

**MERCER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**Division of Science and Health Professions**  
**OHT 102 – Ornamental Horticulture**  
**Spring 2008**

**Credits:** 3  
**Lecture Hours:** 2  
**Laboratory Hours:** 2

**Lecture Instructor:** Assistant Professor Amy Isenecker  
**Office Number:** MS 124  
**Phone Number:** (609)570-3372  
**E-Mail:** isenekea@mccc.edu

**Lab Instructor:** Marie Wszolek  
**Office Number:** Greenhouse  
**Phone Number:** (609)570-3512  
**E-Mail:** wszolekm@mccc.edu

**Course Description:**

Plant Propagation, insect pests, diseases of trees and shrubs, irrigation and other horticultural operations, and principles of landscape design will be covered.

**Prerequisites:** ENG 030, ENG 035 and MAT 020

**Required Text:** Horticulture Principles and Practices, G. Acquah

**Grading:**

Grades will be based on the following point system.

Exam #1	100
Exam #2	100
Exam #3	100
Quizzes	160
Attendance & Participation	120
Bench Assignment	100
Project	<u>100</u>
Total	780

## **Explanation of Point System:**

**Exams** - Exams will be given in lecture and are based on lecture material. Lecture exams are not cumulative. Exam dates are listed in the course outline. I reserve the right to re-test you if a grade received is not consistent with your normal performance. You must show up on time to take your exams. If you are late to class to take an exam, and one of your classmates has already finished the exam and left the room, you will not be allowed to take it. In case of emergency, you must call within 24 hours of the exam in order to do a make-up. You are personally responsible for all missed material for quizzes and exams. I would suggest pairing up with a classmate so you have access to missed notes, etc.

**Attendance and Participation** - For every lecture and every lab, you will be awarded 4 points for attendance and participation. You will not receive the points if...

- you show up to lecture or lab late (-2)
- you do not show up to lecture or lab (-4)
- you leave before the lecture has been completed (-2)
- you leave before the lab is completed (this includes clean-up) (-2)
- you are continuously disruptive to the classroom atmosphere (this includes cell phones)

**Quizzes** - Quizzes will be given in lab each week and will cover material from both lab and lecture. There will be approximately 13 quizzes given throughout the semester and the lowest quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the semester. Each quiz is worth 20 points and will be given at the beginning of lab. You will not be given extra time to complete the quiz if you show up late, and no make-up quizzes will be given.

**Project** - The semester project will require you to do a basic landscape design for a given site. This project is worth 100 points and is to be turned in by the due date. You will lose 30 points for every day the project is late if you do not turn it in on time. In addition, you will lose 40 points if it is not presented. The project will be graded based on the following criteria:

- A hand drawn landscape design (no computer printouts) that is larger than 8.5" by 11" done using color and/or cut-outs from magazines. 15 points
- The plant material that you choose must be a combination of annuals, perennials, shrubs, trees, etc. When selecting plants, make sure you are aware of their desired sun exposure and their soil and moisture preferences. 30 points

- The design does not have to be drawn to scale, but you must show that you understand what the mature size of the plant will be and how far away it should be planted from other plants, buildings, etc. 20 points
- The design must come with a key. The key must be typed and needs to include the plant's Latin name and common name; a description of the plant material to include mature height and width, and if appropriate, bloom time and color of blooms; and the USDA Hardiness Zone. 30 points
- You must use at least three sources. Consider reference books like Dirr's Manual of Woody Plants and Still's Manual of Herbaceous Plants. Magazines can be great resources for plant material and design ideas. Use the internet carefully because anyone can have a site! 5 points

**Bench Assignment** - During the first lab, you will be receiving bench assignments for lab. The bench that you are assigned will be the bench that you and your partners are responsible for. Every student at the bench is required to produce 3 flats of plants. Students can determine what they would like to grow, however, one of the flats needs to be a flowering annual. Your responsibilities include watering, transplanting, pulling weeds under the bench, monitoring pests, fertilizing, and any other problems that may arise over the course of the semester. Every person assigned to a particular bench must work together to make sure the job gets done. If your group needs assistance completing any given task, you must make arrangements with an instructor so the work gets done. If you do not clean up your bench and remove your plants from the greenhouse at the end of the semester, you will drop a letter grade. Your bench assignment grade is based on the following criteria:

- Excellent – 100 points – all of the flats that you produce are full flats with no missing plants. All plants are uniform in size, color and flower development (if applicable).
- Very Good – 90 points – You have 9 plants or less that are either missing or are not uniform in size, color and flower development (if applicable).
- Good – 80 points – You have between 10 and 18 plants that are either missing or are not uniform in size, color and flower development (if applicable).
- Average – 70 points – You have between 19 and 27 plants that are either missing or are not uniform in size, color and flower development (if applicable).
- Below Average – 60 points – You have more than 27 plants that are either missing or are not uniform in size, color and flower development (if applicable).

**Make-up Policy** - The instructor must be notified within 24 hours of an exam if it is going to be missed for an excused reason. (Excused absences include illness, death, transportation problems etc.). If this is done, the student will be able to make up the exam at the convenience of the instructor as long as proper documentation is provided. Other wise, no make up will be offered. Make up quizzes will not be allowed for any reason. You are personally responsible for all missed material for quizzes and exams. I would suggest pairing up with a classmate so you have access to missed notes, etc.

