

**HORT 153 Course Outline as of Spring 2016****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: HORT 153      Title: BASIC TURF CARE  
 Full Title: Basic Turf Care  
 Last Reviewed: 1/31/2011

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	1.50	Lecture Scheduled	1.50	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	26.25
Minimum	1.50	Lab Scheduled	0	4	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	1.50		Contact Total	26.25
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 52.50

Total Student Learning Hours: 78.75

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:

**Catalog Description:**

Introduction to turfgrass care and maintenance, focusing on residential lawns and smaller scale commercial turf areas. Turfgrass varieties; planting methods; cultural practices, including mowing, fertilization and irrigation; disease, weed and pest management; turf maintenance equipment.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:****Recommended Preparation:**

Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100

**Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: Introduction to turfgrass care and maintenance, focusing on residential lawns and smaller scale commercial turf areas. Turfgrass varieties; planting methods; cultural practices, including mowing, fertilization and irrigation; disease, weed and pest management; turf maintenance equipment. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit:

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:

<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Certificate Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify common turfgrass species and varieties.
2. Use basic horticultural terminology to describe the structure and growth habits of grasses.
3. Describe the process of establishing turfgrass by seed and sod.
4. Recommend proper mowing heights for various turfgrass varieties.
5. Identify and select tools and equipment for various turf maintenance operations.
6. Explain the procedure for renovating an existing turf area.
7. Recommend methods of managing clippings and green waste from turf sites.
8. Develop an irrigation schedule based on turf variety, soil conditions, and climate information.
9. Identify, and recommend control methods for common weeds, diseases, insects and vertebrate pests.
10. Calculate fertilizer requirements and select appropriate fertilizers.
11. Prepare an annual maintenance calendar for a selected turf area.

### **Topics and Scope:**

1. Turfgrass Varieties for Northern California Lawns
  - A. Selection
  - B. Establishment
  - C. Water needs and other maintenance requirements
  - D. Grass seed label interpretation
2. Soil Preparation
  - A. Physical properties
  - B. Soil fertility and pH
  - C. Organic and inorganic soil amendments
3. Turf Planting and Establishment

- A. Establishment by seed
- B. Establishment by vegetative materials
- C. Winter overseeding
- 4. Mowing
  - A. Heights for various turf varieties
  - B. Frequency and timing
  - C. Types of mowers
  - D. Mower safety
  - E. Clippings management
- 5. Fertilization
  - A. Types of fertilizers and fertilizer labels
  - B. Fertilizer programs for various turf varieties
  - C. Fertilizer spreaders and application methods
- 6. Irrigation
  - A. Turfgrass water needs
  - B. Soil-water relationships
  - C. Irrigation systems and basic components
  - D. Troubleshooting, adjustment and minor repairs
  - E. Water -efficient irrigation practices
  - F. Scheduling residential lawn irrigation
- 7. Weed Control
  - A. Types of weeds: broadleaf vs. grasses
  - B. Common annual and perennial weeds
  - C. Integrated pest management methods of weed control
  - D. Herbicides: selection, application
- 8. Insects and Other Pests
  - A. Root feeding insects
  - B. Stem and leaf feeding insects
  - C. Gophers, moles
- 9. Disease Control
  - A. Disease identification
  - B. Integrated pest management methods of controlling diseases
- 10. Turf Improvement and Renovation
  - A. Turfgrass evaluation
  - B. Soil compaction
  - C. Shade
  - D. Thatch
  - E. Renovation methods
  - F. Maintenance calendar

**Assignment:**

- 1. Weekly reading assignments
- 2. Written project: Lawn maintenance calendar
- 3. Field trip participation
- 4. Field trip reports
- 5. Quizzes (2-4) and final exam

**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 project, field trip reports

Writing  
20 - 40%

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

None

Problem solving  
0 - 0%

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

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

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

Quizzes and Final Exam: Multiple choice, true/false, matching items, completion

Exams  
40 - 60%

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

Attendance and participation.

Other Category  
10 - 20%

**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

Instructor prepared materials.