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Fall 9-1-2001

### BIOL 526.01: Trends in Plant Ecology

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## TRENDS IN PLANT ECOLOGY

BIOL 526

Fall 2001

Dr. Anna Sala

Thursday: 9-11 a.m.

GGB 225

### Course Format:

This is largely a student-driven course with the main goal to prepare students to present scientific information in a clear, engaging and effective way. The course is offered every semester. Students will present a selected paper from the main literature in a formal seminar to the rest of the class. All papers selected will deal with the following general topic: 'The physiological mechanisms at the cellular and sub-cellular level that determine plant-biota and plant environment interactions'. Students will select the papers in advance and solicit feedback from the instructor about the suitability of the paper for class presentation. Selected papers will be made available to the rest of the class a week in advance, so students have time to critically read the papers and familiarize themselves with the research. The first part of the weekly meeting will be the student presentation (40-45 minutes). After the presentation the class will critically review the research (clarity of hypothesis, experimental design, support for conclusions, potential additional or alternative experiments to strengthen the conclusions, etc.). The last part of the class will be devoted to provide feedback to the presenter (e.g. propose alternative outlines, slides, visuals, ways to establish contact with the audience, etc), keeping in mind that any presentation should be an *effective communication endeavor*.

- 9/7 A. Sala - Class introduction and guidelines for successful seminars
- 9/13 J. Perkins- Protection from Photoinhibition in high altitude plants
- 9/20 B. Newingham. Communication between plants: Defense against herbivores
- 9/27 TBD
- 10/4 G. Peters Communication between plants: Perception of light spectral quality
- 10/11 A. Thorpe.
- 10/18 K. Reinhart
- 10/25 M. Gundale
- 11/1 D. MacKenzie
- 11/8 K. Metland
- 11/15 D. Pearson
- 11/29 D. White
- 12/6 T. Ream
- 12/13 S. Mulla