**Cell Phone Policy** – According to college policy, the ringer on all cell phones must be turned off during lab and lecture.

**Lab Dress Code** – You must wear sturdy shoes for lab. This means no open toe shoes, sandals or flip-flops.

**Statement of Academic Integrity -**

“Any student who a) knowingly represents the work of others as his/her own, b) uses or obtains unauthorized assistance in the execution of any academic work, or c) gives fraudulent assistance to another student is guilty of cheating. Violators will be penalized in accordance with established college policies and procedures.” (If you are caught cheating, you will receive a zero for the assignment/test, and you will be turned into the Academic Standards Committee.)

**Behavior Statement** - I encourage participation in my course. I enjoy you asking questions and sharing your experiences. I, however, will not tolerate any of the following behaviors in my course. These behaviors will result in your dismissal from class for the day.

- Physical or Verbal Threatening Behavior or Derogatory Remarks Towards the Instructor and/or Fellow Classmates
- Using Cell Phones During Class (including text messaging)
- Carrying on Side Conversations

**Statement from the Office of Special Services –**

Any student in this class who has special needs because of a disability is entitled to receive accommodations. Eligible students at Mercer County Community College are assured services under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

If you believe you are eligible for services, please contact Arlene Stinson, the Director of Student Support Services. Ms. Stinson’s office is LB221, and she can be reached at 609-570-3525.

**Mercer's Grading System:**

A	93 – 100
A-	90 – 92
B+	87 – 89
B	83 – 86
B-	80 – 82
C+	77 – 79
C	70 – 76
D	60 – 69
F	0 – 59

**Course Objectives:**

At the conclusion of OHT 102, each student should be able to:

1. Draw a basic landscape plan.
2. Plan a production garden for growing fruits and vegetables.
3. Sow and germinate seeds in addition to raising the seedlings successfully.
4. Operate basic greenhouse systems.
5. Recognize common weeds, insects, and diseases.
6. Implement an IPM program.
7. Recognize common plant material used in gardens and landscapes.
8. Perform basic lawn and landscape maintenance.
9. Obtain knowledge of growth requirements for annuals, perennials, trees, and shrubs.
10. Prepare a site for planting.
11. Diagnose and treat common problems of both indoor and outdoor plants.
12. Learn about good customer and co-worker relations in the work place.
13. Set up a planting schedule for growing greenhouse crops.
14. Learn about the correct handling of fruits and vegetables after harvesting.
15. Obtain basic knowledge of soils, fertilizers, and watering.

**Schedule:**

Lec #1:	Course Introductions; Covering the Fundamentals; Common Plants Used in the Landscape
Lab #1:	Introductions; Bench and Assignment Explanations; Bench Plant Selections; Setting up Planting Schedules; Soil Media and Use
Readings	Introduction: What is Horticulture?; pgs. 536-550, 562-566, 699-703
Lec #2	Home Landscape Planning and Installation
Lab #2	Quiz 1; Sesame Place Topiary Project
Readings	Chapter 17; pgs. 551-561
Lec #3	Home Landscape Planning and Installation
Lab #3	Quiz 2; Container Selection; Watering; Flat Preparation
Readings	Chapter 18

Lec #4	Video - Ball's "Yardening"; Site Preparation
Lab #4	Quiz 3; Semester Project
Readings	None
Lec #5	Exam #1
Lab #5	Seed Planting
Readings	None
Lec #6	Soils, Water, Nutrients, and Fertilizers
Lab #6	Bench Work; Fertilizers
Readings	Chapter 4
Lec #7	Indoor Plant Growth and Maintenance
Lab #7	Quiz 4; Bench Work; Interior Plant Introduction
Readings	Chapter 12; pgs. 466-487
Lec #8	Diagnosing and Treating Plants Disorders
Lab #8	Quiz 5; Bench Work; Transplanting Houseplants
Readings	Chapters 8 and 9
Lec #9	Greenhouse Types, Designs, and Systems
Lab #9	Quiz 6; Bench Work; Greenhouse Investigation; IPM
Readings	Chapter 15
Lec #10	Exam #2
Lab #10	Bench Work; Pruning
Readings	None
Lec #11	Landscape Establishment, Care, and Maintenance
Lab #11	Bench Work; Semester Project Due - Design Presentations
Readings	Chapters 19, 20, and 21
Lec #12	Lawn Establishment, Care, and Maintenance
Lab #12	Quiz 7; Bench Work; Microclimates; Pruning Continued
Readings	Chapters 19, 20, and 21
Lec #13	Vegetable Gardening
Lab #13	Quiz 8; Bench Work; Guest Speaker on Vegetable Gardening
Readings	Chapters 23 and 25
Lec #14	Growing Fruits and Nuts
Lab #14	Quiz 9; Field Trip – Site Visit, Landscape Maintenance
Readings	Chapter 26

Lec #15	Exam #3
Lab #15	Lab Wrap Up; Bench Plants Ready
Readings	None

**Lab Dates and Exercises Subject to Change**