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#### Course Overview

Welcome to 'Introduction to Cryptobotany,' an exciting exploration into the hidden realms of plant biology, led by Prof. Ethelrin Moss. This course spans over a period of 10 weeks and is designed to unfold the secrets harbored by the world's most mysterious flora. Our journey together will occur in the vibrant learning environment of Myrtlewood University, specifically in Room 104. The course schedule has been meticulously designed to suit the modern scholar's needs.

Through structured learning sessions on Mondays and Thursdays, each lasting from 2pm to 4pm, students will dive into cryptic plant phenomena, guided by the insightful lectures of Prof. Moss, an expert in the specialization of cryptic plant forms.

The objective is not only to understand the unusual growth patterns and survival mechanisms these plants exhibit but also to place them within the broader context of ecosystems and biodiversity. As observers of these botanical enigmas, students will engage in active discussions, lab observations, and field excursions.

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this course, students will have cultivated an in-depth understanding of cryptobotanical concepts. The primary learning objectives include:

- 1. Comprehending the taxonomy and classification of cryptic plants.
- 2. Identifying and analyzing patterns within cryptic flora ecosystems.
- 3. Evaluating the ecological roles and contributions of obscure plant species.
- 4. Applying scientific methods to observe and document cryptic plant behavior.

5. Synthesizing knowledge of cryptobotany to forecast ecological impacts.

Each session builds towards achieving these objectives, reinforced by Prof. Moss's expertise which will be evident in every lecture and facilitation.

# **Assignments and Evaluation**

Assessment in 'Introduction to Cryptobotany' comprises several key components designed to holistically evaluate a student's understanding of the subject matter. The grading criteria are as follows:

- Midterm Project (40%): Involving field study and a research presentation on a chosen cryptic species.
- Final Exam (30%): A comprehensive test of the acquired knowledge through written assessments.
- Participation (30%): Active involvement in discussions, presentations, and collaborative projects in class.

It is essential to emphasize that consistent engagement in class, during our sessions scheduled for Mondays and Thursdays from 2pm-4pm in Room 104, will significantly influence participation grades.

#### **Class Timetable and Format**

The timetable for 'Introduction to Cryptobotany' is designed to optimize learning and ensure steady progression through course material. Given the dynamic nature of the subject, classes take place twice a week:

- \*\*Monday and Thursday (2pm-4pm):\*\* These interactive sessions will be conducted in Room 104, Myrtlewood University, and will include a blend of lectures and practical activities. Each class covers a different aspect of cryptobotany, allowing students to incrementally build their knowledge base.

Students are encouraged to prepare by reviewing pre-class reading materials, partake actively in discussions, and engage with the varied methodologies of instruction offered by Prof. Ethelrin Moss. The regularly scheduled classes facilitate ample time for critical thinking and reflection on discussed topics.

### **Location and Access Information**

Myrtlewood University, known for its lush gardens and innovative curriculum, hosts our course in Room 104-a space known for its conducive learning atmosphere.

Room 104 is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities necessary for high-impact learning which are essential for the immersive experience this course aims to offer. The university's location provides an excellent backdrop for botanical studies, offering plenty of green spaces that will serve as living treasuries for fieldwork, especially for the midterm project which constitutes 40% of your course assessment.

Directions and campus maps can be accessed through the university's online portal. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the venue to ensure timely attendance of classes every Monday and Thursday at 2pm.

## **Reference and Additional Resources**

For a comprehensive understanding of the topics discussed in 'Introduction to Cryptobotany,'

students will be expected to engage with a series of recommended readings and online resources. These include:

- "The Secret Life of Plants" by Peter Tompkins
- "Botany in a Day" by Thomas J. Elpel

Furthermore, additional academic papers and articles will be provided via the university's online library portal. Students are encouraged to actively utilize these resources to supplement their learning journey. Queries related to course content can be directed to Prof. Moss during scheduled office hours, further details of which will be posted on the course page.

This document serves as an introductory guide designed to streamline your experience in 'Introduction to Cryptobotany.' Welcome aboard, and prepare for a ten-week adventure through the concealed wonders of botanical science.