

Las Positas College  
3000 Campus Hill Drive  
Livermore, CA 94551-7650  
(925) 424-1000  
(925) 443-0742 (Fax)

**Course Outline for HORT 62**  
**CALIF NATIVE & DRY LANDSCAPES**  
**Effective: Fall 2009**

**I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

HORT 62 — CALIF NATIVE & DRY LANDSCAPES — 2.00 units

This course examines the native plant communities of California and identifies native plants suitable for the design and installation of dry landscapes in Northern California. The focus of this course is the planning, design, installation, care, and maintenance of drought tolerant landscapes, with the goal of creating more sustainable landscapes.

1.50 Units Lecture 0.50 Units Lab

**Grading Methods:**

Letter or P/NP

**Discipline:**

	<b>MIN</b>
<b>Lecture Hours:</b>	27.00
<b>Lab Hours:</b>	27.00
<b>Total Hours:</b>	54.00

**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. identify and name 40 species of California native plants;
- B. identify and name 20 species of non-native Mediterranean drought tolerant plants;
- C. determine landscape use and ornamental value of drought tolerant plant material;
- D. be familiar with the growth, ecology, maintenance and care of drought tolerant plant material;
- E. use information discussed in this course for use in landscape planning, design, and installation;
- F. be able to prepare a plant palette and draw a plan for a small to mid-size landscape using California native or other drought tolerant plants.

**V. CONTENT:**

- A. Techniques and methods for identifying plant material
- B. Botanical and common names of California native plants
- C. Growth habit and origin of drought tolerant plant material
- D. Analyze and measure a landscape site
- E. Draw and prepare a preliminary landscape design
- F. Select appropriate drought tolerant plant material
- G. Recognize and plan appropriate grading, drainage, and soil preparation

**VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

- A. **Lecture** -
- B. **Field Trips** - field study of mature plants as used in dry landscapes
- C. Hand out materials
- D. Media presentations and examples
- E. **Discussion** -

**VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:**

A. Weekly field study to identify and study plants; B. Develop plant reference cards on each plant studied; C. Develop a plant palette for drought tolerant plants; D. Prepare a preliminary plan for a dry landscape.

**VIII. EVALUATION:**

**A. Methods**

**B. Frequency**

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

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. - *Sunset Western Garden Book*. 8th ed., Sunset Publishing Corporation, 2007.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. ANR horticultural publications downloaded from the UC COOP EXTENSION web site.