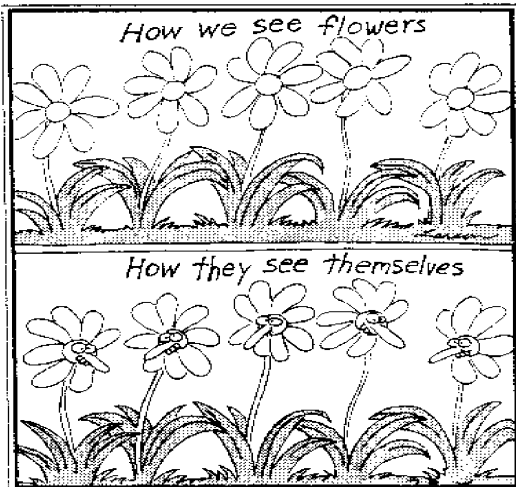


# BOTANY UNDERGRADUATE DEPARTMENTAL SOCIETY



## Introduction

The Botany Undergraduate Departmental Society (BUDS) is a student-run organization working on behalf of all undergraduates taking botany and biology courses. Students are always welcome to drop by our office, ES 3048, to check out our test library, ask advice about botany and biology courses or just hang-out. Throughout the academic year BUDS organizes fun events, from academic seminars to socials and movie nights, which are offered free to all undergraduates. To make suggestions or get involved with BUDS drop by our office, call us at (416)978-0954, or email us at: [buds@botany.utoronto.ca](mailto:buds@botany.utoronto.ca)

BUDS Executive

## BIO 250Y1Y CELL AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Instructor(s): M. French

Enr: 1327	Resp: 1141							Retake: 61%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	1	2	8	18	24	29	15	5.1
Explains	1	1	6	19	31	28	10	5.0
Communicates	1	1	5	16	30	30	13	5.2
Teaching	0	2	5	18	32	29	10	5.1
Workload	0	0	2	44	32	14	5	4.7
Difficulty	0	0	2	40	36	15	4	4.8
Learn Exp	1	1	5	43	27	16	4	4.6

Students felt that French's lectures could have benefited from better organization as well as better grouping of lecture themes. Many felt that having 2 midterms in lieu of the final would make the material more manageable. Several suggested reformatting the "dry labs" to make them as enjoyable as the "wet labs".

Instructor(s): D. Goring; M. Ringuette

Enr: 1327	Resp: 647							Retake: 41%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Goring:</b>								
Presents	3	5	17	25	31	12	4	4.3
Explains	3	4	14	34	32	9	2	4.3
Communicates	3	4	12	34	28	11	3	4.3
Teaching	2	4	14	36	30	8	2	4.3
<b>Ringuette:</b>								
Presents	3	7	20	27	26	10	3	4.1
Explains	1	3	10	31	32	16	4	4.6
Communicates	1	2	5	25	33	21	9	4.9
Teaching	1	2	10	33	31	16	4	4.6

## Course:

Workload	0	0	2	45	32	15	4	4.8
Difficulty	0	0	1	37	34	21	5	4.9
Learn Exp	1	3	13	47	22	9	1	4.2

Students felt that Goring's lectures and diagrams could have been better understood if posted on the web in advance. Many felt that greater elaboration on points could have been made in the notes.

Several commented that tutorials would have been an excellent way to keep students up to date with lecture material as the memorization and amount of material covered in lectures was quite large.

As well, several suggested reformatting the "wet" labs so students could maximize this learning opportunity. In addition to this, distributing marks among either more tests or writing evaluations would have been very helpful. A few students commented that the tests did not reflect the overall concept of the course rather, small details that must be committed to memory, which was seen as frustrating.

Overall, many students felt that the material was interesting, however, the manner in which it was presented or graded did not convey the quality of the material.

Students suggested that Ringuette's lectures would have benefitted from better organization and posting them on the web. Many would have appreciated additional time spent on key concepts in order to understand them clearly.

