

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: HORT 115

Title: ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

Full Title: Ornamental Grasses

Last Reviewed: 9/19/2011

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	1.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	6	Lecture Scheduled	18.00
Minimum	1.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	18.00
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 36.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 54.00

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 39 - Total 2 Times

Also Listed As:

Formerly: AG 297.69

Catalog Description:
Presents ornamental grasses as a diverse group of plants with many useful and aesthetic applications in the home garden and commercial landscape. Students will learn the basic structure and growth habits of ornamental grasses and how to identify, select, plant, maintain and propagate them. Classroom and field lectures demonstrate design applications and uses of grasses with other plants in the landscape.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: Students will learn the basic structure and growth habits of ornamental grasses and how to identify, select, plant, maintain and propagate them. Classroom and field lectures demonstrate design applications and uses of grasses with other plants in the landscape. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:
Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100
Limits on Enrollment:
Transfer Credit:
Repeatability: Total 2 Times

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

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

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:
Certificate Applicable Course

COURSE CONTENT

Outcomes and Objectives:

Students will:

1. Define the meaning of the term "ornamental grass."
2. Designate the vegetative and flowering structures of grass plants.
3. Describe the life cycles, growth habits, and growth forms of ornamental grasses.
4. Select ornamental grasses according to climate, soil, water needs, exposure and landscape use.
5. Identify 15 ornamental grasses by foliage or flower characteristics.

Topics and Scope:

- I. Definition of ornamental grasses
 - A. True grasses (Poaceae family)
 - B. Grass-like plants
- II. Morphology of ornamental grasses
 - A. Vegetative parts (leaf, sheath, culm)
 - B. Growth habit (running, clumping)
 - C. Flower parts and seed heads
- III. Seasonal characteristics
 - A. Annuals, biennials and perennials
 - B. Evergreen and deciduous species
 - C. Warm and cool season species
- IV. Growth forms
 - A. Tufted
 - B. Mounded
 - C. Upright

- D. Upright divergent
- E. Upright arching
- F. Arching
- V. Uses of grasses in the landscape
 - A. Containers
 - B. Rock gardens
 - C. Water gardens
 - D. Wildlife gardens
 - E. Craft and cutting gardens
 - F. Meadow plantings
 - G. Aggressive and invasive species
- VI. Planting and maintenance
 - A. Soil and water needs
 - B. Cutting back foliage
 - C. Staking
 - D. Dividing and transplanting
 - E. Pest management
- VII. Representative genera
 - A. Acorus
 - B. Bouteloua
 - C. Briza
 - D. Calamagrostis
 - E. Carex
 - F. Cortaderia
 - G. Cyperus
 - H. Deschampsia
 - I. Elymus
 - J. Equisetum
 - K. Festuca
 - L. Imperata
 - M. Juncus
 - N. Miscanthus
 - O. Muhlenbergia
 - P. Panicum
 - Q. Pennisetum
 - R. Phalaris
 - S. Scirpus
 - T. Stipa

Assignment:

1. Compile an identification notebook of 15 ornamental grasses.
2. Produce a list of ornamental grasses suitable for a small landscape of the student's choice.
2. Diagram the placement of ornamental grasses in a landscape design with other non-grass landscape plants.
3. Write a brief research report on a selected ornamental grass.

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.

Written homework, Essay exams

Writing
5 - 20%

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

Quizzes, PROJECT

Problem solving
15 - 30%

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

Class performances

Skill Demonstrations
10 - 20%

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

True/false

Exams
20 - 50%

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

None

Other Category
0 - 0%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Greenlee, John. Encyclopedia of Ornamental Grasses, Rodale Press, 1992.

Darke, Rick. The Color Encyclopedia of Ornamental Grasses, Timber Press, 1999.

King, Michael, and Oudolf, Piet. Gardening with Grasses, Timber Press, 1998.