



South Portland, Maine 04106

Horticulture Department

Title: Woody Plant Materials

Catalog Numbers:

Credit Hours: 2 HORT 110-21

Tuesday 12:30 -2:15; 2:30-5:30

Total Contact Hours: Lecture/ Lab: 60 hrs

Instructor: Dave Palm

Phone: (207) 741-5877 E-mail: dpalm@smccME.edu

Office Hours

Tues 11:30-12:15

Please refrain from asking in- depth questions right before class begins. I welcome appointments for more detailed conversation and advisement with course work. I encourage communication via email, especially if you need to contact me regarding class attendance or assignment and exam information

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description

This course focuses on the identification, selection, uses and culture of trees, shrubs, groundcovers and vines mainly in the northern New England landscape. Native and introduced or exotic plants are discussed, with an emphasis on the identification and selection of plants appropriate to various sites encountered in the urban and rural landscape. Field trips are required.

ALWAYS WEAR OR BRING APPROPRIATE CLOTHING AS WELL AS COMFORTABLE SHOES, WE WILL BE WALKING THROUGHOUT THE CAMPUS DURING A MAJORITY OF THE CLASS.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course you will:

1. Be able to identify each of the plants studied by its scientific and common names.
2. Learn selected cultivars of species.
3. Learn the cultural requirements of the identified plants.
4. Learn techniques of pruning and planting woody plants.
5. Understand the uses of woody plants in varying landscape situations.
6. Learn to make informed decisions on the selection of appropriate woody plant materials in the landscape.
7. Learn the important insect and disease problems of woody plants and their management.
8. Research and report on one plant of interest, discussing important species characteristics and uses in natural and developed landscapes.

Topical Outline of Instruction

Each week you will be given a list of selected woody plants from the Maine Certified Landscape and Nursery Professional examination. The list for the following week's plants will be given to you so that you can preview the plants and prepare yourself for the following week's class. Plants will be viewed as

living landscape or nursery specimens. Selected plants will be identified and discussed, emphasizing key identifying features and morphological characteristics, as well as uses in the natural and developed landscape and associated limitations to their use. Cultivar selection will be discussed. Additional topics will be taught, including current planting and plant maintenance recommendations, landscape design considerations, pruning techniques and environmentally safe pest management strategies in the landscape.

Required Text

Manual of Woody Landscape Plants. 2009. Michael Dirr 6th Ed. Stipes Publishing Co.
Latin for Gardeners ISBN 9780226009193 Lorraine Harrison

Required Materials

- Hand lens
- Waterproof paper
- Pencil for sketching
- Clipboard
- Rain gear (weather dependant)

Course Requirements and Evaluation

Classes will meet at Horticulture Department classroom unless otherwise noted in the previous class. There may be a number of field trips away from SMCC, but within the greater Portland area. For these field trips, with a few exceptions, we will meet as a group at a designated time, at the alternate location. It is your responsibility to arrive at the site **on time**. Directions will be provided in the previous class. **All classes will meet as scheduled rain or shine.**

Quizzes/Exams

Beginning the second week, there is a test of previous weeks' plants and/or material. The quiz/test will require that you know the complete scientific and common name of each plant displayed. Any plant from a previous list may be shown.

Data Sheets

You are required to make a notebook of data sheets for each species identified. You are **required** to have the following information on **each** card or sheet.

- Scientific/Botanical Name
- Common Name, Family and Origin
- Specific Epithet
- Leaf form and arrangement with drawing, photo or pressing of a leaf or representative identifying characteristic.
- Mature height and spread, form or shape of plant
- Hardiness/Zone
- Landscape use(s)
- Specific cultural requirements (e.g. sun, tolerates wet soils, etc.)
- Foliage description
- Fruit/flower description (sketch or photo)
- Specific pest concerns (if any)

You may wish to include additional characteristics if it helps you to recognize the plant and understand its traits, but it is not required. **All notebooks must be completed neatly and legibly.** Points will be deducted for unreadable or poorly organized cards. You are required to keep up with notebook, as they are a study tool. The datasheets will be reviewed periodically throughout the semester by instructor. **You will be graded on your progress.**

Grading

Weekly tests	~600 pts
Plant notebook	150 pts
Final examination	350 pts
Projects	200 pts
Total	~1300 pts

TIPS FOR SUCCESS IN THIS COURSE:

1. Review your data sheets often and walk to observe the plants we have used for ID. Stay current and review them often (between classes, during commercials, etc.). Many students attach pictures to their cards.
2. Save old plant catalogs. They're good sources for pictures, and some offer good information about plants' growth, use, cultural requirements, etc. (especially useful for newer introductions).
3. Some of the plants we'll be covering may *not* be found in your required text. In order to be prepared for quizzes and exams, and to provide the necessary information on your data sheets, you'll need to utilize additional sources—just be sure that your sources are reliable and current.
4. Anticipate 4-6 hours of study / homework for this class on a weekly basis
5. Form a study group
6. At risk of being redundant, complete your data sheets on a weekly basis!!

Text, Tools and / or Supplies

Manual of Woody Landscape Plants. 2009. Michael Dirr 6th Ed. Stipes Publishing Co.
Latin for Gardeners. 2012. Lorraine Harrison, University of Chicago Press
Additional readings and reference materials will be provided to you.

