Horticultural Ecology
Plant Science 2075

Instructor: Dr Mary Ann Gowdy
1-55 Ag Building
gowdym@missouri.edu

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Wed-Friday 9-11am
Email Dr Gowdy to schedule other appointments

TEXT (Highly Suggested): Home Horticulture; Principles & Practices by Marietta Loehrlein

BLACKBOARD SITE: http://www.courses.missouri.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This is an introductory plant science course designed to expose students to the discipline of horticulture. Fundamentals of general plant anatomy and physiology will be explored, as well as the influence environmental factors have on the growth and development of plants. Attention will be placed on the impact home gardeners’ have on the environment through plant selections and use of fertilizer and chemicals. Lawn care, vegetable gardening and caring for trees and shrubs will be specifically emphasized. All topics will be presented with the novice gardener in mind.

To successfully complete this course students must have good time management skills, moderate computer skills, a commitment to verbally participate in classroom discussions, and an interest in plants. This is a LOWER LEVEL course targeted to students with an interest in plants but little practical experience.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Help students’ develop critical thinking and problem solving skills.
Improve students’ written communication skills.
Demonstrate a working knowledge of the various areas of horticulture.
Recognize plant growth processes and how environmental changes impact plants.
Understand basic plant anatomy and the role it plays in plant adaptation and survival.
Successfully gain hands-on experience with plants in the greenhouse and garden.

COURSE FORMAT:
Monday & Wednesday lectures meet in 2-7 Agriculture Building
Friday hands-on activities (usually in greenhouse 25*)
* Note - there will be several dates we will meet at different locations on campus; locations will be announced in lecture and posted on Blackboard.

ASSIGNMENTS:
All assignments MUST BE TYPED unless otherwise announced.
Handwritten assignments will not be accepted; = zero (0) points.
Assignments are due at the beginning of class, not the end. After class begins, it’s late.
Late penalty assessment is minus 15% per day, including Sat & Sun.
Assignments 3 or more days late will NOT be accepted.
ATTENDANCE:
To succeed in any course, especially this course, students must attend and participate. Lecture attendance will be randomly taken throughout the semester. Missed lecture attendance points CANNOT be made up, regardless of the reason for the absence.

Attendance will be taken every Friday! Students anticipating an absence during one of the Friday hands-on activities may request permission to make-up the missed activities. An Absence Request Form must be submitted at least 7 days prior to the requested absence date. Dr. Gowdy will evaluate submitted requests and notify students via e-mail if their request has been approved or denied. An approved makeup must be completed within 7 days of the absence and will be scheduled by the course TA or Dr. Gowdy.

* Note - several of the Friday hands-on activities involve outside guests who have agreed to meet with our class for a single event. It’s unfortunate, but anyone missing these specific Fridays will NOT be able to make-up the missed points, even if the absence was excused.

EXAMS:
Exams are cumulative and the format will be a combination of true-false, id, and short answer essay questions. Students will be tested on information from all components of the course; lecture, hands-on activities, guest speakers, textbook, articles and web sites.

Make up exams are rarely given. Students missing class on an exam day MIGHT be granted permission by Dr. Gowdy to take the exam EARLY. Early examinations can be oral exams, written exams, or a combination of both.

Makeup exams are only given in the case of extreme emergencies and will be determined on a case by case basis at the discretion of Dr. Gowdy. Written documentation explaining a students un-excused absence on test day will be required. An un-excused absence on test day earns zero points - no exceptions!!

COURSE COMPONENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hourly exams(2)</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Quizzes</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. assignments</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hands-on (labs)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture Attendance</td>
<td>100</td>
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TOTAL POINTS: 1050 points*

*Total points may vary due to unforeseen circumstances throughout the semester. However, the grading scale WILL NOT VARY regardless of the total course points.
GRADING SCALE  (DOES NOT VARY POINTS):
  A+  = above 98% of total course points
  A   = 93 - 97%
  A-  = 90 - 92%
  B+  = 88 - 89% of total course points
  B   = 83 - 87%
  B-  = 80 - 82%
  C+  = 78 - 79% of total course points
  C   = 73 - 77%
  C-  = 70 - 72%
  D+  = 68 - 69% of total course points
  D   = 63 - 67%
  D-  = 60 - 62%
  F   = less than 60% of total course points

ADA SPECIAL NEEDS:
If you need accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform me immediately. Please see me privately after class, or at my office, 1-55 Ag Building.

To request academic accommodations (for example, a notetaker), students must register with the Office of Disability Services, (http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu/), S5 Memorial Union, 882-4696. It is the campus office responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting academic accommodations, and for accommodations planning in cooperation with students and instructors, as needed and consistent with course requirements. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:
Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful.

The academic community regards breaches of the academic integrity rules as extremely serious matters. Sanctions for such a breach may include academic sanctions from the instructor, including failing the course for any violation, to disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of cheating, consult the course instructor.

INTELLECTUAL PLURALISM:
The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student rights. Students who have questions concerning the quality of instruction in this class may address concerns to either the Divisional Director of the Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities, (http://osrr.missouri.edu/). All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor(s) at the end of the course.

The decision to succeed is YOURS
YOU are responsible for making wise choices