

FNR 51 Dendrology

Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2024

Course ID and Section number: FNR51-E7520

Instructor's name: Dr. Tim Baker

Day and time of required meetings: T/TH 11:40-12:45 and TH 1:15-4:25

Location: AT 127

Course units: 3

Instructor Contact Information

Office location or Online: N/A

Office hours: By appt.

Phone number: 707-497-7126

Email address: Timothy-Baker@redwoods.edu

Communication notes: You can use Canvas or my regular email to contact me. I don't use Pronto much because of my computer setup so can easily miss questions on it.

Catalog Description

The identification and classification of woody plants that occur in regional forest communities. Discussions will cover the technical language of plant taxonomy and nomenclature as well as botanical and ecological characteristics of trees. Lectures will also include important forest species found outside the region and across the U.S. Note: Field trips are required; the College does not provide transportation.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Explain the basic concepts of taxonomy as they apply to woody plants.
- Identify the major factors affecting identification and classification including habitats, sources of variation, and morphology.
- Discuss the major groups of trees of economic importance in the U.S.
- Lab specific outcome: Identify and assign scientific names to regionally important trees and shrubs both in and out of class.

Prerequisites/corequisites/ recommended preparation

None

Educational Accessibility & Support

College of the Redwoods is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified students who could benefit from additional educational support and services. You may qualify if you have a

physical, mental, sensory, or intellectual condition which causes you to struggle academically, including but not limited to:

- Mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, bipolar disorder, and ADHD
- Common ailments such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, and diseases
- Temporary impairments such as a broken bone, recovery from significant surgery, or a pregnancy-related disability
- A learning disability (such as dyslexia, reading comprehension), intellectual disability, autism, or acquired brain injury
- Vision, hearing, or mobility challenges

Available services include extended test time, quiet testing environments, tutoring, counseling and advising, alternate formats of materials (such as audio books or E-texts), assistive technology, on-campus transportation, and more. If you believe you might benefit from disability- or health-related services and accommodations, please contact [Disability Services and Programs for Students \(DSPS\)](#). If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact DSPS for a consultation: dsps@redwoods.edu.

DSPS office locations and phone numbers

Eureka campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280
- Location: Student Services Building, first floor

Del Norte campus

- Phone: 707-465-2324
- Location: Main Building, next to the library

Klamath-Trinity campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280

Learning Resource Center

The Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students:

Library Services

[Library Services](#) promotes information literacy and provides organized information resources.

Multicultural and Equity Center (MCE)

The [Multicultural and Equity Center](#) is a dynamic and inclusive place that supports all students in their academic and personal journeys at the college. We do this by creating community, home away from home, and a safe place for cultural expression, cross-cultural learning, access to college and dignity resources, and social justice work opportunities. The MEC is committed to retention and student success by offering activities related to leadership development, student connectedness and student equity. We are a student-centered program that fosters respect for all people.

Academic Support Center

The [Academic Support Center](#) offers tutoring and test proctoring for CR students.

Student Tech Help

[Student Tech Help](#) provides students with assistance around a variety of tech problems.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

Grades are determined by the cumulative % of the following evaluations:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Weekly field ID quizzes in lab average | 30% |
| Final ID quiz | 10% |
| Module quizzes | 30% |
| Final Exam | 10% |
| Weekly Unknowns | 5% |
| Plant Collection | 7.5% |
| <u>Dichotomous Key</u> | <u>7.5%</u> |
| Total | 100% |

You get to drop whichever weekly ID quiz contributes the fewest points to your average. Missed ID quizzes can only be made up with a valid reason as determined by the instructor.

Late submissions for the unknowns, plant collection and dichotomous key will be penalized.

Module Quizzes will have a 1-week window of availability once the material for the Module is covered in lecture. The student is responsible for any missed material.

You may be dropped from the course at the Instructor's discretion prior to the end of the 10th week for missing more than 3 ID quizzes or 1 Module quiz. Please keep the Instructor promptly informed of any problems you are having completing the assignments.

Fall 2024 Dates

| Date | To Remember |
|----------------|---|
| August 23 | Last day to register for classes (day before the first class meeting) |
| August 24 | Classes begin |
| August 30 | Last day to add a class |
| September 2 | Labor Day Holiday (district wide closure) |
| September 6 | Last Day to Drop & Receive a Refund |
| September 8 | Last Day to Drop w/out a "W" |
| September 9 | Census Date (20% of class) |
| October 31 | Last Day to Petition to Graduate & Petition for Certificate |
| November 1 | Last Day for Student/Faculty Withdrawal |
| November 11 | Veteran's Day Holiday (District Wide Closure) |
| November 25-26 | Fall Break (No Classes) |
| November 27-29 | Thanksgiving Holiday (District Wide Closure) |
| December 14-20 | Final Examinations |
| December 20 | Last Day to File P/NP Option |
| December 20 | Semester Ends |
| December 27 | Grades Due |
| January 3 | Grades Available for Transcript Release |

Academic dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [2023-2024 College Catalog](#) and [CR Board and Administrative Policies](#).

