



Syllabus

HRT 150 Herbaceous Plant Materials

General Information

Date

March 20th, 2019

Author

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Department

Conservation

Course Prefix

HRT

Course Number

150

Course Title

Herbaceous Plant Materials

Course Information

Credit Hours

3

Lecture Contact Hours

2

Lab Contact Hours

2

Other Contact Hours

0

Catalog Description

This course integrates classroom and hands-on learning towards the identification and utilization of herbaceous annual, biennial, and perennial plants - native and non-indigenous – in commercial and residential ornamental landscapes as well as the horticulture industry at large, emphasizing plant anatomy, taxonomic identification, culture requirements, landscape value, proper placement and care, and seasonal interest within gardens and the broader landscape. Students will develop recognition skills of commonly used herbaceous plants in Northeast gardens and planted landscapes according to their scientific classification and, with their new found academic knowledge of said plants, develop plant selection skills – assembling best-fit plants for garden/landscape application based on plant aesthetics, ecology, and sustainability. Classroom learning will be reinforced by practical experiences at local and regional botanic gardens.

Prerequisites

None

Co-requisites

None

Grading Scheme

Letter

First Year Experience/Capstone Designation

This course DOES NOT satisfy the outcomes applicable for status as a FYE or Capstone.

SUNY General Education

This course is designated as satisfying a requirement in the following SUNY Gen Ed category

None

FLCC Values

Institutional Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course

None

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Define and give examples of relevant terms as they relate to herbaceous annual, biennial, and perennial plant material.
2. Identify herbaceous plants using classification criteria (e.g., seasonal characteristics, cultural needs, and landscape uses).
3. Apply an identification scheme (e.g., health, leaf arrangement, flower type and morphology) to differentiate herbaceous plants with similar characteristics.
4. Recommend herbaceous material based on a variety of aesthetic needs and observed cultural conditions.

Program Affiliation

This course is not required as a core course in a program

Outline of Topics Covered

- I. Introduction to Plant Classification, Morphology, and Vocabulary
 - a. Nomenclature and taxonomy
 - b. Flower and leaf types as well as associated morphological characteristics
 - c. Common descriptive terms utilized in botany and, at large, plant identification to compare and contrast families and specific taxa based on growth habit, morphology, and life cycle.
- II. Introduction to Herbaceous Plants: Ecology and Sustainable utilization
 - a. Monocots versus dicots
 - b. Differentiate by life cycle
 - i. Annual, biennial, and perennial
 - c. Plant selection criteria
 - i. Planting and flowering times
 - ii. Site considerations
 1. Light and exposure
 2. Soil (drainage, pH, nutrient availability, texture)

- 3. Hardiness zone
 - iii. Native versus non-native
 - iv. Pests and disease
 - v. Utilization strategies
 - 1. Pollinator attractants
 - 2. Native plant landscapes
 - 3. Aesthetics
- III. Identification and Culture of Herbaceous Plants in Residential and Commercial landscapes
 - a. Plant Lists
 - i. Spring and summer annuals and biennials
 - ii. Sun perennials (minus grasses)
 - iii. Shade perennials (minus grasses)
 - iv. Groundcover perennials
 - v. Grasses and Sedges