LANDSCAPE PLANTS SYLLABUS  |  HORT 3237/3137  |  Fall 2023

Hi! I’m Dr. Jared, and welcome to the plantastic Landscape Plants! Here are a few things you should know for the course and classroom environment.

CLASS INFORMATION
Classroom: Agriculture Building Room 118  Labroom: Agriculture Building Room 118
Class Time: Tuesday 1:00–1:50 pm  Lab Time: Tues 2:00–5:30 pm

CONTACT INFORMATION
Jared Barnes, Ph.D.
• Office: Agriculture Building Room 107
• Email: barnesj@sfasu.edu (I don’t regularly check D2L email.)
• Mobile Phone: _______________________ (Anytime 6 am – 9 pm, please ☺)
• Office Hours: M 3:00–4:00 pm, T/R 10:30–11:30 am, R 1:00–3:00 pm or by appointment.

Messages sent to me after 5 pm on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday will be answered the following Monday.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Emphasis on plants most commonly used in East Texas landscapes. Requires the identification of approximately 175 small trees, shrubs, vines, ground covers and herbaceous perennials.
Prerequisites: Six hours of agriculture or consent of instructor.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES
Technical Subject Area
Students will have a base understanding of plant physiology and anatomy, practical experience in plant management systems, basic knowledge of plant genetics and reproduction, identification and knowledge of horticultural crops and management of soils and soilless media.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
Students will...
1. Know approximately 175-200 plants commonly cultivated in east Texas.
2. Recognize patterns between closely related plants and distinguish differences among them.
3. Know the correct scientific and common names of all plants covered in this class and be able to correctly spell them.
4. Assess sites for use of plant species and learn how to install and manage them.
5. Gain knowledge of cultural parameters, the growth characteristics, reproduction, and adaptive needs of each plant.
6. Witness the variation that exists in a plant species.
7. Develop an evaluation system for choosing and using plants in the landscape.
8. Be skilled at how to design, install, and maintain plants as horticulturists.
9. Gain an appreciation for plants and their potential use in the landscape.
TEXT AND MATERIALS
No texts are assigned for this course, and I will not test over material from a book. These books may be helpful for you as a reference FOR LIFE:


AG MANUAL
The Department of Agriculture faculty have developed a helpful manual to help you be successful in this class and in your career. The manual contains details and formatting for written communication (including expectations for how to create letters, email, memorandum, literature reviews and research reports, tables, and figures for this class), units of measure and dimensional analysis, career development (including information on internships, resume building tips, and a sample resume), and an agriculture glossary. Access it at https://www.horticultureisawesome.com/s/agprimerdox.docx.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nomenclature Handout</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plant Guide</td>
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<td>9%</td>
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<td>Group Design Project</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>480</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Laboratory</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>6 Lab Quizzes (drop one list 1–5)</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Plant Writing/Drawing Exercises</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final (Comprehensive over plant lists)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>1020</strong></td>
<td><strong>68%</strong></td>
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**TOTAL** 1500 100%

CLASS
1. EXAMS. These exams primarily cover the morphology, cultural aspects of plants, and landscaping skills and other topics covered in lecture. Material covered on one exam will not be included on future written exams.

2. NOMENCLATURE HANDOUT. A handout on correctly spelling plant names.
3. **PLANT GUIDE.** We will be developing plant guides. A handout will provide more information on this topic.

4. **GROUP DESIGN PROJECT.** This group project will work on creating plantings for the Plantery garden areas.

**LAB**

5. **ID QUIZZES.** There will be 6 identification quizzes in which you are expected to identify plants as the correct species (cultivar or variety), provide the common name, and the family name. You will be allowed to drop the lowest quiz scores of quizzes 1–5 **AS LONG AS YOU ATTEND ALL QUIZZES** (quiz 6 you cannot opt to drop), leaving a total of 5 ID exam grades worth 150 points each = 750 points.

