Assessment: Course Four Column

Courses (SCI) - Biology

BIOL 331:Plant Taxonomy

Course Outcomes	*Assessment Measures*	*Results*	*Actions*
Botanical dichotomous key - Ability to correctly utilize a botanical dichotomous key **Course Outcome Status:** Active **Next Assessment:** 2021-2022 **Start Date:** 10/11/2017	**Assignment - Lab -** Lab Exam & Quizzes Plant Collection **Criterion:** 70% correct	**Reporting Period:** 2016-2017 **Criterion Met:** Yes Class average: 92% Class average: 92% (10/11/2017)	**Action:** None Required. (10/11/2017)
Taxonomic Problems - Use Cladistics to Solve Taxonomic Problems **Course Outcome Status:** Active **Next Assessment:** 2021-2022 **Start Date:** 10/11/2017	**Assignment - Written -** Lecture Exams and Quizzes Literature interpretation **Criterion:** 70% correct	**Reporting Period:** 2016-2017 **Criterion Met:** Yes Class average: 82% Class average: 87% (10/11/2017)	**Action:** None Required. (10/11/2017)
Ability to Properly Collect Plants in the Field - Ability to Properly Collect Plants in the Field **Course Outcome Status:** Active **Next Assessment:** 2021-2022 **Start Date:** 10/11/2017	**Assignment - Lab -** Plant Collection **Criterion:** 70% correct	**Reporting Period:** 2016-2017 **Criterion Met:** Yes Class average: 92% (10/11/2017)	**Action:** None Required. (10/11/2017)
Familiarity With Common Plant Families of the NE NV Flora - Familiarity With Common Plant Families of the NE NV Flora **Course Outcome Status:** Active **Next Assessment:** 2021-2022 **Start Date:** 10/11/2017	**Assignment - Project -** Field Trips: % attending required % all **Criterion:** 70% attending required	**Reporting Period:** 2016-2017 **Criterion Met:** Yes 100% 50% (10/11/2017)	**Action:** None required (10/11/2017) **Follow-Up:** I feel Plant Taxonomy is settling into a solid pattern. Text selection has settled on a text that balances the needs of our students with the demands of the field. The absence of a flora

Course Outcomes	Assessment Measures	Results	Actions
			of Nevada does present a problem for taxonomic key selection, but there is no good solution for this situation. My presentation of the material has correspondingly improved now that I have a 'non-moving' target. Students frequently get excited about the field aspect and hands on nature of this course, and this semester was no exception. A happy coincidence was that a few of the students taking Plant Tax were also enrolled in Evolution, and there was a good cross-pollination in subject material between the two courses. This serendipitous scheduling should be maintained. Yet there were deficiencies. While cladistics was well introduced by solving problems by hand, an obvious extension would be to use computer software to analyze large data sets. Their critical analysis of primary literature was still primitive. Both of these deficiencies will be addressed in future editions of Plant Tax. (10/17/2017)