

**SUSAG 117 Course Outline as of Fall 2022****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: SUSAG 117 Title: ORG FRUIT TREE &amp; BERRY

Full Title: Organic Fruit Tree and Berry Production

Last Reviewed: 10/11/2021

| Units   |      | Course Hours per Week |      | Nbr of Weeks | Course Hours Total |       |
|---------|------|-----------------------|------|--------------|--------------------|-------|
| Maximum | 1.50 | Lecture Scheduled     | 1.00 | 17.5         | Lecture Scheduled  | 17.50 |
| Minimum | 1.50 | Lab Scheduled         | 1.50 | 8            | Lab Scheduled      | 26.25 |
|         |      | Contact DHR           | 0    |              | Contact DHR        | 0     |
|         |      | Contact Total         | 2.50 |              | Contact Total      | 43.75 |
|         |      | Non-contact DHR       | 0    |              | Non-contact DHR    | 0     |

Total Out of Class Hours: 35.00

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:**

Students will learn about fruit tree and berry vine selection, planting, and care for small-scale orchard or home garden. Includes desirable varieties, site selection and preparation, soil and fertility management, pruning and training methods, harvest techniques and pest management. Emphasis on organic production methods.

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

Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100

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

Description: Students will learn about fruit tree and berry vine selection, planting, and care for small-scale orchard or home garden. Includes desirable varieties, site selection and preparation, soil and fertility management, pruning and training methods, harvest techniques and pest management. Emphasis on organic production methods. (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>          | <b>Effective:</b> | <b>Inactive:</b> |
| <b>CSU GE:</b>       | <b>Transfer Area</b> | <b>Effective:</b> | <b>Inactive:</b> |
| <b>IGETC:</b>        | <b>Transfer Area</b> | <b>Effective:</b> | <b>Inactive:</b> |
| <b>CSU Transfer:</b> |                      | <b>Effective:</b> | <b>Inactive:</b> |
| <b>UC Transfer:</b>  |                      | <b>Effective:</b> | <b>Inactive:</b> |

**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Differentiate among the types of fruit trees and berries.
2. Identify suitable types of fruit trees and berries for Sonoma County.
3. Describe appropriate techniques for pruning, thinning, and harvesting fruit trees and berries.

### **Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Describe planting techniques for fruit trees and berries.
2. Identify desirable characteristics of a variety of fruit trees and berries.
3. Describe important soil and site characteristics for successful fruit tree and berry production.
4. Describe water and nutrient needs of a variety of fruit trees and berries.
5. Differentiate among common general pruning practices.
6. Describe harvest and storage requirements for various kinds of fruits and berries.

### **Topics and Scope:**

#### **I. Varieties and Types of Fruit Trees and Berries**

##### **A. Fruit trees**

1. Dwarf
2. Semi-dwarf
3. Standard

##### **B. Berries**

1. Bush
2. Cane
3. Vine
4. Native

#### **II. Cultural Care**

- A. Site selection
  - 1. Climate and microclimate
  - 2. Soil – Types and preparation
  - 3. Chill and heat unit requirements
- B. Planting
  - 1. Methods
  - 2. Post-planting care
- C. Nutrients
  - 1. Requirements
  - 2. Types
  - 3. Application methods
- D. Water
  - 1. Soil/water relationship
  - 2. Watering requirements
  - 3. Irrigation methods
  - 4. Water use efficiency
- E. Pest control methods
  - 1. Insects and mites
  - 2. Plant diseases
  - 3. Vertebrates
- F. Weed management
- G. Pruning and training
  - 1. Pruning methods
  - 2. General training (central leader, modified center leader, vase)
  - 3. Specific training (specie specific, espalier, hedges, establishment)
- H. Fruit thinning
- III. Harvest Techniques and Storage Requirements
- IV. Direct Marketing of Fruit and Berries

All topics covered in lecture are also covered in lab.

### **Assignment:**

- 1. One design project: develop a written plan or presentation on selection, planting, care, harvest and related costs for one or more varieties of fruit tree or berry with minimum of five plants
- 2. Weekly reading (10 - 20 pages)
- 3. Quizzes (3 – 6)
- 4. Final exam (1)
- 5. Lab reports (4 – 8)
- 6. Weekly lab activities
- 7. Field trip(s) (1 - 2) and field trip report(s) for each

### **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.

|   |
|---|
| Lab reports, Design project, Field trip report(s) |
|---|

|                     |
|---------------------|
| Writing<br>30 - 50% |
|---------------------|

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

Design project

Problem solving  
0 - 20%

**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, Final exam

Exams  
30 - 50%

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

Weekly lab activities

Other Category  
5 - 20%

### **Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

The Home Orchard – Growing your Own Deciduous Fruit and Nut Trees. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Publication 3485. ANR Press. 2007 (classic)  
Instructor prepared materials.