***PLANT MATERIAL IS CUMULATIVE THROUGHOUT THE COURSE ON ID EXAMS***

6. **FINAL EXAM.** The final exam will be a comprehensive laboratory exam on plant identification worth 150 pts.

***AN A AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER MEANS YOU ARE EXEMPT FROM THE FINAL***

7. **PLANT NAME WRITING/DRAWING.** Prior to each plant id lab where we learn a new list I ask you to draw a memory device for the scientific name, common name, and plant family and/or describe it (6 assignments worth 120 pts). **Quizlet and other computer study guides are not accepted.** It must be handwritten.

Grading Scale (rounded to the nearest point)

- **A = 90–100**
- **B = 80–89**
- **C = 70–79**
- **D = 60–69**
- **F = 0–59**

**EXTRA CREDIT**

- For September, October, and November, watch an at least 50 minute lecture on Garden Masterclass, a free Youtube channel where horticulturists from around the world are interviewed. Then, write a 300 word WELL-WRITTEN (typed on computer, mostly free of errors, etc.) reflection addressing 1.) how the lecture related to cultivating plants, 2.) what new plants or techniques you learned about and what made them interesting to you, and 3.) did you feel the topic was relevant to you as a young horticulturist (be honest!)? **Each reflection will gain you one point on your final grade at the end of the semester for a maximum total of 3 points.** Submissions are due by 5:00 PM on the last day of the month and can be completed earlier if you wish. **No late submissions will be accepted.**

- Occasionally, we have Plantery volunteer days (approximately 1.5–2 hrs) during the semester for one point on your final grade at the end of the semester.
MY POLICIES
COMMUNICATION
I will primarily be using D2L’s News to communicate with you for this class because it syncs with the Pulse app you can download on your phone and allows us to push notifications to the app. There’s also a handy-dandy calendar on the app for helping you track when things are due in class. For more info about the Pulse app, click here. HOWEVER, I DO NOT REGULARLY CHECK D2L EMAIL. It is best to use barnesj@sfasu.edu to contact me.

SFA AG DEPARTMENT ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY POLICY (6.7)
Attendance and punctuality are core skills to have as an engaged student and for a successful career.

Excuses can either be provided as hard copy or electronically. Documentation for excused absences is due within 10 business days of the absence.

For reference, below are examples of excused absences.
• Death of family member
• Hospitalization — admitted into the hospital for health purposes (medical or mental)
• Personal emergency — this can include car accidents or drastic life events, such as a fire
• Administrative and other — this can include jury duty, court subpoena, etc.

If you miss class for any other reason and feel your absence should be excused, you must provide an email explaining why the absence should be excused and provide appropriate documentation. This email must be provided within 10 business days of the absence. All other absences are considered unexcused.

ABSENCES AND MISSED ASSIGNMENTS
• You are responsible for engaging with class and lab material on D2L.
• All special requests must be made via D2L email as a record of the request. This allows me to reply back with a confirmation of any changes to a test or exam.
• There will be no make-up for missed tests unless you notify me before the test and explain why you can’t be there and you provide proper documentation for your absence (doctor’s note, etc.). I realize unexpected events occur, and again, proper documentation for your absence (doctor’s note, etc.) is required.
• The exam must be taken or arrangements made to take the exam no later than 2 days after the initial exam was scheduled. Failure to follow this procedure will result in a 0 (zero) grade for any missed hour exam. It is your responsibility to make arrangements to take a make-up exam.
• There are no make-up LIST or QUIZ walks. Both require hours of walking around on campus. You are responsible for getting missed notes and data from peers in class if you are absent from a lab.
• For excused lab quizzes, I offer to double your next quiz grade.
DUE DATE AND LATE SUBMISSIONS
• Unless otherwise instructed, all assignments are due at 1 pm Tuesday at the start of class.
• Any late submissions lose 10% after the start of class for each 24 hour period they are late.

