UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO

ID

VP34_DIP_STF

Visiting Professor Program
Academic year 2020/2021

DEPARTMENT OF DRUG SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

TEACHING COMMITMENT: 14 hours

COURSE TITLE

Ethnobotany and Plant Volatile Bioactive Secondary Metabolites of Plants from South America

TEACHING PERIOD
1st term

SCIENTIFIC AREA
Pharmaceutical biology

LANGUAGE USED TO TEACH
English

COURSE SUMMARY
Ethnobotany is the study of the relationship between humans and plants. Ethnobotanical studies have grown noticeably in the past decades in many parts of the world. In this perspective, the course will focus on the ethnobotanical aspects of plants, in particular of those characterizing the flora of South America. The course will offer an overview of the South America biodiversity and of the local knowledge about the traditional use of medicinal plants. In addition, a survey on the main classes of secondary metabolites characterizing the plants' volatile fraction and responsible for plant bioactivities will be presented together with their use. Finally, a selection of some ethnobotanical studies will be discussed in order to highlight the modern approaches to investigate and to improve the knowledge on plants used in folk medicine.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The students will be able to understand the principal ethnobotanical aspects, especially relating to the South America flora. They will know both botanical features and traditional use in local people. In particular, they will be able to correlate the traditional use in folk medicine of some selected plants to their chemical composition (in term of secondary metabolites).

TUTORSHIP ACTIVITIES (IF APPLICABLE)

LAB ACTIVITIES (IF APPLICABLE)

OTHER ACTIVITIES BESIDES THE COURSE

Seminars and conferences addressed to PhD students and research fellows.

ADDITIONAL COURSE

COURSE TITLE

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VISITING PROFESSOR PROFILE
The candidate should have a scientific curriculum documenting high-level and active research in the field with adequate coverage of the proposed topics (characterization of plant volatile fraction, essential oil analysis and bioactivity, etc...). International collaboration with highly reputed institutions as well as research paper published in international peer review journals would be also relevant.

CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT
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