

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for HORT 51

PLANT MATERIALS I

Effective: Fall 2009

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

HORT 51 — PLANT MATERIALS I — 3.00 units

Identification, landscape and garden use, growth habit, climatic adaptation, ornamental value, maintenance and care of trees, shrubs, vines and other plants adapted to the northern and coastal valleys of California.

2.00 Units Lecture 1.00 Units Lab

Prerequisite

HORT 50 - Introduction to Horticulture

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

	<u>MIN</u>
Lecture Hours:	36.00
Lab Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	90.00

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

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering the course a student should be able to:

A. HORT50

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

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

- A. identify and name 150 species of trees, shrubs and other plants valued for their landscape and garden use;
- B. determine landscape use and ornamental value of trees and shrubs;
- C. be familiar with propagation, growth, ecology, maintenance, and care of plants reviewed in this course;
- D. apply information discussed in this course for use in landscape planning and design.

V. CONTENT:

- A. Identification techniques and methods for identifying trees, shrubs, and other plants
- B. Landscape and garden use and value
- C. Botanical and common names of plants
- D. Variety and cultivar names of plants
- E. Species longevity, growth habit, and origin
- F. Physical and aesthetic characteristics of plants including trunk, branching patterns, buds, bark, leaves, flowers, and fruit
- G. Climatic adaptation, temperature tolerances
- H. Mature height, spread, and growth rate
 - I. Soil adaptation, water requirement, and fertilization requirement
- J. Maintenance, care, and pruning
- K. Propagation methods
- L. Pests, diseases, and their control

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** -
- B. **Discussion** -
- C. Live specimens
- D. Media presentations and examples
- E. **Field Trips** - field study of mature plants as used in landscape

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Weekly four hour field study to identify and study plants. B. Develop plant reference cards on each plant studied. C. Organize into student study groups to go out into the field to review plants covered in class. D. Prepare photo file of all plant

species covered.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

B. **Frequency**

1. Three field plant identification exams.
2. Two classroom mid-term written exams.
3. One final written exam at the end of the course.

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. - *Sunset Western Garden Book.*, Sunset Publishing, 2000.
2. Plant materials data base and plant species lists provided by instructor
3. Plant identification cards

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: