

PCMB 101 SPECIAL PROJECT GUIDELINES

This quarter I want you to do a special project. The nature of this project is whatever you want it to be that can be related to this course. What do I mean by that? If you are interested in art, you may want to submit sketches of plants or a brief paper on the role of flowers in the work of van Gogh. If you are a history major you could do an analysis of the symbolism of roses in English history or the importance of cotton in pre-civil war America. If you are a horticulture student, you could consider an analysis of the use of shrubs in an urban setting or a treatment of bulbs in the spring garden. Or, if you collect stamps, a collection of stamps with flowers a plants and some brief discussion of them would be possible. You can make something, paint something, make a mobile of plant parts, plan a meal composed of plants, tell me how beer is made and the various kinds, do architectural drawings involving plants - in short, you can do almost anything that interests you and that you can relate to this course. There is one exception, however, to this statement. You are not allowed to grow drug plants. You can write a paper on the history of use of various plants as drugs, but cultivation is something that I cannot condone.

You need to think about this immediately because by the third week you will have to hand to your TA a paragraph describing what you intend to do. After this preliminary proposal is approved should you start on your project. If your project involves growing plants you may want to talk to your TA as soon as possible so you will have enough time to complete it. The project is due the 8th Week.

The Special Project is worth 40 points. Half of these points will be awarded for the originality and creativity shown in the concept of the proposal and half for the execution.

I ask you to consider this as an opportunity to relate what is happening in the rest of your life, either in the university or outside it, to plant biology. Have fun with this assignment and you will be successful.