Horticultural Sciences and Practices, Honors Section Course Syllabus

Instructor:

Dr. Patricia Klein, Associate Professor of Horticulture

Course Description: *Horticultural Sciences and Practices* is a 3 credit hour course with 2 weekly class meetings. The course describes the structure, growth, and development of horticultural plants from both practical and scientific approaches. Topics presented include basic anatomy, physiology, morphology, genetics, and biotechnology of horticultural plants, environmental effects on plant growth and development, basic principles of propagation, nutrition, and pest control.

Class Meetings: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:10-12:25 am, Room 101 Horticulture Forest Science Building

Instructor's Office Hours: Arranged by appointment. Appointments may be scheduled after class or by phone/email contact. I respond to email within 1-2 days.

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Course Objectives: Horticultural Sciences and Practices presents the fundamental concepts of plant structure, growth, and development using horticultural plants as models. An introduction to the basics of plant biology, physiology, reproduction, and genetics and how these functions are affected by environmental, chemical and mechanical manipulation will be presented. Students will make a presentation on a topic of their choice that relates to the field of Horticulture. Specifically, the course will:

1. Familiarize students with basic terminology, and the structure/function relationships of plant tissue and organ systems;
2. Acquaint students with the basic physiological and genetic mechanisms involved in plant growth and development throughout the entire life cycle from seed germination to plant senescence;
3. Explore the ways humankind has developed to manipulate growth and development of horticultural plants for food production and beautification of interior environments and landscapes;
4. Develop skills in researching a topic and presenting the information in a form for others to use; topics will include contemporary issues that impact horticulture such as biotechnology, world food problems, natural resource conservation, global warming, and sustainable production systems.

Required Text: *Science and the Garden - The Scientific Basis of Horticultural Practice*, 2nd Edition. DS Ingram, D Vince-Prue and PJ Gregory (eds). Blackwell Publishing, 2008. ISBN: 978-1-4051-6063-6. Other readings from texts, periodicals, and computer reference resources will be assigned if needed.

Attendance: A sign-in sheet will be provided to record attendance which will account for 5% of the total grade. Make sure to sign-in before you leave class each day.

Exams and Grading		Total Points = 500 points
Attendance	5%	25 points
Quizzes (5)	5%	25 points (5 points each)
Exams (2)	40%	200 points (100 points each)
Project Presentation	20%	100 points
Assignments and Worksheets	5%	25 points (5 points each)
Final Exam (cumulative)	25%	125 points

Grading Scale: 10 point scale, A = 90-100; B = 80-89, etc. Your grade will be based on your mathematical average rounded to the next whole number; there is no curve on final grades or outside/extra work for extra credit.

Quizzes and Make-Up Exams: Quizzes and make-up exams will **only** be given for official University excused absences. Read the Student Rules at http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07 to see what constitutes a University excused absence and the official policy relating to make-up exams for these absences. I must be informed within 48h of missing the exam or quiz.

Late Assignments: Late assignments are penalized at a rate of 10% loss in points per day late including weekends.

Changes in Schedule: The instructor reserves the right to change the order and content of lectures as necessary. Group discussion and exam dates (excluding the final) may be changed by the instructor, but at least 5 days notice will be given.

Aggie Code of Honor: *"An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do."*

Students are expected to attend all classes, complete assignments on time, and participate fully in class discussions and group projects. Violations will be handled in accordance with the Texas A&M University Regulations governing academic integrity, which are outlined at the Aggie Honor System web page http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor. Please refer to the TAMU website on Plagiarism and Scholastic Dishonesty for resources and a detailed explanation of what constitutes plagiarism. Students are expected to complete all assignments individually, unless instructed otherwise by me - this includes worksheets!

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AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination statue that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities in Room 126 of the Koldus Building, or call 845-1637.