LABORATORY INFORMATION
• Lab will promptly start at the time stated above. Your prompt arrival to lab at the designated time is expected. **We will not wait!**
• **The weeks of quizzes, we will do the quiz first before lecture material is covered (unless the weather forces us to shift).**
• Some labs will require LOTS of walking to cover LONG distances across campus and beyond! Come prepared to travel with hats, sunscreen, water, etc.
• Lab will **ALWAYS** meet regardless of weather, unless SFA enacts its adverse weather policy. It is your responsibility to check the SFA website for school closings.
• We will go outside during scheduled lab unless there is a tornadic event or the perfect storm. The key to survival in lab is to dress appropriately for the prevailing weather. Wear comfortable walking shoes!! You may want to consider bringing **WATER**, hats, gloves, bug spray, sunscreen, etc.
• Lab work consists primarily of field trips in the local area to observe and study landscape plants. We will visit campus, nearby neighborhoods, and the greenhouse.

LABORATORY SAFETY
Since labs are held outdoors on campus, neighborhoods, and other public areas it is important that students follow safety precautions and listen to my directions. Students who fail to follow my directions and rules will be removed from the class.
• Students will follow my directions & use proper precautions.
• We will wait for cars to pass and conditions are safe before crossing streets. We will respect people’s homes.
• We will not lean on nor use cars as a writing surface.
• We will stay on sidewalks, driveways, and walking paths if we visit private property.

ELECTRONICS
In research published in April 2016 (**The Pen Is Mightier than the Keyboard: Advantages of Longhand over Laptop Note Taking**), researchers found that when students use computers or tablets to take notes in class, they performed less well than their handwriting counterparts. Why? **Because typing forces students to copy verbatim while hand writers are forced to synthesize and process information because they write slower. Thus, hand writers learn BETTER! WOW!** Also, electronics can distract other students. Therefore, computers, tablets, phones, electronic devices, communication through watches, etc. will not be allowed to be used in class.

Of course, it’s difficult to visualize the negative effect that your use of electronics have on others. So, I’m willing to award **10 EXTRA CREDIT POINTS TO THE ENTIRE CLASS** on tests (5 × 2
tests = 10 points!) as long as I don’t see any evidence of cell phones or other electronics while I’m lecturing that I have not approved. Any time that I see evidence of the use of a cell phone or laptop, THE ENTIRE CLASS will lose 2 extra credit points.

- **If you abuse this policy (not caring that you are costing the class points, you will lose all of your extra credit for the semester!).** Evidence of this is you costing the class extra credit at least three times.
- **Some students have special learning needs, and computers and tablets will only be allowed if you send me an email request.** If you need to use electronics for special circumstances or handwriting, I request you sit in the first three rows of lecture.
- **If you are reported abusing your computer privileges, then you will receive a warning and then lose a letter grade for each issue after the warning.**
- Phones are allowed to be used in a non-distracting manner during list walks where students are taking notes and photographs of the plants.
- **Phones are not allowed to be out during walking lab quizzes, and headphones are not allowed during walking quizzes.**
- If you need to take an emergency call, you may step outside.

**CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT**
In order to maintain a positive learning environment in both lecture and laboratory, it is important that you respect your classmates, the instructor, and yourself at all times. As a student, you have the right to an atmosphere that is conducive to learning. You also have the responsibility to ensure that a positive environment is maintained. **Distracting behavior is grounds for dismal from that day’s class.**

Therefore, please refrain from:
- wearing headphones (ties in with the electronic policy above)
- tobacco products (which will **NOT** be tolerated in lab since they carry tobacco mosaic virus, a harmful pathogen to plants)
- speaking in a disruptive manner
- distractively entering the classroom late
- carrying on extraneous conversations with each other when I am speaking
- any other activity that may disrupt the class

**RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO YOU FOR SUCCESS**
1. Your professor. Use me! 😊
2. Each other. Studying together is often very effective to solve questions and retain info.
UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Mental Health
SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
- SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
- www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
- Human Services Room 202
- 936-468-1041
- On-campus Resources: SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
- www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
- Human Services Room 202
- 936-468-1041
- Crisis Resources:
- Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
- Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

Academic Integrity (4.1)
The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.

Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one’s self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (5.5)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be
counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/5.5_course-grades.pdf

Students with Disabilities (6.1)
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/

Responsible Use of Technology
It is expected that all students will only use cell phones, PDAs, laptop computers, MP3 players and other technology outside of class time or when appropriate in class. Answering a cell phone, texting, listening to music or using a laptop computer for matters unrelated to the course may be grounds for dismissal from class or other penalties.

Acceptable Student Behavior
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy 10.4). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct_10.4.pdf

F–1 Visa Holders
There are important federal regulations pertaining to distance education activity for F-1 Visa holders. All students with an F-1 Visa should follow the instructions at the following link to make sure they are in compliance.
http://www.oit.sfasu.edu/disted/facsup/f1visa.html
**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE***

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LECTURE</th>
<th>LAB</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29-Aug</td>
<td>Nomenclature</td>
<td>Floral Morphology</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-Sep</td>
<td>Fruit and Foliage Morphology</td>
<td>List 1 Annuals and Tropicals</td>
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<td>Plant Guide</td>
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<td>Group Design Project</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>PLANT GUIDE SIGN UP (D2L)</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>NOMENCLATURE DUE (HARD COPY)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12-Sep</td>
<td>Plant Selection 1</td>
<td>QUIZ 1</td>
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<td><strong>LIST 1 STUDY DUE (HARD COPY)</strong></td>
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<td>19-Sep</td>
<td>Plant Selection 2</td>
<td>List 2 Perennials</td>
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<td>26-Sep</td>
<td>Site Assessment and Install</td>
<td>QUIZ 2</td>
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<td><strong>LIST 2 STUDY DUE (HARD COPY)</strong></td>
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<td>3-Oct</td>
<td><strong>TEST 1</strong></td>
<td>List 3 Shrubs</td>
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<td><strong>PLANT GUIDE TEXT DRAFT DUE (D2L)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>GROUP DESIGN BASE MAP DUE (HARD COPY &amp; D2L)</strong></td>
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<td>10-Oct</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>QUIZ 3</td>
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<td><strong>LIST 3 STUDY DUE (HARD COPY)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PLANTING DAY</strong></td>
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<td>24-Oct</td>
<td>Planting and Installation</td>
<td>List 4 Trees</td>
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<td>31-Oct</td>
<td>Planting Management</td>
<td>QUIZ 4</td>
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<td>7-Nov</td>
<td>Plant Problems</td>
<td>List 5 Evergreen Shrubs</td>
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<td><strong>GROUP DESIGNS DUE (HARD COPY &amp; D2L)</strong></td>
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<td>14-Nov</td>
<td>Plantings of the Future</td>
<td>QUIZ 5</td>
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<td><strong>LIST 5 STUDY DUE (HARD COPY)</strong></td>
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<td>21-Nov</td>
<td>Thanksgiving No Class and...</td>
<td>No Lab</td>
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<td>28-Nov</td>
<td><strong>TEST 2</strong></td>
<td>List 6 Conifers</td>
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<td><strong>PLANT GUIDE FINAL TEXT DUE (D2L &amp; WEBSITE)</strong></td>
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<td>5-Dec</td>
<td>Plant List Review</td>
<td>Quiz 6</td>
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<td><strong>LIST 6 STUDY DUE (HARD COPY)</strong></td>
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*Note, instructor reserves the right to change the schedule, and students will be notified as needed. Unless otherwise noted, all items are due at 1 PM Tuesdays, and preference for hard copy turned in during at the beginning of lab and/or D2L Dropbox is noted.

The cumulative lab final will be held Thursday, December 14 from 10:30–12:30 am.