

Landscape Plant Installation & Management

Hort- 331 Syllabus

WSU - Spring 2020

Instructors :

Carol Kawula

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If you would like to discuss anything related to the class or other issues, please set up an appointment with me by asking before class or by e-mail or phone

Class Meeting

- 9:10-10:00 Monday and Wednesday
Johnson Hall CO 105

Lab Meeting

- Thursday 1:25-4:05
Vogel PSB 31
- Friday: 10:10-1:00
Vogel PSB 39

Course Text

- There is no textbook required for this course. Required readings will be posted on the blackboard class site: learn.wsu.edu

Course Introduction



Welcome to Landscape Plant Installation and Management

Managing and maintaining a landscape correctly is not a simple process. Many landscapes fail or do not progress properly due to poor installation practices or poor management practices.

What you learn in this class will help you evaluate the impacts of landscape installation and management practices on the health and longevity of the landscape. The skills you learn in this class will benefit you for your entire life whether you choose to work in the green industry as a landscape manager, installer, landscape architect, instructor, researcher or any other related endeavor.

At the end of the course, you should be able to look at landscapes with a critical eye and be able to see both possibilities and problems within specific areas. My goal is for you to experience and understand many landscape practices and their impacts upon creating and sustaining a landscape for years to come.

Course Description

Principles & practices for installation & management of exterior landscape plantings, with emphasis on woody plants, specifications, site preparation, transplanting, growth control, and diagnosis of problems.

Students will learn the basics of site preparation, layout and plant installation. Students will also learn horticultural practices to maintain a landscape so that it will thrive today and in the future. This includes an understanding of site assessment, pruning, transplanting, dividing, problem diagnosis, irrigation and fertilization of both young and mature landscapes. Landscape companies and groundskeepers spend a great deal of time estimating materials and labor. We will use landscape plans to learn these processes. We will focus on incorporating sustainable management practices whenever possible.

The learning process will happen through visual lectures, group discussion, group projects, assignments and hands-on labs. You will be assessed through tests, assignments and discussions. Active participation in this course is vital to your success.

My desire is for every student to learn, succeed, and have a great experience. I am here to help and encourage you! If you are struggling, you need to contact me as soon as possible.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Describe the biological basis for plant responses to environmental conditions and common landscape practices
 2. Assess the needs of young and mature landscapes
 3. Work off a landscape plan and develop management cost estimations
 4. Understand the process of a landscape installation including site preparation, layout of plant material, planting and establishment
 5. Identify the different plant groups and know how to maintain and control their growth
 6. Transplant and divide plants and reestablish them
 7. Understand the complexities involved with fertilizers and be able to compute the proper fertilizer calculations for turf and planting beds
 8. Identify pest, disease, or climatic factors that cause problems and understand how to find solutions
 9. Maximize sustainability throughout the installation and management of landscapes
 10. Recognize how to compute the economic value of specific plants
 11. Understand different irrigation systems used in landscaping and the basic parts of an irrigation system.
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Blackboard on-line Supplement

My line of communication with you throughout the semester is through blackboard. This is where you go to find due dates for assignments and tests. If you miss a class, you can find out what you missed. I post power point presentations, grades, assignments and announcements onto blackboard. To be successful in this class, you must routinely check blackboard: learn.wsu.blackboard All students enrolled in this course should be automatically placed in blackboard.

Course Grades

Grades will be determined from:

Participation -	100 points
Comprehensive Exams –	400 points
Individual Assignments, lab work –	145 points
Group Project reports and presentation -	100 points
Total Points:	745

Points	Percent	Grade
692 -745	93 - 100	A
670-691	90 - 92.9	A-
648-669	87 - 89.9	B+
618-647	83 - 86.9	B
596-617	80 - 82.9	B-
573-595	77 - 79.9	C+
543-572	73 - 76.9	C
521-542	70 - 72.9	C-
499-520	67 - 69.9	D+
469-498	63 - 66.9	D

Grades will be posted on Blackboard: learn.wsu.edu

Participation – 100 total points

55 points: 4 participation points will be assigned each week: 1 pt. / lecture and 2 pts /lab. If you attend and complete lecture/ lab and participate with a good attitude and willingness to learn, you will receive a full 4 points for participation each week. If you attend part of a lecture/ lab and leave early or do not participate, you will not receive full points. If you are absent you will receive zero points. There are 15 full weeks in the semester; I am only counting 14 weeks. **45** participation points will be assigned for regular and high quality participation with your assigned group members to create your Group Project Reports (45 possible: 15 per report) You will submit forms detailing your contribution and the contribution of each group member.

Comprehensive Exams – 300 points: There will be 4 comprehensive exams worth 400 pts each. These will usually take place during lab periods. All exams must be taken on the day of the exam. If you know you will have to miss an exam, I can make arrangements for you to take it early without it affecting your grade. Exceptions may be made to this policy if the student is in good standing in the class and participates regularly. **If your final exam score exceeds your lowest test then that test score will Be replaced with the same score as your final exam.**

Exam	Date (subject to change as reported in class)
Comprehensive exam 1	Thursday Feb. 6, 2020
Comprehensive exam 2	Thursday March 5 th , 2020
Comprehensive exam 3	Thursday April 2, 2020
Comprehensive final exam	Monday May 4, 2020 8:00 – 10:00

Individual and Lab Assignments (145 pts) :

Individual and lab assignments will be given throughout the semester. Some will take place in lab and others outside of class. These will coincide with lectures to solidify concepts.

