**BIOL533 Syllabus – Advanced Plant Ecology FA 2025 (3 credits)**

Lecture: MWF 3:30-4:20 pm, online synchronous

Lab: M 9 am – 11:45 am, in person EXPL 2512.

Project Meeting: 1 hr/week, as needed. Monday 1:30 pm or TBD.

Grading

1. Grade associated with BIOL345 lecture and lab (90%)
2. Independent project (10%)

Independent project

Each student will create a written review of peer-reviewed research about the plant ecological dimensions of their thesis research. The review may focus on what is known, and remains unknown, about the ecology and ecological interactions of a taxon or taxonomic group. Alternatively, the review may focus on the contemporary and historical ecology of a given region and its plant community. Topic and scope of projects will be refined during class discussions.

The paper should be 5,000-6,000 words, exclusive of bibliography, and contain no fewer than 50 primary sources. In-text and bibliographic citations should follow the style of the journal Plant Ecology. If you do not already use Zotero, please do so for the purposes of managing the references for this assignment. The document should be submitted as a paginated Word document, 12 pt Arial font, double-spaced with 1 inch margins.

Deliverable deadlines, submitted via Canvas by EOD:

1. Week 3 September 7: Topic selection
2. Week 6 September 28: Annotated bibliography\* of 10 primary sources. (\*see <https://guides.library.cornell.edu/annotatedbibliography_> for guidance)
3. Week 10: October 26: Annotated bibliography of 40 other primary sources.
4. Week 16: December 7: Final paper due.