

**Mercer County Community College**  
**Division of Science and Health Professions**  
**OHT 232 – Nursery Management**  
**Spring 2008**

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

**Instructor:** Amy Isenecker, Assistant Professor  
**Phone Number:** (609)570-3372  
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**Course Description:**

A general study of nursery crop production, nursery operation and mechanics. Topics covered include planting and transplanting trees and shrubs, fertilization, pest control, irrigation, pruning, plant propagation techniques, day to day business operations, and managing employees. A field study of local businesses and lab exercises will be used to reinforce lecture material.

**Required Text:** Nursery Management: Administration and Culture - 4th Edition Davidson, Mecklenburg, and Peterson

**Grading:**

Grades will be based on the following point system.

|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Midterm Exam               | 150        |
| Final Exam                 | 150        |
| Nursery Project            | 100        |
| Attendance & Participation | 150        |
| Study Questions            | 150        |
| Lab Attendance             | <u>120</u> |
| Total                      | 820        |

**Explanation of Point System:**

**Exams** - Exams will be based on lecture material. The midterm will be based on the first half of the course. The final exam will be cumulative with an emphasis on the second half of the course. The date of the final exam is to be announced. 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 an emergency, you must call within 24 hours of the exam in order to do a make-up. You are also responsible for all missed class material for exams. I would

suggest that you pair up with a classmate so you can have access to missed notes, etc.

**Attendance and Participation** - Your attendance and participation for the course will be evaluated at the end of the semester. Criteria for the evaluation includes punctuality and the quality of participation.

**Project** - This project requires you to visit a nursery operation you are interested in and write a paper about it. The paper should adequately cover the topic areas that are discussed in class over the course of the semester. You will need to set up an appointment with someone who works at the nursery in order to get your questions answered. You are required to formulate a list of questions to ask when you do the interview. I will review your questions and give you suggestions on what you should add and/or delete to your list. You will lose 10 points if your paper is not typed, and 15 points for every day that it is late. Papers will be presented in a "round table" discussion on the due date.

**Study Guides** - Each week, you will be assigned a study guide that will be due the following week at the beginning of the class session. The study guide will contain questions based on the lecture and textbook material covered in class. Study Guides are worth 10 points each. You are responsible for obtaining a study guide if you missed class.

**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. Other wise, no make up will be offered. You are also responsible for all missed class material for exams. I would suggest that you pair up with a classmate so you can have access to missed notes, etc.

**Cell Phone Policy** - According to college policy, the ringer on all cell phones must be turned off during class.

**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 test or assignment and you will be turned into the Academic Integrity Committee.)

**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 Academic Support Services. Ms. Stinson's office is LB 221, 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   |

**Lecture Schedule:**

- 1/22: Course Introductions; Question Suggestions for Projects; History of the Nursery Industry; Importance to New Jersey; Related Organizations  
Readings: Chapters 1 and 2
- 1/29: Starting a Nursery Operation from the Growers Perspective  
Readings: Chapters 3, 4, 5, and 6
- 2/05: Starting a Nursery Operation from the Growers Perspective  
Readings: Chapters 3, 4, 5, and 6
- 2/12: Propagation of Nursery Stock; Growing Media and Components; Case Studies  
Readings: Chapter 11
- 2/19: Field Grown Nursery Stock; Care and Maintenance of Nursery Stock; Case Studies  
Readings: Chapters 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17
- 2/26: Field Grown Nursery Stock; Care and Maintenance of Nursery Stock; Case Studies  
Readings: Chapters 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17

- 3/04: Container Grown Nursery Stock; Care and Maintenance of Nursery Stock;  
Case Studies  
Readings: Chapters **13**, 14, 15, 16, and 17
- 3/11: Container Grown Nursery Stock; Care and Maintenance of Nursery Stock;  
Case Studies  
Readings: Chapters **13**, 14, 15, 16, and 17
- 3/18: No Class – Spring Break  
Readings: None
- 3/25: Midterm Exam  
Readings: None
- 4/01: Starting a Nursery Operation from the Business Perspective  
Readings: None
- 4/08: Starting a Nursery Operation from the Business Perspective  
Readings: None
- 4/15: Wholesale Marketing and Shipping  
Readings: Chapters 8, 9, and 10
- 4/22: Financial Management of Nursery Operations  
Readings: Chapter 7
- 4/29: Professionalism; Guest Lecture  
Readings: None
- 5/06: Project Due: Discussion Session  
Readings: None

Final Exam – TBA

**Lab Schedule:**

Lab Meets at 9:00am at the greenhouse. In addition to the field trips listed below, we will also be doing some propagating of nursery stock, equipment operation, greenhouse construction, and nursery site preparation and layout.

- 2/02 –  
2/09 –  
2/16 –  
2/23 –  
3/01 –