## BIO 260H1S GENETICS

Instructor(s): D. Guttman; P. McCourt

Enr: 290	Resp: 215							Retake: 32%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Guttman:</b>								
Presents	2	2	3	21	31	28	10	5.0
Explains	5	3	11	27	27	19	4	4.5
Communicates	5	6	14	27	30	11	3	4.2
Teaching	4	4	8	34	26	17	3	4.4
<b>McCourt:</b>								
Presents	22	17	24	20	7	5	1	3.0
Explains	7	11	19	23	19	12	7	4.0
Communicates	4	3	7	12	23	27	22	5.2
Teaching	7	6	14	26	23	12	8	4.3
<b>Course:</b>								
Workload	1	0	4	43	26	19	5	4.7
Difficulty	1	0	1	25	33	23	15	5.2
Learn Exp	10	7	11	39	17	10	2	3.9

Students believed that Guttman went through the material too quickly and sometimes lacked proper explanations for the concepts he introduced. Many felt that his tone was a little condescending and that he should have communicated more enthusiasm. Increased office hours would have been helpful. Many students benefitted from Guttman's organization and well-structured lectures. Expectations should have been made clearer.

Students felt that McCourt could have benefitted from better organization but they also enjoyed his enthusiasm and liberal teaching style. It would have helped if more reference from the text were used. It was felt that the test was not a fair indication of what was covered and that the assignments were too vague. Most students liked how he encouraged original thinking.

Tutorials were not found to be helpful in explaining concepts taught in class and the TA rotation was confusing, with some TAs performing better than others. Midterm marks were not released before the drop date.

## BIO 3281H1S PHYSIOLOGICAL ECOLOGY

Instructor(s): R. Sage

Enr: 30	Resp: 25							Retake: 88%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	4	16	40	28	12	5.3
Explains	0	0	0	12	20	36	32	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	4	12	48	36	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	4	16	48	32	6.1
Workload	0	0	4	88	4	4	0	4.1

## 10 BOTANY

Difficulty	0	0	12	80	8	0	0	4.0
Learn Exp	0	0	0	28	38	23	9	5.1

Students felt Sage conveyed his great enthusiasm for the material and many described this course as the best they have taken so far. The only criticism for this course was the use of primary papers. Students suggested using a textbook to make concepts more clear.

### BIO 428H1S GLOBAL CHANGE ECOLOGY

Instructor(s): R. Sage

Enr: 41	Resp: 27							Retake: 92%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	18	25	33	22	5.6
Explains	0	0	0	11	18	37	33	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	0	25	18	55	6.3
Teaching	0	0	0	7	18	44	29	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	48	25	18	7	4.9
Difficulty	0	0	0	77	11	11	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	26	30	21	21	5.4

Sage was described as enthusiastic and interesting. Overall, students enjoyed the course and highly recommended it to others interested in ecology. Some felt, however, that a reduction of the time spent in group discussions would have been better.

### BIO 440H1S ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION OF PLANT-ANIMAL INTERACTIONS

Instructor(s): J. Thaler; A. Agrawal

Enr: 40	Resp: 28							Retake: 80%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Thaler:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	3	28	60	7	5.7
Explains	0	0	0	0	37	51	11	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	14	64	21	6.1
Teaching	0	0	0	0	32	53	14	5.8
<b>Agrawal:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	3	17	67	10	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	0	37	51	11	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	7	57	35	6.3
Teaching	0	0	0	0	28	53	17	5.9
<b>Course:</b>								
Workload	0	0	3	22	48	18	7	5.0
Difficulty	0	0	3	40	37	18	0	4.7
Learn Exp	0	0	0	38	33	14	14	5.0

Students felt that Thaler was organized and helpful but they suggested that fewer required readings would have been beneficial as they were quite time-consuming.

The debates were described as being good experiences but took a lot of time to prepare.

Agrawal was found to be a good instructor. Some students felt that there were too many assignments in this course and that the tutorials were somewhat ineffectual in enhancing the course material.

Instructor(s): J. Thomson

Enr: 40	Resp: 29							Retake: 75%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	6	27	37	20	6	4.9
Explains	0	0	0	10	41	41	6	5.4
Communicates	0	0	0	3	20	48	27	6.0
Teaching	0	0	0	10	32	39	17	5.6
Workload	0	0	4	30	47	8	8	4.9
Difficulty	0	0	0	52	26	21	0	4.7
Learn Exp	0	0	0	42	28	14	14	5.0

Thomson was described as being a good instructor but somewhat disorganized with respect to the lecture material. Students would have appreciated having the lecture notes posted on the internet well in advance.

Some students felt that the Bee Visit Stimulation project should have been modified in order to answer a set of pre-determined questions instead of having the students come up with their own questions on short notice for this unfamiliar program.

