OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY ECAMPUS
HORT 315 LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE, CONSERVATION & RESTORATION

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Course Content/Description: For Students who move on to a career in landscape field horticulture this is a critical and highly practical course. One needs only look around at the ‘typical landscape’ to realize the disconnect that exists between homeowners and the world outside their abode. There is to say the least an incoherent vision based upon icons and artifacts that have little relevance to a sustainable landscape in the 21st century. We will explore sensible ways to maintain plants in the environment with the least amount of input. We will also develop our critical thinking processes to understand when a plant should simply be removed and one should start over again.

Student Learning Outcomes: Landscape maintenance is the science, craft and art of keeping an exterior often clearly delineated environment under control. That control at times is subjective, contrived and often capricious. Modifying ones landscape has been an active part of what constitutes being human for several millennia. From the purely functional to purely aesthetic to replicating an ecosystem and everything in between there is a diverse vision that is certainly influenced by context. While I always encourage students to look at the bigger picture we will cover a substantial amount of relevant and practical kinesthetic processes. This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn how to:

• Generate an understanding of basic landscape maintenance procedures appropriate for the PNW and other parts of the country.
• Explain basic growth and development processes of deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs.
• Demonstrate how to prune and train young landscape trees and shrubs both deciduous and evergreen.
• How to properly plant trees and shrubs, what fertilizer and soil amendments to use, staking procedures and post planting care which is often critical in terms of a plants survival.
• Protect native ecosystems in the urban and rural-urban fringe.
• Promote conservation and restoration in the landscape venue.

Learning Resources:

• Required Texts: Gilman, E.F., 2011, An Illustrated Guide to Pruning 3rd ed. Delmar publishing. I was in the field for 27 years before coming to academia and this is ‘the’ best book on pruning trees I have seen to date.
• This URL www.cengagebrain.com/isbn/9781111307301 will link you with the publisher and enable you to purchase just the chapters assigned in Gilman.
• Brickell, C.B., Joyce, D. 2011 The American Horticultural Society Pruning and Training, DK Publishing. This book covers over 800 plants and how to prune them along with chapters on general plant care in the landscape. Make sure you get the newly revised and updated version.
• Required Readings: As assigned by instructor

Textbook Information: NOTE: For textbook accuracy, please always check the textbook list at the OSU Bookstore website (http://osubeaverstore.com/). Sample syllabi may not have the most up to date textbook information!

Evaluation of Student Performance:

Grading Requirements:

Discussion Board Participation 300 points or 30%
Each week’s content will include one or more discussion pages to further online learning from lectures or readings from the week. Everyone brings something to offer to the class, whether it is personal experience, insight into the readings or a unique perspective.

Exams 300 points or 30%
There will be two midterms each worth 150 points. The second midterm will not be cumulative. Exams will not be proctored.
Final Project 300 points or 30%
The final project will involve constructing a comprehensive landscape management plan for your backyard.

Plant of the Week 100 points or 10%
Every week you will pick one plant, have it identified, determine whether it has been used appropriately, theorize the maintenance regime and whether that meets the goals for the plant as an element in the landscape. See separate document for an example of expected data.

Grading Distribution:

A (940-1000), A- (900-939), B+ (870-899), B (830-869), B- (800-829), C+ (770-799), C (730-769), C- (700-729), D+ (670-699), D (630-669), D- (600-629), F (599 and lower)

Tentative Course Schedule of Topics and Assignments

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<th>Lab/demonstration/video</th>
<th>Reading Assignments</th>
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Course Policies:

- All assignments are due by the time and date assigned unless stated otherwise. To receive full credit assignments must be turned in on time.
- Students are expected to be full participants in their own learning. This is not a format that is instructor centric, rather it is fueled by student interaction. This person to person assimilation and sharing of knowledge is more typical of the work environment.
- Make up exams or late project due dates are granted only under extraordinary circumstances. Certainly the best advice is to keep up with the assignments and readings. If you are new to an online course this may require being more organized and disciplined.

Plagiarism

You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board and other communications. Clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F.” Link to Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct: http://oregonstate.edu/studentconduct/regulations/index.php#acdis

Students with Disabilities

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Students with accommodations approved through SSD are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through SSD should contact SSD immediately at 541-737-4098

Student Evaluation of Teaching

We encourage you to engage in the course evaluation process each term – online, of course. The evaluation form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions through ONID. You will login to “Student Online Services” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted.