Ornamental Crops Production
Plant Science 4365

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Mary Ann Gowdy
1-49 Ag Bldg
882-1014
GowdyM@missouri.edu

GH MANAGER: Michelle Brooks
GH 20-12
882-3287
BrooksM@missouri.edu

LOCATION: Lecture meets M, W, F from 9-9:50am in room 3-24 Ag building. Lab will usually meet in greenhouse 25, but on a few occasions we might meet at other locations. You will be notified via Blackboard if lab meets anywhere other than gh 25. It’s strongly recommended that you regularly check Blackboard and e-mail.

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays & Thursdays 1-3pm or by appointment. Please contact me via e-mail to schedule an appointment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: To expose you to the inputs required to produce quality ornamental crops in a greenhouse. To prepare you for management positions at greenhouses, nurseries and garden centers. To strengthen your communication skills.

COURSE FORMAT: Group discussions focused on business practices, marketing topics, production techniques and post production handling of typical greenhouse crops. A major emphasis will be placed on helping you learn to solve complex problems and develop applicable solutions for the problems.

Labs will be dedicated to providing you with the maximum amount of hands on production experience possible. You will be growing a variety of greenhouse crops and will be responsible for the daily care of these crops. We teach you professional practices and techniques; use them in a prudent and timely manner. Daily crop care is worth 10 points per day. The greenhouses are open from 7:30-4:00 pm M-F and daily grading will be done promptly at 4:00 pm each day. You are not required to care for your crops on weekends, holidays and official university breaks. Under special circumstances, and with Dr Gowdy’s prior approval, the greenhouse staff will provide plant care during an excused absence.

TEXT: None

COURSE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE: Blackboard (http://courses.missouri.edu) will be utilized. Please make sure you are familiar with Blackboard and are competent at using the Digital Dropbox. Documents submitted to the Dropbox must be either Word or WordPerfect files. Other file formats cannot be read and will receive zero points, no exceptions.

CLASSROOM DECORUM: This is an upper division course and you are expected to behave as a mature professional. You are to arrive on time, be cooperative, respectful, and voluntarily contribute to the discussions. Because so much of running a successful business is dependent on communication and team work, disrespectful comments or attitudes will not be tolerated. Cell phones must be turned off during class.
ATTENDANCE: Learning occurs by hearing, seeing, reading, problem solving and doing. Dedicated students will benefit from the randomly taken lecture attendances during the semester. Attendance will be taken every week in lab. Excused laboratory absences are rarely granted. In the event of an excused lab absence, you must make up the missed activities within one week of the absence.

EXAMS & ASSIGNMENTS: Exams will be problem based essay type. Greenhouse problems or situations will be given and you will be asked to present management strategy or solution to the situation. Exams and quizzes will be open book / open note and you may utilize any materials deemed useful. Unannounced pop quizzes will be given during lecture or via Blackboard. Quizzes are viewed as tools to reinforce subject matter discussed in class and to insure that you keep up with course materials. They are also useful study guides for exams. All exams and quizzes are comprehensive.

Assignments, both take home and in class, will be given throughout the semester. These will generally be short calculations, crop scheduling problems, cost calculations or formulating materials and supply lists. These assignments are short and will be due the following class period.

COURSE COMPONENTS:

Mid-term exam................................. 200 points
Comprehensive final exam.............. 350 points
Greenhouse crop care..................... 650 points
Assignments................................. 400 points
Attendance (lab & lecture) ............. 150 points
Crop Notebook............................. 150 points
Total ........................................... 1900 points

GRADING SCALE:

≥ 98 % = A+
93-97% = A
90-92% = A-
88-89% = B+
83-87% = B
80-82% = B-
78-79% = C+
73-77% = C
70-72% = C-
68-69% = D+
63-67% = D
60-62% = D-
#59%  = F
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, 1-49 Agriculture Building. To request academic accommodations (for example, a notetaker or extended time on exams), students must also 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 or concerns regarding the atmosphere in this class (including respect for diverse opinions) may contact the Departmental Chair or Divisional Director; the Director of the Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities (http://osrr.missouri.edu/); or the MU Equity Office (http://equity.missouri.edu/), or by email at equity@missouri.edu. All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor(s) at the end of the course.

We are here to mentor and guide you

YOU Are In Control Of Your Successes