Las Positas College
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Course Outline for HORT 50

INTRODUCTION TO HORTICULTURE

Effective: Fall 2015

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
HORT 50 — INTRODUCTION TO HORTICULTURE — 3.00 units

Botanical nomenclature, anatomy and physiology, plant growth, and development are presented. Various micro-climates, landscape planning and development, media, fertilizer, and watering methods are discussed. Design and development of a home landscape plan is included. Current research of plant propagation, plant disorders and pest management will be explored. (8 hours of lab to be scheduled on Saturdays which may include one or more field trips)

2.50 Units Lecture 0.50 Units Lab

Grading Methods:
Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	45.00
Lab Hours:	27.00
Total Hours:	72.00

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 plants both by botanical nomenclature and common names
B. Select the correct horticultural practice to use, based on principles of plant growth and development
C. Identify local micro-climates and relate them to plant growth
D. Sketch a basic home landscape plan
E. Determine the correct fertilizer based on the information on the fertilzer label
F. Draft an integrated Pest Management Plan, a propagation protocol, or similar project or report, using the internet or other available resource material

V. CONTENT:
A. Botanical Nomenclature, anatomy and physiology
B. Plant growth and development
C. Micro-climates of Northern California
D. Home landscape planning
E. Media, fertilizer, and watering
F. Current research of plant propagation protocols and integrated pest management programs

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:
A. **Lab** -
B. **Lecture** -
C. **Field Trips** -
D. **Demonstration** -
E. **Discussion** -

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:
A. Weekly reading assignments in text related to lecture topics
B. Field trips to local gardens, such as the UC Berkely Botanical Garden or the H.A.R.D. Japanese Garden
C. Laboratory exercises – such as soil testing, plant identification, and pruning
D. Propagation by seed and cuttings

VIII. EVALUATION:
A. **Methods**

1. Exams/Tests
2. Quizzes
3. Papers

4. Oral Presentation
5. Class Participation
6. Home Work
7. Lab Activities

B. **Frequency**

1. Two written exams (mid-term and final)
2. Frequent short quizzes (4-8 throughout the semester)
3. One or more term project or paper
4. One oral presentation of term project or paper
5. Daily attendance and active participation will be observed and noted
6. Occasional homework assignments based on current issues or events in horticulture, as they arise (2-4throughout the semester)
7. Between 9 and 18 lab activities, depending on length of activity and suitability of the weather

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. Adams, Charles. *Principles of Horticulture: Level 2.* 7th ed., Routledge, Taylor, and Francis, 2014.
2. Rice, Laura. *Practical Horticulture.* 7th ed., Prentice Hall, 2011.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

A. Appropriate sturdy footwear, and personal protective equipment, such as ear plugs, gloves, and safety glasses must be worn during certain lab activities, such as motorized equipment operation.
B. Access to internet is required, in order to use online resource material and information posted on blackboard.