Required Materials

Hand lens
Waterproof paper
Pencil for sketching
Clipboard
Raingear(weather dependant)

Attendance Policy

Attendance is very important and students are expected to attend all scheduled classes. When you miss a class you will not only miss the quiz, you also miss the plants covered that week. This often results in a poor quiz score on the next week's quiz. If you miss 2 consecutive classes or 3 classes throughout the semester you may be dropped from course and given a AF. Poor attendance generally results in poor grades. Students having difficulties because of absenteeism should discuss this matter with me.

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11. Form a study group
12. At risk of being redundant, complete your data sheets on a weekly basis!!

End-of-Course Evaluation

Students complete evaluations for each course attended at SMCC. Evaluations are submitted online and can be accessed through the student portal. Students can access the course evaluations beginning one week before the end of classes. The deadline for submission of evaluations occurs Monday at 5 PM following the last day of the class. You will receive an email to your student email account when course evaluations are available.

ADA Syllabus Statement

Southern Maine Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please call 207-741-5798. If you have a disabling condition and wish to request accommodations in order to have reasonable access to the programs and services offered by SMCC, you must register with the Disability Services Coordinator, Sandra Lynham, who can be reached at 741-5923. Further information about services for students with disabilities and the accommodation process is available upon request at this number. Course policies about online testing are modified to suit each individual's accommodations.

SMCC Pay-for-Print Policy

Per Page Costs

Each semester students receive a \$20 printing credit. The balance resets at the end of the semester and any remaining credits are removed. The cost varies depending upon page size and whether printing is done in black and white or color.

- a. There is a \$0.10 per page fee for standard 8.5" by 11" black and white documents.
- b. The reverse sides of duplex (double-sided) documents are free.
- c. There is a \$.50 per page fee for standard 8.5" by 11" color documents.

- d. There is a \$.20 per page fee for 8.5" by 14" (legal) or 11" by 17" (tabloid) black and white documents.
- e. There is a \$1.00 per page fee for 8.5" by 14" (legal) or 11" by 17" (tabloid) color documents.

Duplex charges (printing on both sides of a page) work in the following fashion: One page is \$.10, two pages are \$.10, three pages are \$.20, and four pages are \$.20, etc. The flipsides are free, but another sheet of paper is \$.10. Please be aware that a document with any color at all (when printed to a color printer) will by default be printed in color. You are responsible for setting the print job to print black and white if you do not need color. For directions, please go to the IT Help tab in My SMCC.

How does it work?

The College's pay-for-print system monitors printing on all printers (including those in general access labs, library printers, the Academic Achievement Center, Noisy Lounge and technology labs). Students can check the number of pages they have printed by using the Printing Balance tool available on SMCC computers (located in the lower right corner of the screen, near the clock). Departments with work study students who need to print documents for the department should contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 to have a special account set up.

Refunds

Print jobs are eligible for a refund in the event of mechanical or electronic error on the part of the printer, print server, or software used to submit the job. Jobs are not eligible for a refund in cases where the job was not set up correctly, was submitted multiple times, or the student is not satisfied with the result. To request a refund, please bring the offending print to the IT Department in the basement of the Ross Technology Center. Refunds will be granted in the form of a credit to the student's account.

Why is SMCC charging for printing?

The pay-for-print system is an effort to control escalating printing costs. Charging for printing helps offset the increasing cost of supplies and encourages students to conserve resources. To find ways to reduce your printing charges, please go to the IT Help tab on My SMCC. If you have questions about the pay-for-printing policy or your printing charges, please contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 or send an email to helpdesk@smccme.edu.

Be sure to log OUT of the system when you've finished your printing, to prevent unauthorized access to your account.

Add-Drop Policy

Students who drop a course during the one-week "add/drop" period in the fall and spring semesters and the first three days of summer sessions receive a 100% refund of the tuition and associated fees for that course. Please note any course that meets for less than the traditional semester length, i.e., 15 weeks, has a pro-rated add/drop period. There is no refund for non-attendance.

Withdrawal Policy

A student may withdraw from a course only during the semester in which s/he is registered for that course. The withdrawal period is the second through twelfth week of the fall and spring semesters and the second through ninth week of twelve-week summer courses. This period is pro-rated for shorter-length courses. To withdraw from a course, a student must complete and submit the appropriate course withdrawal form, available at the Enrollment Service Center (no phone calls, please). The designation "W" will appear on the transcript after a student has officially withdrawn. A course withdrawal is an uncompleted course and may adversely affect financial aid eligibility. Failure to attend or ceasing to attend class does not constitute withdrawal from the course. There is no refund associated with a withdrawal.

Plagiarism Statement

Adherence to ethical academic standards is obligatory. Cheating is a serious offense, whether it consists of taking credit for work done by another person or doing work for which another person will receive credit. Taking and using the ideas or writings of another person without clearly and fully crediting the source is plagiarism and violates the academic code as well as the Student Code of Conduct. If it is suspected that a student in any course in which s/he is enrolled has knowingly committed such a violation, the faculty member should refer the matter to the College's Disciplinary Officer and appropriate action will be taken under the Student Code of Conduct. Sanctions may include suspension from the course and a failing grade in the course. Students have the right to appeal these actions to the Disciplinary Committee under the terms outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.