

Career Opportunities

Gardening has become America's favorite pastime. Increased sensitivity to our environment and the landscape around us has increased the opportunities for jobs in plant related occupations.

Whether you seek employment, or plan to complete another degree, Mercer County Community College can prepare you for success. Our Horticulture program provides practical as well as theoretical instruction to prepare students for positions in landscape planning, floral design, greenhouse/nursery/turfgrass management, integrated pest management, and grounds maintenance. Students may earn the A.A.S. degree in Ornamental Horticulture; or a Certificate of Proficiency in Horticulture. The A.S. in Plant Science is intended to specifically prepare students for transfer. Graduates from this program often transfer to Rutgers University, other land grant institutions, Delaware Valley College, or Temple University at Ambler.

Outstanding Faculty and Facilities

At Mercer, you will gain professional expertise from faculty members who have on-the-job experience in the subjects they teach. The facilities and equipment you'll learn with are similar to what you will find in commercial settings. Training takes place in a greenhouse complex with adjoining headhouse. Within the greenhouse are propagating facilities, classroom facilities, interior plant collections, and a walk-in cooler for cut flowers. A fenced area behind the greenhouse allows students to grow their own crops under field conditions. In addition to the greenhouse facilities, students use the biology, chemistry, drafting, and computer laboratories in the academic buildings.

Mercer's 292 acres of grounds contain an extensive woody and herbaceous plant collection for hands-on identification. Class trips to various forests, natural areas, arboretums, parks, public spaces, gardens and horticulture businesses give the student a broad learning experience.

For Further Information Contact:

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Visit the college's website www.mccc.edu
Trenton, New Jersey 08690 (609) 586-4800



Join The "Green" Revolution

ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE PLANT SCIENCE

Get **Academic
Solutions** at Mercer



ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE

*H*orticulture is a profession that combines the creativity of design with the knowledge of science. The Ornamental Horticulture A.A.S. degree and certificate programs train students in the areas of landscape design, floral design, landscape maintenance, nursery and greenhouse production, and turf maintenance.

www.mccc.edu/horticulture

Hands-on classes conducted in a complex of greenhouses, surrounding gardens, and an extensive campus grounds are designed to prepare graduates to excel in a rapidly expanding horticulture industry. Excellent positions are available for trained professionals with strong backgrounds in the specialties covered at Mercer.

Some graduates enter the profession immediately upon graduation, securing employment in nurseries, greenhouses, garden centers, landscape firms, golf courses, flower shops, and a variety of other businesses. Others elect to transfer to four-year institutions such as Delaware Valley College, Temple University, and Rutgers University.

At Mercer, many students work in the industry while pursuing their degree as evening students. In addition to gaining broad knowledge through the Ornamental Horticulture A.A.S. degree core curriculum, students select from among three study concentrations:

The **Ornamental Horticulture** concentration focuses on the production and use of plant material for aesthetic purposes. This concentration offers a wide variety of elective courses to choose from, so students can pursue the area of horticulture that most interests them.

Through the **Landscape Design** concentration, students learn how to measure a site, draw a base map, draw a design to scale, develop a plant list, color render the design, and work within a budget. Students also gain experience interviewing and presenting to clients.

The **Floral Design** concentration teaches how to identify and order flowers used for designs, process flowers, price arrangements, make corsages and boutonnieres, design various arrangements, work with a variety of materials, and gain experience doing more advanced work like wedding and funeral arrangements.

Successful graduates will be able to:

- identify, propagate, and care for at least 300 different woody and herbaceous plant specimens;
- implement a soils management plan using modern irrigation and nutrient control techniques;
- properly apply common pesticides and fertilizers to achieve optimum growing conditions for plants and crops;
- produce and manage common greenhouse crops;
- practice integrated pest management.



Course Requirements

A.A.S. Curriculum

Code	Course (lecture/lab hours)	Credits
ENG 101	English Composition I (3/0)	3
BIO 101	General Biology I (3/3)	4
CHE —	Chemistry elective ¹	3-4
OHT 101	Plant Science (2/2)	3
MAT —	Mathematics elective ²	4
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ENG 102	English Composition II (3/0)	3
OHT 102	Ornamental Horticulture (2/2)	3
OHT 108	Soil and Plant Nutrition (3/3)	3
BIO 202	Woody Plants (3/3)	4
— —	General Education elective ³	3
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OHT 291	Ornamental Horticulture Co-op. Education I	3
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OHT 121	Herbaceous Plants (2/2)	3
OHT 219	Plant Propagation (2/2)	3
OHT —	OHT Concentration elective	3
OHT —	OHT Concentration elective	3
— —	General Education elective ⁴	3
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OHT 241	Equipment and Integrated Pest Management (2/2)	3
OHT —	OHT Concentration elective	3
OHT —	OHT Concentration elective	3
HPE 110	Concepts of Health & Fitness (1/2)†	2
— —	General Education elective ⁴	3

65-66

Certificate Curriculum

Code	Course (lecture/lab hours)	Credits
ENG 101	English Composition I (3/0)	3
OHT 291	Ornamental Horticulture Co-op. Education I	3
OHT 101	Plant Science (2/2)	3
OHT 102	Ornamental Horticulture (2/2)	3
— —	Science electives ¹	3-4
— —	Technical electives ²	17-18
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¹ Select from BIO 101, 114, 203, 204; CHE 101, 105.

