MSU-Bottineau Course Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Title:

PLSC 265/ Herbaceous Landscape Plants 2012

Course Description:

Herbaceous Landscape Plants involves the study of Herbaceous Ornamental Plants such as flowering annuals, biennials, perennials, bulbous plants and herbs. Consideration is given to methods of propagation, adaptability and landscape value. Garden insects and diseases are also covered. Students will be expected to identify various plants by Family, Common Name and Genus species.

Course Objectives:
Students will be expected to be competent in the following areas.

1. Study and identify Herbaceous plant families and individual plants.
2. Study growth requirements such as proper soil mixtures and watering techniques for growing bedding plants in the greenhouse and outdoors.
3. Study identification and control of common greenhouse and garden insects and diseases
4. Study plant maintenance
5. Study and plan different types of flowerbeds. (Students will be required to prepare a scaled plan for two types of flowerbeds. 1. A home mixed bed or border and 2. A formal plan that could be used in a public gardening situation such as MSU-Bottineau's campus or the International Peace Garden.)

Instructor:
Diann Beckman

Office:
Molberg Center Rm. 20
Office Hours:
MWF 8-9am/ M 1-2pm/ T 9-10am/ F 10-11am
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diann.beckman@dakotacollege.edu
Lecture/Lab Schedule:
MWF 9:00-9:50 Lab W 3:00 – 4:50
Molberg Center Room 28 **Labs will meet in the greenhouse**

Textbook(s):
Armitage's Manual of Annuals, Biennials and Half-Hardy Perennials
Timber Press -Published in 2002
ISBN 0-88192-505-5

Course Requirements:
Herbaceous Landscape Plants will include, lecture and discussion, slides and videos, field trips, weekly labs, a mid-term and a final lab project.

Mid-Term Lab Project
Each student will be required to choose a plant that they are interested in, research it and develop a power-point presentation about the plant and its landscape value. You will be required to give your presentation to the class in lab on week 11. (100 points)
Final Lab Project
Each student will be required to photograph 100 herbaceous plant specimens, identify, and compile cultural information of each plant and put it into book form or power point presentation. This will develop a valuable resource for you to expand on later as you become more familiar with the vast array of plants available to the landscaper today. (500 points)
Testing
There will be seven one hour lecture exams covering plant identification and cultural information pertaining to growing bedding plants. (100 points each)
Lab Test
At the end of week four there will be a comprehensive lab test covering all the plants on campus. You will be required to know the common name of all the plants (This is between 150 and 175 plants)

Flowerbed design
Week 13 – 16
Students will study flowerbed design. Students will be required to develop two flowerbeds (one home bed -50 points and one formal design that could be used in a public gardens -100 points)
Grading formula
90%-100% = A, 80%-90% =B, 70%-80%=C, 60%-70%=D, Below 60% F
Incompletes will be given only with prior approval
Tentative Course Outline: (This may vary somewhat depending on the weather)
Week one
Introduction to plant identification
Pre-test on plant identification

Week two
Plant identification of Campus plants (Be prepared to be outside! We will be out identifying plants by site, touch and smell for the next few weeks. Dress for the weather).

Week Three
Plant Identification (Field trip to the International Peace Garden)

Week Four
Plant Identification and Lab test (Common Names of all campus plants)

Week Five
Cultural information of plants from list #1

Week Six
Cultural information of plants from list #1

Week Seven
Test from Plant list # 1
Cultural information of plants from list #2

Week Eight
Cultural Information from plant list #2

Week Nine
Test from Plant list # 2
Cultural information from plant list #3

Week Ten
Cultural information from plant list #3

Week Eleven
Test from plant list three
Cultural information from plant list #4

Week Twelve
Cultural information from plant list #4

Week Thirteen
Test from plant list #4
Cultural information from plant list #5

Week Fourteen
Cultural information from plant list #5

Week Fifteen
Test from Plant list #5
Cultural information from plant list #6

Week Sixteen
Test from list #6
Cultural information from plant list #7

Week Seventeen
Final plant test from list #7

Weekly Labs will cover the following topics
Plant identification
Lab identification test
Field trip to the International Peace Garden
Overwintering tender bulbous type plants
Division of perennials
Preparing a perennial bed for winter
Garden trends
Forcing bulbs
Oral/power point plant presentation
Flowerbed planning
Final lab projects
The selection of herbaceous plants is endless! This class can only scratch the surface. My hope is that it will create an awareness of the plants that surround us and make you sit up and take notice and catch flower gardening fever!!! Once you have it, you will continually be searching for something new and interesting to try!!!

Relationship to Campus Theme: Nature, Technology and Beyond
All aspects of horticulture develop a student's appreciation for nature and the materials that Mother Nature and Technology have given us to enjoy and create beauty with. Because of the vast product selection available to us, we as horticulturists can make this world a better place to live

Classroom Policies:
Reading the book is the student's responsibility. As we are studying the flowers, you need to find them in your book and read what Mr. Armitage has to say. He is the premier herbaceous plants expert in the US and his knowledge is amazing. His writing is an easy read!

Academic Integrity:
Students are expected to perform their own work, any plagiarism or cheating will result in an automatic F for the project.

Disabilities and Special Needs:
Please inform me within the first week of class of any assistance that may be required because of a disability or special need.