FINAL EXAM	- 100 points

Letter grades will be awarded as follows:

A	= 90-100%
B	= 80-89.9%
C	= 70-79.9%
D	= 60-69.9%

An incomplete grade (I) is given only if a student has passed the first half of the course and is precluded from successful completion of the course by a documented illness or family crisis.

References

Basic references can be found at Branson library.

PLAGIARISM

Page 26 of the Student Handbook states that “Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to ...

1. Cheating or knowingly assisting another student in committing an act of cheating or other forms of academic dishonesty;
2. Plagiarism, which includes, but is not necessarily limited to, submitting examinations, themes, reports, drawings, laboratory notes, undocumented quotations, computer-processed materials, or other material as one’s own work when such work has been prepared by another person or copied from another person.
3. Unauthorized possession of examinations, reserve library materials, or laboratory materials.
4. Unauthorized changing of grades on an examination, in an instructor’s grade book, or on a grade report; or unauthorized access to academic computer records;
5. Nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records in, or for, academic departments or colleges.

Page 28 of the Student Handbook, states the following are possible sanctions that may be imposed on individual students for infraction of regulations:

1. Disciplinary Probation
2. Disciplinary Suspension
3. Dismissal
4. Expulsion

As an alternative, an instructor may deem it appropriate to give a “0” grade for the plagiarized work, or for the entire course.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

All medical information regarding disabilities will be held in strict confidence by the University. If you have or believe you have a disability that interferes with your academic progress, you may contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 646-6840 (voice phone) for an appointment (Corbett Center, Room 244). A text telephone number for hearing impaired (TDD/Text) is 646-1918. Please provide documentation about your disability to the SSD office. After you register with SSD (or if you already have registered) and need accommodations, please provide your “accommodations memo” (from the SSD) to the instructor within 2 weeks of the first class meeting. The memo needs to be addressed to the instructor. You may then discuss accommodations with the instructor, then the instructor will review and approve the accommodations and return the memo to you to turn in to SSD no later than five (5) days after receiving written approval from instructor. Appropriate accommodations will then be provided.