

Date: Spring 2008

I. Course Name: Introduction to Floriculture
Course Prefix and Number: HRT 130
Credit and contact hours: 3 hours credit , 3 contact hours
Catalog Description:

This course deals with flower production, use and merchandising. Special emphasis on production and forcing of flowers for holidays as well as floral arrangements. Practical greenhouse experience included.

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives

Learning Outcomes:

Students will learn to use color; to name and select flowers; to order wholesale seeds, plugs, and flowers; and to design flower arrangements and flower gardens. They will understand the basic principles of greenhouse management and florist shop operation.

Relationship to Academic programs and curriculum:

This class will provide an opportunity to review plant structure and the names and characteristics of annuals, perennials, and flowering shrubs. Students will be drawing individual flowers, arrangements and gardens, so there will be a basic artistic component. The library research projects will provide an opportunity to learn about native and international gardens, and current issues in the flower industry. The units on pricing flowers and calculating heat units needed for a greenhouse include arithmetic. The cut flower shelf life experiment includes comparison of purchased and improvised flower preservatives.

College competencies addressed by the course:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> writing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ethics/values
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> oral communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> citizenship
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> reading	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> global concerns
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mathematics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> information resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> problem-solving	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> professional competency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> computer literacy	

III. Methods of Instruction

Types of Course materials:

Required texts:

The Flower Farmer, Lynn Byczynski, 1997. 207 pp, Chelsea Green Pub. Co.
The Bedding Plant Expert, D. G. Hessayon, 2001. 144 pp, Expert Books

Library books and periodicals will be required for independent research projects.
Drawing paper and cut flowers (\$15 fee for flowers required by Feb. 11)

Methods of instruction:

Lecture, discussion, drawing, demonstrations of and practice with flower arranging, simple flower garden design, greenhouse projects, an experiment with different chemical solutions to extend cut flower shelf life. PowerPoint presentations developed for the floriculture industry on integrated pest management of deer, weeds, insects, and diseases.

Assessment measures:

Two exams, several quizzes, written and oral project reports

Methods of Evaluation:

Exams will be graded both on correct answers and comparison to the entire class. Participation will be included in grade. Creativity and depth of research study in projects will be noted.

IV. General Outline of Topics covered

1. Use of bedding plants in gardens for color, interest, attracting natural enemies, pollinators, butterflies and hummingbirds.
2. Greenhouse construction and management; methods for heating greenhouses, including solar, below the plant bench, and traditional furnaces
3. Cut flower varieties: those grown outdoors in New York and in cold frames and greenhouses, ways to extend the harvest season
4. Florist techniques, arrangements, pricing, preservatives to extend shelf life of cut flowers. Diverse avenues for selling cut flowers and bedding plants
5. Decorative container gardening, creative uses for herbs and vegetables mixed with flowering plants
6. Research project on gardens of the world, compared and contrasted with native gardening