

# **COURSE OUTLINE**

**PLSC-107**

**Landscape and Grounds Maintenance**

3 Semester Hours

## **HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

### **Description**

The student should be able to develop a complete grounds management program which will include equipment, supplies, manpower, scheduling and costs. Emphasis will be placed on care and cultural practices of trees, shrubs and other plants; professional maintenance; amenities; and selection of equipment. Economical maintenance and improvement of site installations will be stressed. Typical tasks include care of plants, shrubs and equipment on both public and private property. (2 hours lecture, 2 hours lab)

### **Overall Course Objectives**

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

1. Maintain turf on home lawns, athletic fields, parks and commercial areas.
2. Identify the common environmental stress, site and cultural problems of plants in the landscape.
3. Learn maintenance and selection of trees, shrubs, and bedding plants for a healthy landscape.
4. Provide weed control for ornamentals in the landscape.
5. Specify and maintain some of the many irrigation options for landscapes.
6. Identify the common pests and installation problems of landscape and bedding plants.
7. Apply integrated pest management strategies for pest control.
8. Understand the principles of water garden maintenance.
9. Evaluate procedures for customer relations and handling complaints.
10. Formulate competitive bidding, pricing and job estimating.

### **Major Topics**

- I. Turf Care
  - A. Mowing
  - B. Fertilization
  - C. Irrigation
  - D. Weed Control
  - E. Renovation
  - F. Seeding
  - G. Sodding
- II. Soil, Site and Environmental Problems
- III. Planting and Pruning Procedures
- IV. Introduction to Insect and Disease Problems and IPM Practices
- V. The Importance of Proper Plant Selection
- VI. Tree, Shrub, Bedding Plant and Groundcover Maintenance

- VII. Weed Control Principles
- VIII. Irrigation Principles
- IX. Water Gardens
- X. Bidding and Pricing Strategies

### **Course Requirements**

Grading/Exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will be based on lecture exams, quizzes and a lab practical.

### **Other Course Information**

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