University of Pretoria Yearbook 2019

Plant diversity 366 (BOT 366)

Qualification	Undergraduate
Faculty	Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Module credits	18.00
Programmes	BSc Biochemistry
	BSc Biotechnology
	BSc Ecology
	BSc Environmental Sciences
	BSc Genetics
	BSc Plant Science
	BSc Zoology
Service modules	Faculty of Education
Prerequisites	BOT 161 or permission from head of department
Contact time	1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Separate classes for Afrikaans and English
Department	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Basic principles and methods of plant classification. Sources of plant variation. Modern methods to ascertain evolutionary relationships among plants. The extent and significance of vascular plant diversity. General structural and biological characteristics of evolutionary and ecologically important plant groups. Botanical nomenclature. Plant identification in practice; identification methods, keys, herbaria and botanical gardens. Diagnostic characters for the field identification of trees, wild flowers and grasses. Family recognition of southern African plants. Available literature for plant identification. Methods to conduct floristic surveys. Nature and significance of voucher specimens.