WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College is committed to excellence in the liberal arts and career development; we support and challenge individuals to develop skills, fulfill their potential, enrich their lives, and become contributing, culturally aware members of our community.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Introduction to the evolution of plant communities and species of Hawaiian ecosystems; ecological interactions; observations, identification and systematics of native and introduced flora. Lecture/laboratory/field trip course. (3 hrs. lect.; 3 hrs. lab.)

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other than Class Times

Two Saturday morning field trips (replacing one regular lab/class each)

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student learning outcomes for the course are:

1. Discuss geological history of the Hawaiian Islands and natural history of plants in Hawaii

2. Discuss the arrival, establishment, major evolutionary trends and adaptive radiation of some of the surviving native species

3. Discuss natural and human-mediated changes in the ecosystems, plant succession, and interaction between native and introduced species of plants

4. Discuss botanical terminology for use in identifying native Hawaiian plants
COURSE CONTENT

Concepts or Topics

- Discuss groups of plants associated with coastal and dry to wet forest habitats in Hawaii; learn about various locations throughout the islands where relicts of these plant communities are still preserved
- Learn about basic plant anatomy including functions of structures and their adaptive ecological evolution
- Evolution in Hawaiian ecosystems: involving the role of volcanism, dispersal, plant-animal interactions and variations of rainfall (climate)
- Discuss techniques used to investigate prehistoric Hawaiian plant communities and the role of humans and the organisms they introduced in altering the landscape (in both the past and present-day)

Skills or Competencies

1. Given background knowledge of a plant specimen’s origin, growth habit and other defining characteristics, be able to identify its scientific and Hawaiian names
2. Use basic taxonomic characters to differentiate between related species & genera
3. Be able to identify locations in the Hawaiian Islands where various native plant communities are still relatively intact
4. Understand the role of the Pacific tradewinds in shaping the distribution of plant communities in Hawaii

COURSE TASKS AND GRADING

Must be able to access / utilize Laulima via the internet.

Quiz:

Pop quizzes will be administered unannounced. Quizzes will account for 5% of the total points.

Field Trips:

During the field trips plant identification forms must be completed in order to receive the points for attending the field trip (15 pts / field trip); unless a different assignment is specified. **Attendance and participation during class field trips is essential for learning Native Hawaiian plants.** Field trips / plant identification assignments will be worth 15% of your grade.

Transportation to field trips is the responsibility of the student.
Research Report:

Each student is expected to write a research paper 1 - 3 pages (double spaced, type-written). Proper citation of sources and a bibliography including one book or journal article and internet websites must be submitted with paper. A five minute PowerPoint presentation of the research topic will be given at the end of the semester. The paper and presentation together will account for 15% of the grade.

Tests:

Each midterm is worth 20%, the final is cumulative and worth 25%.

Make-up for exams are permitted for emergencies or illness accompanied with a doctor’s note and to be completed no later than one week from the scheduled exam date.

There will be no make-ups for the Final Exam!!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 1</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 2</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final cumulative</td>
<td>125 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field trips</td>
<td>75 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research report</td>
<td>75 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>25 pts</td>
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Total possible point’s 500 pts

Extra credit will be offered, but cannot exceed 5% of total possible points.

Grading

Grading is based on the percentage of total points earned.

Final Grades will be assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90% and above</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59% and below</td>
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Learning Resources


Additional Text

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, lemke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale "Akoakoa 213 for more information.