

COURSE OUTLINE

PLSC-105
Woody Plants
3 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

Woody Plants is an introductory course for nursery and landscape purposes and also covers plants found in arboretums, forests and fields in various regions of the United States. The purpose is to provide a practical understanding of woody plant characteristics so students can relate knowledge taught to the field of ornamental horticulture. A study of plant taxonomy, groupings, plant material terminology and data, and an introduction to plant ecology constitute course topics. Prerequisite: PLSC-101. (2 hours lecture, 2 hours lab)

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify samples of over 140 different woody plants by genus, species, any varietal name, and common name.
2. Distinguish the taxonomic categories for plants.
3. Identify the cultural needs of plants.
4. Evaluate, using the principles of ecology and plant associations, practical solutions for plant culture, conservation and landscape design.
5. Describe specific woody plants as they are seen in their native habitat or, in the case of hybrids or clones, their origin. Indicate how they would appear in nurseries, in planting designs and as mature specimens.
6. Select plant materials for solutions to functional and aesthetic landscape design problems.
7. Cite in some detail the many contributions of plants in ecology, medicine, history, economics and aesthetics.

Major Topics

- I. Woody Plant Identification
- II. Morphological Characteristics of Plants
- III. Microclimate Needs of Individual Plants
- IV. Hardiness
- V. Culture
- VI. Taxonomy
- VII. Plants Contribution
- VIII. Design Consideration
- IX. Flowers, Fruit, Seeds
- X. Fall Color
- XI. Bark Characteristics

- XII. Sources of Plants
- XIII. Insects and Disease
- XIV. Origin

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include field trips on selected Saturdays, exams, and quizzes.

Other Course Information

This course is a core course in the Plant Science certificate program.