Course specifications
(Postgraduate Degree)

Course Title:	**Special Topics**
Course Code:	**591 BOT**
Program:	**Master of Science (Botany)**
Department:	**Botany and Microbiology**
College:	**Science**
Institution:	**King Saud University**

Table of Contents

A. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: **1 (1+0)**
2. Course type   ☒ Required   ☐ Elective
3. Level/year at which this course is offered: **Third level**
4. Pre-requisites for this course (if any)**: None**
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any)**: None**

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom		
2	Blended	14	100%
3	E-learning		
4	Correspondence		
5	Other		

7. Actual Learning Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Learning Hours
Contact Hours		
1	Lecture	4
2	Laboratory/Studio	
3	Seminars	8
4	Others (specify)	2
	Total	14
Other Learning Hours*		
1	Study	
2	Assignments	10
3	Library	10
4	Projects/Research Essays/Theses	
5	Others (specify)	
	Total	20

* The length of time that a learner takes to complete learning activities that lead to achievement of course learning outcomes, such as study time, homework assignments, projects, preparing presentations, library times

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Course Description
   - Giving the student an in-depth study on one or more topics of botany and focusing on the latest developments.
   - Giving the students methods of search for scientific information and writing reports.

2. Course Main Objective

The Special Topics in Botany aimed to provide students with the last development in the knowledge in the areas of his/her research and acquire the students with the skills of writing of research paper via analysis of recent published papers in his/her area of research. In addition, the students will learn how to critical appraisal of results and review of literature, express Opinion and Criticize peers, work in individual and in group, communicate his/her data in oral presentations, report writing and to use information media

3. Course Learning Outcomes

	Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)	Aligned PLOs*
1	**Knowledge**	
1.1	Recognize the basis and principles of specialized topic/topics	A1
1.2	Define the main components of the reports	A2
2	**Skills**	
2.1	Analysis of the last development in the specialized topic/topics	B1
2.2	Discussing some of the recent published papers in the topic/topics	B1
3	**Competence**	
3.1	Ability to express opinions and criticize peers	C1
3.2	Ability to bear responsibility and cope with positive and negative criticism from others	C1
3.3	Ability to use information media	C1
3.4	Ability to make search on scientific subjects	C2

* Program Learning Outcomes

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
.1	Special Topic/topics in Botany	1
.2	Special Topic/topics in Botany	1
.3	Special Topic/topics in Botany	1
.4	Special Topic/topics in Botany	1
.5	Latest development in the special topic/topics	1
.6	Latest development in the special topic/topics	1
.7	First Mid-term Exam	1
.8	Latest development in the special topic/topics	1
.9	Methods of research for scientific information	1
.10	Methods of research for scientific information	1
.11	Method of writing Reports	1
.12	Method of writing Reports	1
.13	Second Mid-term Exam	1
.14	Reviewing	1
.15	Final Exam	1
Total		15

D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	**Knowledge**		
1.1	Recognize the basis and principles of specialized topic/topics	Lectures	Exams, thematic reports and work assignments evaluation
1.2	Define the main components of the reports	Lectures	Evaluation of activities
2.0	**Skills**		
2.1	Analysis of the last development in the specialized topic/topics	Examples and Activates	Evaluation of activities
2.2	Discussing some of the recent published papers in the topic/topics	Examples and Activates	Evaluation of activities
3.0	**Competence**		
3.1	Communicate and work effectively with team members and exhibit professional levels of conduct	Student group debates and discussions	Peer and instructor evaluation
3.2	Understand the need for life-long learning and continuing professional development.	Student group debates and discussions	Peer and instructor evaluation
3.3	Use advanced specialized software for geophysical data processing, numerical analysis and modeling.	Scientific reports based on web search	Instructor evaluation
3.4	Use effectively the internet for communication and information retrieval.	Scientific reports based on web search	Instructor evaluation

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	First Mid Term Exam	7	20
2	Second Mid Term Exam	11	20
3	Student reports and essays	12	20
4	Final exam	16	40

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice:

Office hours (one hours per week)

F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. Learning Resources

Required Textbooks	Journal Data Bases, Thesis, Dissertation Book. 2019
Essential Reference Materials	
Electronic Materials	• www.endnote.com • Scholar.google.com

Other Learning Materials	Recent Published papers in the field of study

2. Educational and research Facilities and Equipment Required

Item	Resources
Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)	**Available**
Technology Resources (AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)	**Available**
Other Resources (Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)	**Available**

G. Course Quality Evaluation

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
Strategies for Obtaining Student Feedback on Effectiveness of Teaching	Development and Quality Unit	Student Evaluation Questionnaires
Strategies for Evaluation of Teaching by the Instructor or by the Department	Instructor	Instructors Reports & Course File

Evaluation Areas/Issues (e.g., Effectiveness of teaching and assessment, Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes, Quality of learning resources, etc.)
Evaluators (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify)
Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

H. Specification Approval Data

Council / Committee	Prof Dr Reda Sammour
Reference No.	
Date	16/6/2020