### BIO 472H1S COMPUTATIONAL GENOMICS & BIOINFORMATICS

Instructor(s): D. Guttman; N. Provart

Enr: 25	Resp: 26							Retake: 84%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Guttman:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	4	32	36	28	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	12	33	25	29	5.7
Communicates	0	0	4	16	36	32	12	5.3
Teaching	0	0	4	16	20	37	20	5.5
<b>Provart:</b>								
Presents	0	0	4	4	40	36	16	5.6
Explains	0	0	4	8	30	39	17	5.6
Communicates	0	4	4	12	32	32	16	5.3
Teaching	0	4	0	12	24	40	20	5.6
<b>Course:</b>								
Workload	0	0	4	52	40	4	0	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	0	20	52	24	4	5.1
Learn Exp	0	0	0	25	20	40	15	5.4

Students considered Guttman to be a knowledgeable and supportive lecturer who attended to students' questions well.

Provart was a knowledgeable and approachable lecturer who attended to students' questions well.

Students found the course very interesting, and appreciated the emphasis on practical applications as well as theory. The lecture material was organized and well-presented. Students felt they would have benefited from more guidance in tutorials, and though the expectations regarding their familiarity with programming was too high.

### BIO 473H1S CHEMICAL BIOLOGY

Instructor(s): S. Cutter

Enr: 22	Resp: 15							Retake: 100%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	20	20	20	40	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	13	13	33	40	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	0	20	40	40	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	0	14	21	64	6.5
Workload	0	0	0	80	13	6	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	53	33	6	6	4.7
Learn Exp	0	0	0	18	27	27	27	5.6

Overall, students felt that the instructor did an excellent job teaching this course. Students mentioned that Cutter was approachable, taught in an effective manner, and did a good job at answering questions.

### BOT 202Y1Y PLANTS AND SOCIETY

Instructor(s): J. Eckenwalder; I. Stehlik

Enr: 94	Resp: 19							Retake: 83%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Eckenwalder:</b>								
Presents	0	0	10	26	36	21	5	4.8
Explains	0	0	5	10	36	31	15	5.4
Communicates	0	0	0	0	16	50	33	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	10	21	57	10	5.7
<b>Stehlik:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	11	23	47	17	5.7
Explains	5	0	0	17	41	29	5	5.0
Communicates	0	6	0	12	37	37	6	5.2
Teaching	0	0	5	11	41	35	5	5.2
<b>Course:</b>								
Workload	0	15	15	63	5	0	0	3.6
Difficulty	0	5	15	52	21	5	0	4.1
Learn Exp	0	0	0	50	40	10	0	4.6

Respondents considered Eckenwalder to be friendly and enthusiastic. Patience and clarity while lecturing was noted; though some felt he could have been better organized.

Students appreciated Stehlik's enthusiasm and knowledge of the material, and thought she was patient and helpful with students. Lecture notes were thorough and well-prepared.

Instructor(s): T. Carleton; M. French

Enr: 91 Resp: 45 Retake: 46%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Carleton:</b>								
Presents	0	2	11	23	35	19	7	4.8
Explains	0	2	11	20	38	11	15	4.9
Communicates	2	2	2	22	40	18	9	4.9
Teaching	0	2	6	23	41	20	4	4.9
<b>French:</b>								
Presents	0	0	2	17	35	30	15	5.4
Explains	0	0	0	20	38	25	15	5.4
Communicates	0	0	0	25	40	17	17	5.3
Teaching	0	0	5	17	41	25	10	5.2
<b>Course:</b>								
Workload	6	11	22	52	6	0	0	3.4
Difficulty	0	0	15	50	25	4	4	4.3
Learn Exp	0	2	17	45	22	8	2	4.3

Some students thought the course was a bit "disjointed". Others commented on the amount of scientific understanding required given that this was offered as a science distribution credit for arts students.

#### BOT 251Y1Y PHYSIOLOGY OF PLANTS AND MICRO-ORGANISMS

Instructor(s): R. Sage

Enr: 306 Resp: 173 Retake: 50%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	1	1	2	17	28	34	14	5.3
Explains	0	1	4	13	28	36	14	5.4
Communicates	1	2	7	11	27	29	20	5.3
Teaching	0	1	3	16	28	38	10	5.3
Workload	0	0	7	45	28	15	2	4.6
Difficulty	1	0	3	53	33	7	1	4.5
Learn Exp	1	2	8	44	28	12	2	4.4

Students enjoyed Sage's lecturing style and enthusiastic examples. However, many commented that the method of evaluation should be spread out over lab reports and more smaller tests. Many felt that too much memorization was required on the first term test and that labs would be of more benefit if reports were required.

