West Virginia University at Parkersburg

Course # BIOL 312 Medical Botany

Credit Hours: 3

Scheduled hours per week

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

Catalog Course Description: Survey of the medicinal properties of plants, fungi, algae (protists) and cyanobacteria. The impact of plants and their role in both traditional and modern medicine; toxins and nutrients will be studied. The history of herbal medicine and alternative medicinal practices around the world will be observed.

This course is not designed to teach anyone to become a practitioner of medicine, pharmacy, or any other profession requiring medical knowledge.

Pre-requisites: BIOL 101/103 OR 115/115L OR permission of the instructor

Co-requisites: None

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO):

- Have gained an understanding about the history of medical botany and the value of medical plants in different societies.
- Be able to explain medically important plants, protist and fungi and their properties.
- Be able to explain the source of toxins, the nature of the toxins and their medical effects on humans.
- Be able to explain how plants, protists and fungi play a valuable role in nutrition.
- Critically evaluate information of medical and toxic properties of organisms studied in the course.

CLO Assessment Methods:

Direct: Exams, quizzes, presentations, research presentation, and prepared assignments.

Indirect Methods: Course Evaluations

Topics to be studied:

- Overview of the evolution of plants, protists and fungi with emphasis on medically important plants.
- Medical important plants in history and various societies.
- Plant metabolites and their medical importance.
- Examples of medical important plants including healing plants and toxic plants.

Relationship of Course to Program Learning Outcomes (PLO) or Institutional Learning Outcome

Check if approved as: ☐ Foundational Learning Course ☐ Reinforcement Learning Course

Special requirements of the course:

N/A

Additional information:

N/A

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