

Plants & Human Society (BIOLOGY 206) Online

Instructor: Carl Grobe, Ph.D. (cgrobe@westfield.ma.edu)



This course is an upper-level elective course offered entirely online. There is no laboratory associated with this course.

In this course, we will explore the relationship between plants and the development of human societies. We will focus on historical relationships such as the origins and influences of agriculture on the development of human societies, as well as current and potential impacts of plants and plant products on medicine, biotechnology, and economics. Students will be introduced to some basic principles of plant biology and ecology in order to understand pertinent aspects of agriculturally, medicinally, and economically significant plant groups.

Course requirements include readings, participation in discussion forums, completion of online assessments, and creation and presentation of online materials. No specialized software is required.

Prerequisite: At least one majors-level college biology course (eg: BIOL 0128 at WSU or equivalent).

Textbook: Levetin, E. and K. McMahon. 2012.
Plants & Society (6th ed). McGraw Hill.
ISBN 9780073524221