Instructor(s): T. Sage; N. Dengler

Enr: 284 Resp: 134 Retake: 58%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Sage:</b>								
Presents	1	0	3	14	39	31	8	5.2
Explains	0	0	1	17	36	35	7	5.2
Communicates	0	2	3	18	33	32	8	5.1
Teaching	0	0	4	12	40	32	8	5.2
<b>Dengler:</b>								
Presents	0	0	2	8	28	42	16	5.6
Explains	0	0	0	10	32	44	12	5.5
Communicates	0	0	1	9	31	38	17	5.6
Teaching	0	0	0	7	33	42	16	5.6
<b>Course:</b>								
Workload	0	2	12	56	23	4	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	8	64	21	4	0	4.2
Learn Exp	1	0	7	51	29	11	0	4.4

Both instructors were friendly, approachable and enthusiastic. Students expressed a desire for greater clarification of notes and slides. The lab mark should have been a higher percentage of the whole course (reflective of the labs themselves). Lecture notes should have been post-

ed in advance allowing for proper prep time.

#### BOT 300H1S SYSTEMATIC BOTANY

Instructor(s): J. Eckenwalder

Enr: 16 Resp: 12 Retake: 50%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	8	0	50	16	16	8	0	3.6
Explains	0	16	16	33	16	16	0	4.0
Communicates	0	0	0	25	16	41	16	5.5
Teaching	0	8	16	8	41	16	8	4.7
Workload	0	0	8	83	0	8	0	4.1
Difficulty	0	0	0	41	58	0	0	4.6
Learn Exp	0	22	0	33	22	11	11	4.3

In general, students felt that the lectures could have been more organized. Many commented that the instructor was very enthusiastic and that labs were interesting, but also that overheads could have been used, and that a manual or textbook should have been recommended.

#### BOT 301H1F INTRODUCTION OF THE FUNGI

Instructor(s): J. Moncalvo

Enr: 25 Resp: 18 Retake: 88%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	22	27	11	38	5.7
Explains	0	0	0	11	16	38	33	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	0	5	27	66	6.6
Teaching	0	0	0	5	16	33	44	6.2
Workload	0	0	0	50	44	0	5	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	72	27	0	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	5	11	11	41	29	5.8

Students felt that Moncalvo was an excellent instructor who was approachable, knowledgeable, enthusiastic and considerate. Students also enjoyed the field trip. Some suggested that a more structured outline for the labs would be helpful. Additionally, some students felt that the labs were very long.

#### BOT 307H1F FAMILIES OF VASCULAR PLANTS

Instructor(s): T. Dickinson

Enr: 30 Resp: 22 Retake: 85%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	4	9	13	22	22	27	5.3
Explains	0	0	4	18	31	13	31	5.5
Communicates	0	0	4	4	9	13	68	6.4
Teaching	0	0	4	4	22	36	31	5.9
Workload	0	0	13	68	18	0	0	4.0
Difficulty	0	0	18	77	0	4	0	3.9
Learn Exp	0	12	0	31	25	12	18	4.8

Students considered Dickinson to be very enthusiastic, helpful and approachable. Overall, the course was interesting and enjoyable, and the labs were thought to be valuable to the learning experience.

The course website was useful, but could be better organized. Students appreciated the format of the assignments. Some noted there should have been more TA's to answer questions.

#### BOT 310H1S COMPARATIVE PLANT MORPHOLOGY

Instructor(s): T. Sage

Enr: 33 Resp: 25 Retake: 88%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	4	16	24	36	20	5.5
Explains	0	0	0	4	32	36	28	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	0	28	32	40	6.1
Teaching	0	0	0	4	28	44	24	5.9
Workload	0	0	4	76	16	4	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	4	72	20	4	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	45	18	22	13	5.0

## 12 BOTANY

Students found Sage to be enthusiastic and the majority thoroughly enjoyed the course. Some commented that the material was challenging and the course would have benefited from better organization.