² Select from all OHT courses; BIO 202; CHE 100.

Course Concentrations

Ornamental Horticulture Concentration Electives

OHT 204	Plant Diseases (2/2)	3
OHT 232	Nursery Management I (2/2)	3
OHT —	Technical elective ⁵	3
OHT —	Technical elective ⁵	3

Landscape Design Concentration Electives

OHT 201	Basic Landscaping and Planning I (2/3)	3
OHT 202	Basic Landscaping and Planning II (2/3)	3
OHT 204	Plant Diseases (2/2)	3
OHT —	Technical elective ⁵	3

Floral Design Concentration Electives

OHT 207	Floral Design I (2/2)	3
OHT 208	Floral Design II (1/3)	3
OHT 226	Interior Landscape Design (2/2)	3
OHT —	Technical elective ⁵	3

¹ Approved Chemistry electives: CHE 100, 101, 105.

² Select course from either Social Science or Humanities general education categories.

³ Select course from the following general education categories: Social Science, Humanities, Historical Perspective, Diversity and Global Perspective. Spanish is strongly recommended.

⁴ Approved technical electives: OHT 201, 202, 204, 207, 208, 223, 226, 231, 232, 292; BIO 203, 204.

†HPE 111 is an acceptable alternative.

Another practical option for some students is the Certificate of Proficiency in Ornamental Horticulture, which emphasizes concentration in horticulture electives and preparation for direct entry into a career in horticulture. Credits earned can be applied toward the Ornamental Horticulture A.A.S. degree.



PLANT SCIENCE

The Plant Science program prepares students for the junior year of study at a college or university offering such fields as horticulture, botany, conservation, environmental science, ecology, and forestry.

www.mccc.edu/plantscience

The Plant Science program prepares students for the junior year of study at a college or university offering such fields as horticulture, botany, conservation, environmental science, ecology, and forestry. Horticulture students who plan to pursue a baccalaureate degree should consider this alternative.

Facilities to support the program include well-equipped biology and chemistry laboratories, a modern greenhouse complex, and an extensive woody plants collection throughout the 292-acre West Windsor Campus. Occasional field trips to Longwood Gardens, the New Jersey Pine Barrens, Marquand Park, and elsewhere offer additional opportunities for specialized study of plant specimens.

Successful graduates of the program will be able to:

- explain the structures and processes related to plant growth and function;
- identify common insects, diseases, and woody plants found in our region;
- understand key environmental issues as they relate locally, nationally, and globally;
- exhibit proficiency in the laboratory and in the field by using standard equipment and measurement and observation techniques that allow one to gather, analyze, and interpret qualitative and quantitative data;
- transfer and successfully pursue a baccalaureate degree in a related field.

Admission to the Plant Science program requires a high school diploma or its equivalent with at least one year of science (biology or chemistry) and two years of algebra.

Course Requirements

Curriculum

Code	Course (lecture/lab hours)	Credits
ENG 101	English Composition I (3/0)	3
BIO 101	General Biology I (3/3)	4
CHE 101	General Chemistry I (3/3)	4
OHT 101	Plant Science (2/2)	3
CMN 111	Speech: Human Communication (3/0)	3
OR		
CMN 112	Public Speaking (3/0)	3
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ENG 102	English Composition II (3/0)	3
MAT 146	Pre-Calculus Mathematics (4/0)	4
BIO 102	General Biology II (3/3)	4
CHE 102	General Chemistry II (3/3)	4
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BIO 203	Entomology (3/3)	4
BIO 204	Ecology (3/3)	4
OHT 204	Plant Diseases (2/2)	3
— —	Social Science general education elective	3
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BIO 202	Woody Plants (3/3)	4
OHT 108	Soil and Plant Nutrition (3/3)	4
HPE 110	Concepts of Health and Fitness (1/2)†	2
— —	Humanities general education elective	3
— —	General Education elective ¹	3

62

¹ Select course from either Social Science or Humanities general education categories.
†HPE 111 is an acceptable alternative.

