

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for HORT 68
ORCHARD & VEGETABLE GARDENING
Effective: Fall 2009

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

HORT 68 — ORCHARD & VEGETABLE GARDENING — 1.00 units

This course examines ways that we can better utilize our landscape resources by using them as a source of food production. Principles of commercial and home orchards will be studied, as well as methods of incorporating edible materials into otherwise ornamental landscapes. Students will learn how to plant, care for and harvest a variety of small-scale fruit, berry, and vegetable crops. This course is designed to benefit retail nursery and garden center professionals, as well as horticultural hobbyists, and home gardeners.

0.50 Units Lecture 0.50 Units Lab

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

	<u>MIN</u>
Lecture Hours:	9.00
Lab Hours:	27.00
Total Hours:	36.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. be able to identify and name 40 species of fruit & nut trees, berries, and vegetable crops;
- B. determine the landscape potential of various edible plants;
- C. be able to plan, design and layout a typical home orchard and garden;
- D. be able to describe the various pruning techniques used for common orchard trees.

V. CONTENT:

- A. Building healthy soils & home composting.
- B. Selecting and planting fruit and nut trees.
- C. Timing fruit and berry crops for year round harvest.
- D. Planning and preparation of a "Victory Garden".
- E. Safe home pest control
- F. The principles of biodynamic farming.
- G. The ornamental landscape potential of food bearing plants.

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** -
- B. **Discussion** -
- C. Demonstration on the care and maintenance of campus orchard trees.
- D. Participation in the planting of a campus "Victory Garden".
- E. Field study of local orchards and vegetable gardens.

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

A. Prepare a plan for a home orchard and vegetable garden. B. Prepare a plan which will provide year around fruit production for a homeowner. C. Make a list of 20 trees or shrubs with edible parts that can be included in an ornamental landscape.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

B. **Frequency**

- 1. 4 short quizzes (spaced between other exams)
- 2. 2 written exams (1/3 and 2/3 through the course)

3. 1 field test (midway through the course)
4. 1 final exam (at the end of the course)

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. University of California - Davis *The Home Orchard*, ANR Publications, 0.
2. University of California - Davis *The California Master Gardener Handbook*, -, 0.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Sturdy shoes, casual or work clothes, and gardening gloves.