### BOT 340H1F PLANT DEVELOPMENT

Instructor(s): T. Berleth; N. Dengler

	Resp: 48							Retake: 51%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Berleth:</b>								
Presents	0	4	8	22	33	27	4	4.8
Explains	0	2	8	22	29	31	6	5.0
Communicates	0	0	0	16	29	37	16	5.5
Teaching	0	2	4	12	25	43	12	5.4
<b>Dengler:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	4	27	37	31	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	4	33	37	25	5.8
Communicates	0	0	0	6	27	41	25	5.9
Teaching	0	0	0	0	25	41	33	6.1
<b>Course:</b>								
Workload	0	0	0	52	27	14	6	4.8
Difficulty	0	0	2	52	25	18	2	4.7
Learn Exp	0	0	7	35	25	25	7	4.9

Students felt that Berleth was enthusiastic, however, some students commented that they would have benefitted if he had delivered his lectures with more clarity and organization.

Many students felt that the small lecture room was inappropriate, as lectures were overcrowded and the screen was difficult to see. Some felt that the workload was overwhelming, but some also found the course to be manageable and helpful in learning how to read scientific papers. Some thought that a genetics background (i.e. BIO 260) would be useful.

Students felt that Dengler was an enthusiastic and effective instructor, who was both organized and approachable.

### BOT 341H1F PLANT ANATOMY

Instructor(s): N. Dengler; T. Sage

	Resp: 24							Retake: 95%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Dengler:</b>								
Presents	0	0	4	0	8	39	47	6.3
Explains	0	0	4	0	13	43	39	6.1
Communicates	0	0	0	4	0	45	50	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	4	0	37	58	6.5
<b>Sage:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	0	8	56	34	6.3
Explains	0	0	0	0	13	52	34	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	4	13	39	43	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	8	0	43	47	6.3
<b>Course:</b>								
Workload	0	0	0	33	16	20	29	5.5
Difficulty	0	0	4	62	25	4	4	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	30	25	30	15	5.3

Dengler was considered an excellent and knowledgeable lecturer. Many noted they would miss her once she retired from her teaching duties.

The term project was thought by some to be a bit too time consuming, yet overall, students considered it to be an enjoyable course.

Sage was an excellent and knowledgeable instructor.

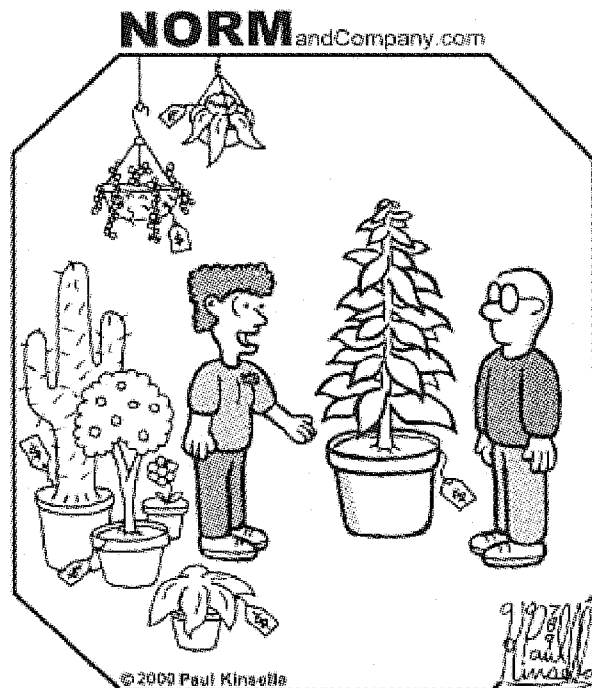
### BOT 458H1F PLANT MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

Instructor(s): J. Coleman; D. Goring

	Resp: 24							Retake: 90%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Cameron:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	13	34	26	26	5.7
Explains	0	0	0	8	21	60	8	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	8	8	62	20	6.0
Teaching	0	0	0	0	13	56	30	6.2
<b>Goring:</b>								
Presents	4	0	0	4	34	30	26	5.6
Explains	0	0	0	17	30	39	13	5.5
Communicates	0	0	0	13	34	43	8	5.5
Teaching	0	4	0	13	34	30	17	5.4
<b>Course:</b>								
Workload	0	0	0	78	13	4	4	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	65	26	4	4	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	34	40	15	10	5.0

Coleman was considered an excellent lecturer and respondents appreciated the effort he made to answer all students' questions. The course was considered fun and interesting.

Students thought Goring was an enthusiastic lecturer who was organized and approachable.



"This one here would probably be best for you; It prefers partial shade, needs little watering and grows best in..."

*Assu*

GET INVOLVED!!