SUSAG 130 Course Outline as of Fall 2012

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: SUSAG 130 Title: SUS GDNS & LANDSCP Full Title: Sustainable Gardens and Landscapes Last Reviewed: 4/19/2004

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	1.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	1.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category:	AA Degree Applicable
Grading:	Grade or P/NP
Repeatability:	00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP
Also Listed As:	
Formerly:	AG 297.62

Catalog Description:

An integrated approach to designing a functional landscape/garden system that promotes sustainable practices. Emphasis on enhancing the garden ecosystem while keeping costs, maintenance and impact on natural resources to a minimum.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation: Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:

Description: An integrated approach to designing a functional landscape/garden system that promotes sustainable practices. Emphasis on enhancing the garden ecosystem while keeping costs, maintenance and impact on natural resources to a minimum. (Grade or P/NP) Prerequisites/Corequisites: Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100 Limits on Enrollment:

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree: CSU GE:	Area Transfer Area	Effective: Effective:	Inactive: Inactive:
IGETC:	Transfer Area	Effective:	Inactive:
CSU Transfer	: Effective:	Inactive:	
UC Transfer:	Effective:	Inactive:	

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

COURSE CONTENT

Outcomes and Objectives:

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

1. Compare and contrast the features of a typical garden with those of an ecologically designed garden.

- 2. Determine microclimates at a given site and adapt plant choices appropriately.
- 3. Identify important California native and Mediterranean plants suitable for the local landscape.
- 4. Describe techniques for microclimate modification.
- 5. Identify edible plants requiring lowest inputs of labor and materials.
- 6. Summarize principles of soil health and fertility and explain how they relate to plant health.
- 7. Discuss principles of water conservation for the landscape.
- 8. Compare and contrast a variety of irrigation products.
- 9. Describe IPM (integrated pest management) assessment strategies.
- 10. Evaluate pest damage and select appropriate treatment.
- 11. Describe proper pruning techniques for overall tree health.
- 12. Evaluate landscape elements for multi-functionality.

Topics and Scope:

- I. Introduction to the Ecological Garden
- A. Gardens that work with nature
- B. Permaculture principles
- C. Ecological vs. traditional gardens
- II. Microclimates
- A. How to determine microclimates on a site
- B. Selecting appropriate plants for a microclimate
- 1. Plant identification
- 2. Plant selection and use
- C. Techniques for microclimate modification
- III. Plants Appropriate to Local Landscape

- A. California natives
- B. Mediterranean
- C. Edibles
 - 1. Edible landscaping
 - 2. Identifying attractive and productive plants
- 3. Techniques for proper growth, maintenance, and harvest
- D. Evaluating plants for specific sites and needs
- IV. Soils and Fertility
- A. Principles of soil health
- B. Fertility
- C. Relationship between soil fertility and plant health
- V. Water Conservation
- A. Principles of water conservation for the landscape
- B. Irrigation products
- C. Low water use plants
- D. Techniques to conserve soil moisture
- VI. Integrated Pest Management
- A. Assessment strategies
- 1. Determine quantity and kind of damage
- 2. Evaluate least toxic control methods
- 3. Appropriate treatments
- B. Establishing a habitat for beneficials
- VII. Pruning and Tree Care
- A. Basic pruning techniques

B. Tree care

- VII. Multi-functional Garden Design
- A. Rationale for multi-functional gardening
- B. Elements of the multi-functional garden

Assignment:

Representative assignments:

1. Reading, 15 - 25 pages per week.

2. Explore neighborhood/community to observe sustainable and nonsustainable landscape practices. Record observation notes for 2-3 sites in a 5-page paper (may include other recorded information, such as sketches or photos).

3. Develop a schematic drawing for a sustainable, multi-functional landscape, with 1-2 pages of explanatory text.

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Observation paper.

Writing 20 - 40%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

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Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

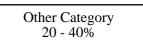
None

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

None

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Attendance and participation.



Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Kourik, Robert. DESIGNING AND MAINTAINING YOUR EDIBLE LANDSCAPE NATURALLY. Metamorphic Press, 1986. Hemenway, Toby. GAIA'S GARDEN: A GUIDE TO HOME-SCALE PERMACULTURE. Chelsea Green Pub Co., 2001.

Skill Demonstrations				
0 - 0%				

Exams

0 - 0%