Disruptive Behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive

conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [2023-2024 College Catalog](#) and [CR Board and Administrative Policies](#).

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

Canvas Information

- Log into Canvas at [My CR Portal](#)
- For help logging in to Canvas and general tech help, visit [Student Technical Support](#)
- Once you're logged in to Canvas, you click on the Help icon on the left menu
- Canvas online orientation workshop: [Canvas Student Orientation Course](#)

Setting Your Preferred Name and Pronouns in Canvas

Students have the ability to display personal pronouns and an alternate first name in Canvas. Students may change their pronouns on their own in Canvas (Account :: Settings :: Edit Settings). To request a change to your preferred list name, contact [Admissions & Records](#). Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas; this does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update Form \(pdf\)](#).

Emergency Procedures / Everbridge

College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system called Everbridge. In the event of an emergency on campus you will receive an alert through your personal email and/or phones. Registration is not necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Check to make sure your contact information is up-to-date by logging into [WebAdvisor](#) and selecting 'Students' then 'Academic Profile' then 'Current Information Update.'

Please contact Public Safety at 707-476-4112 or security@redwoods.edu if you have any questions. For more information visit [Redwoods Public Safety](#).

In an emergency that requires an evacuation of the building anywhere in the District:

- Be aware of all marked exits from your area and building
- Once outside, move to the nearest evacuation point outside your building
- Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel

Do not leave campus, unless it has been deemed safe by the campus authorities.

To learn more about campus-specific Emergency Procedures, click on a title bar below, or click the down arrow to expand them all.

General Course Information:

Drop Policy: You may be dropped from the class for missing 3 or more labs or missing any lecture quiz without a valid reason before the 10th week of the semester.

Field Equipment: Appropriate clothing and closed-toe footwear for conditions, field notebook, and miscellaneous items (sunscreen/bug repellent/ water, etc..) NOTE: You may not be allowed to participate in most outdoor labs if you do not wear appropriate attire (e.g. no flip flops or smooth-soled shoes). There will be off-campus field trips and you are responsible for arranging your own transportation to the field sites.

Textbook Resources:

Required: Field Guide for the labs — **Trees and Shrubs of California** by Stuart and Sawyer (ISBN 978-0-52022-110-9)

Recommended: Text to support the Modules and lectures — **Harlow and Hararr's Textbook of Dendrology, ISBN 0-07-366171-6.**

Each student will also need 25 sheets of herbarium paper (standard full-size sheets) that can be purchased from the instructor (\$7.50) or on their own in order to complete their collection project. The project will require you to buy, build, or rent some type of plant press though these can be made very inexpensively. This will be discussed in class.

A camera (smart-phone cameras work fine) and a hand lens (10X) are also useful aids in studying identification in the field.

Course Objective:

The principal objective of the course is to learn the how and why of classifying and identifying woody plants (trees and shrubs). We'll do this by covering the basics of organization and technical jargon in the Modules and then combine that with field work to identify a variety of woody plants (trees and shrubs) commonly found in our region. Typically we learn 130-150 species over the course of the semester and you will be responsible for identifying all of them. We'll also learn about the factors that affect identification and classification of woody plants and about the important species found in other regions of the country.

Structure: The course is structured around lecture Modules that cover the technical details of dendrology and field labs that introduce you to the different species. About half of all the labs will be held off-campus in various locations so please make arrangements for transportation to the sites. Details about each off-campus lab will be given out prior to the lab so you have time to make arrangements.

Quizzes and Exam:

The ID quizzes are cumulative meaning that each week the pool of possible species to be tested gets larger. You do get to drop the ID quiz that contributes the fewest points to the total but you do not get to make up missed quizzes unless you have a very good excuse.

The Module quizzes are not cumulative but instead cover the material covered since the last Module. You do not get to drop the lowest Module quiz score.

The Final exam is cumulative and will pull 2 questions from each Module quiz

Projects

There are 2 separate but related projects required for the course: a **collection** of 25 species of woody plants (trees or shrubs) that are properly collected, mounted, and annotated and a structured **dichotomous key** to these 2 species. Each will account for 7.5% of the final grade (15%total). More detail about these projects in class.

The collections and keys are due **Thursday, Nov 19th** (the Thursday **before** Thanksgiving break).

Unknowns

Each student will be responsible for attempting to identify a woody plant species that has NOT been covered in class up to that point. Then submit them on Canvas giving the location, description of the specimen and the **scientific name** for the species each week by the start of lab for that week. Photos should be submitted with the names and descriptions. These unknowns will account for 5% of the grade and they must be turned in by midnight Wednesday each week. This is by far the easiest 5% in the class and can make the difference in final grades because you are graded on the attempt, not accuracy for this assignment.