Outside class assignments:

#	INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENTS	Due	Pts
A	Chapter 1	January 22	5
B	Chapter 2	January 27	10
1	Information searches	January 30	20
2	Questions on assigned articles	February 10	25
3	Journal of observations of landscape practices	April 27	25
	Tailgate talk – presentation	varies	25

Group Project: 100 points:

Throughout this semester, you will prepare three Group Project Reports, using a specific tree as an example. You will be assigned to one group and one tree for the entire semester. You may often work in groups after graduation, so this should help you prepare for that. In addition, you can learn from other students. Group members can specialize in activities related to their strengths and help others understand what they know.

To get the most out of group activities, all group members are expected to contribute actively and positively in all Group Project Reports. Your group will develop guidelines to organize how you will work together and share information.

Each Group Project will receive a score, and that score is normally given to all students in the group. To encourage all group members to contribute to each Project and to reflect major differences in effort (should they occur), each student will be given individual Participation points (see above). In the unlikely event that a student contributes very little to the Group Project, that student could be assigned a reduced Group Project score, and the score could be as low as zero.

Your Reports will have information to use for future reference. They must be well organized, thorough, accurate, and supported by scholarly references. They should make sense without the Project directions (i.e. do not just address numbered items, in order, as though you are answering exam questions). The Report must include appropriate headings and subheadings, so that you and the instructor can easily and quickly find information. Reports must be typed and use complete sentences, proper grammar, and correct spelling. You must also show where you found ALL information in the Report by using a standard citation format that completely references the sources of information you use.

Late Group Project Report scores will be reduced by 2 points for each day past the due date.

Group report	Due dates	Group Report pts
1. Tree & site study	Jan. 22, Jan. 29, Feb. 5, and Feb. 20	1, 8, 10, 15
2. Economic value	March 1, March 11, and March 31	8, 10, 15
3. Pruning	April 6, April 16, and April 30	8, 10, 15

Expectations for students in this class

Be a positive, contributing member of the class. You are expected to act in a manner that will facilitate your learning as well as others' learning. Come to class prepared. Share your knowledge and experiences with the class. Do not disrupt or prevent the learning of others. Listen with respect. Enjoy learning!

Attend and actively participate regularly. Participation is important for learning. In this class, you will often work in groups. Students cannot learn effectively when others are not engaged. Be an asset to your group. If you must miss class or lab, find out what we did and ask for handouts.

If you are sick and contagious, please **do not come to class and infect others**. If you are sick, I would appreciate being formed by e-mail, but I do **not** need any documentation of your illness. There is no process for adjusting grades due to illnesses. For most students, the potential loss of points is minor and does not affect the final grade. If you are concerned about your situation, please make an appointment to see me.

Do not take credit for others' work. Academic dishonesty, in any form, including plagiarizing, is deplorable. If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing, you will receive a zero for the activity, and it will be reported to your advisor and to the Office of Student Standards and Accountability. You may also be expelled from class. If I suspect you have cheated, I may assign a zero or I may ask you to redo the activity under different conditions.

Use electronic devices wisely. WSU is committed to fostering a learning friendly environment. Electronic communication devices can be detrimental to the learning environment. Therefore, cell phones must be turned off or put on silent/vibrate mode and NOT be visible without permission of the instructor. Calculators on cell phones may NOT be used during exams. **You will need a calculator for this class.** Other devices may be used for taking notes.

Follow class policies and instructions. Violations of class policies or instructor's instructions could result in losing privileges, such as the use of a computer to take notes, or in being expelled from classes or labs.

SAFETY: Safety will be enforced in this class. Safety for you and others is of utmost importance. There will be times when we will use hand tools, including shovels and saws. These can injure people if used inappropriately. Your full attention to safety instructions is MANDATORY. Risky behavior, such as carelessness or teasing (e.g. tossing snowballs at someone) WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. You could be dismissed from a class or lab. Having fun in this class is encouraged, but not at the expense of others.

"Washington State University is committed to maintaining a safe environment for its faculty, staff, and students. Safety is the responsibility of every member of the campus community and individuals should know the appropriate actions to take when an emergency arises." Please become familiar with: WSU Pullman Campus Safety Plan <safetyplan.wsu.edu> and WSU Emergency Management <oem.wsu.edu/emergencies>.

"Classroom and campus safety are of paramount importance at Washington State University, and are the shared responsibility of the entire campus population. WSU urges students to follow the "**Alert, Assess, Act**" protocol for all types of emergencies and the "[Run, Hide, Fight](#)" response for an active shooter incident. Remain **ALERT** (through direct observation or emergency notification), **ASSESS** your specific situation, and **ACT** in the most appropriate way to assure your own safety (and the safety of others if you are able)."

"Please sign up for emergency alerts on your account at [MyWSU](#). For more information on this subject, campus safety, and related topics, please view the [FBI's Run, Hide, Fight video](#) and visit the [WSU safety portal](#)."

DISABILITIES: Reasonable accommodations are available for a student with a disability on file at the WSU Access Center: <accesscenter.wsu.edu/>. **Contact Carol Kawula at least one week before each exam** to ensure proper accommodations are available. See Carol Kawula if you have any questions.

Course Topics

Intro – what is landscape installation and management?
Structure and function of woody plants: (including dormancy, juvenility, physiology, and anatomy)
Estimating landscape management services
L. Design and site management
Assessing a landscape
Specifications/ contracts
Sustainability and landscape management
Pruning
Plant layout / Planting
Transplanting/dividing
Fertilizing
Establishment (after care)

Turf grass types and management
Irrigation systems and management

*This syllabus is your contract for this class. Please read it thoroughly and contact me if you have any questions or concerns about the class. **The instructor reserves the right to adjust this syllabus as the semester progresses. Any change will be communicated to students at the time the change is made.***

