

Instructor: Dr. Carter
Office: BC 1040 or BC 1105
Telephone: (229

A variety of course resources and materials will be made available through BlazeVIEW, and it will also be used to administer assignments and assessments and to post announcements and grades. Students should log onto BlazeVIEW daily in order to check for course announcements and to complete scheduled course assignments. Also, the Mail tool in

Flora of the Carolinas. Substantial lab time will be devoted to supervised determination of unknown specimens, using analytical dichotomous keys. It is imperative that the student attend lab and field trips regularly and practice identification of specimens in order to develop proficiency with these keys. Collectively, the keying tests account for 30% of the course grade.

. The student will be required to recognize and to identify in the field structural features of plants (e.g., type of leaf arrangement, features and types of leaves, flowers, and fruits); family names, binomials (properly formatted!), and common names of native and naturalized plants observed on field trips; and the major plant communities encountered. Field quizzes will be given spontaneously during regularly scheduled field trips and will be completed on 3X5 inch notecards. Collectively, the field quizzes account for 15% of the course grade.

. As a group, the class will inventory the flora of the Lake Louise Field Station (LLFS). Collection of voucher specimens is the standard way to document any floristic inventory. Therefore, in order to document our work, we will collect a set of vouchers and images during our weekly field trips to LLFS. Also, photographs will be taken of selected species in the field using a digital camera, and digital images will be taken of the pressed voucher specimens. The latter will be used to construct a virtual herbarium of the flora of the LLFS. We will also quantitatively sample plant communities at LLFS and will incorporate the results of this effort into a description of the plant communities at the LLFS. The class project and plant collection account for 10% of the course grade.

A number of miscellaneous course assessments will be given during the semester, which, collectively, account for 10% of the final course grade. Some will be graded pass/fail, some with letter grades, and some with numerical grades. Some will be completed in class/lab, and some will be posted assignments under Course Content in BlazeVIEW to be completed outside of class. In class/lab assessments are mostly unannounced and most cannot be made up. Unless otherwise instructed, out of class assignments made through BlazeVIEW are due at the beginning of the first lecture period of the week *after* the week they are assigned. Unless otherwise instructed, hardcopy of these assignments shall be submitted with your name (first name and last name), course number and title (BIOL 3600 – Local Flora), and due date at the head of the first page, and formatted as follows: 12-point Colle1

students on tests or examinations is prohibited and constitutes cheating. Unless otherwise indicated, tests and examinations are taken strictly from memory without use of textbooks, notes, etc. Unless otherwise indicated, assignments and assessments are to be completed individually and independently. Behavior contrary to these guidelines is prohibited and constitutes cheating. Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated and will be prosecuted to the full extent allowed by University policy and the law.

Students may earn extra credit for volunteer work assisting in the Valdosta State University Herbarium. *Caveat:* Do not wait until the end of the semester to volunteer; by then, it might not be logistically possible.

Students requiring classroom accommodations or modifications because of documented disabilities should discuss this need with their instructor at the beginning of the

