

**LEHMAN COLLEGE  
OF THE  
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

**DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

**CURRICULUM CHANGE**

1. **Type of change:** New experimental course

2. **Course Description:** **BIO 2680: Introduction to Ethnobotany.** 6 hours (3 lecture, 3 lab), 4 credits. Scientific study of the traditional knowledge and customs concerning plants and their medical, religious, and other uses. Focus on the interaction interdependencies of plants and people.

3. **Rationale:** Currently there is a growing interest and need for understanding natural products and their use in medicine and other health professions. Ethnobotany is a growing field across the world and to keep our students competitive for post-undergraduate studies we need to begin to offer less traditional courses that will increase our student's awareness of other cultures and practices.

4. **Learning Objectives (By the end of the course students will be expected to):**

- Have an understanding of the scientific paradigm illustrating the **relationship between human society and the plant kingdom**, including the use of plants for food, clothing, shelter, medicine and pleasure.
- Have knowledge of basic plant science covering **plant anatomy** and function.
- Have knowledge of the **physiological** mechanisms of plants at the subcellular, cellular, tissue, and organism levels.
- Have knowledge of plant reproduction, propagation, cultivation and nutrition.
- Have the ability to apply fundamental **scientific principles to reasoning**.
- Have the ability to **understand, formulate and test a falsifiable hypothesis**.
- Have the ability to **gather and analyze data**, produce graphs and tables to convey results, and to reach sensible conclusions reflecting experimental outcomes.

5. **Course categories:**

- **Liberal Arts & Sciences or Not?** Yes, Liberal Arts & Sciences
- **Gen Ed (if so, current or proposed, and which category)?** No

6. **Date of Departmental Approval:** March 5, 2014