HORT 93 Course Outline as of Fall 2025

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: HORT 93 Title: LANDSCAPE DRAFT & DESIGN
Full Title: Landscape Drafting and Design
Last Reviewed: 11/25/2024

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	2.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	35.00
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	3.00	6	Lab Scheduled	52.50
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	5.00		Contact Total	87.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 70.00 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:	

Catalog Description:
In this course, students will practice landscape drafting and design techniques for producing scaled plan-view and elevation drawings, construction details, and landscape plans. This course includes: steps and sequence in the design process; design themes, principles, and elements; general plant selection and usage; and client-designer relations. Drafting equipment required.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: In this course, students will practice landscape drafting and design techniques for producing scaled plan-view and elevation drawings, construction details, and landscape plans. This course includes: steps and sequence in the design process; design themes, principles, and elements; general plant selection and usage; and client-designer relations. Drafting equipment required. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:
Recommended:
Limits on Enrollment:
Transfer Credit: CSU;
Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

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

CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2004	Inactive:
UC Transfer:		Effective:		Inactive:

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. Produce a hand-drafted, professional quality landscape site plan.
2. Employ the use of landscape design principles and elements in a design project.
3. Select and place plants on a landscape plan according to proper size, exposure, climate, and soil adaptation.

Objectives:
At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Utilize professional manual drafting tools, equipment, and materials.
2. Demonstrate pencil drafting and lettering techniques based on professional standards and methods.
3. Recognize standard graphic symbols used on landscape drawings.
4. Construct an elevation view from a plan view using orthographic projection.
5. Distinguish between preliminary sketches, working drawings, and presentation drawings.
6. Lay out a drafting project on vellum paper, using typical border and title block formats.
7. Use measuring tapes and other tools to measure and record site dimensions.
8. Understand how to produce a plan view scale drawing of a landscape using actual site dimensions.
9. Produce a professional quality reprographic print from an original vellum drawing.
10. Describe education, experience, and license requirements for landscape career positions.
11. Differentiate between the characteristics of public, private, and service/utility areas in common residential landscapes.
12. Judge appropriate use of a focal point and accents.
13. Evaluate the use of design principles in landscape designs.
14. Employ the use of the landscape design principles and elements in a design project.
15. Select and place plants on a landscape plan according to proper size, exposure, climate, and

soil adaptation.
16. Organize plant selection information into a standard plant list (plant schedule) format.
17. Understand the client-designer relationship in a typical residential project.

Topics and Scope:

I. The Landscape Industry
  A. Definitions and descriptions
  B. Types of firms, professional titles, scope of work, license requirements
II. Manual Drafting Tools and Materials: Identification and Use
  A. Pencils, leads, and erasers
  B. Straight edges: horizontal bar, T-square, triangles
  C. Circle templates and other useful templates
  D. Architect and/or engineer scale
III. Lettering: Vertical, Uppercase, Non-Serif Style
  A. Sizes appropriate for titles, subtitles, general labels
  B. Use of Ames lettering guide as practice tool
  C. Freehand technique
  D. Use of vertical straight edge aid
IV. Types and Uses of Lines
  A. Border and title block lines
  B. Visible lines
  C. Leader lines and dimension lines
  D. Layout and lettering guidelines
  E. Line quality/characteristics
V. Scale, Graphic Symbols
  A. Plant symbols
  B. Types of views (plans, section, elevation)
  C. Construction/planting details dimensioning
VI. The Residential Landscape
  A. "Outdoor rooms" concept
  B. Types of landscape use areas
    1. Public
    2. Private
    3. Service/utility
VII. The Design Process
  A. Site inventory/analysis
  B. Client profile
  C. Design program
  D. Functional diagram
  E. Form study/preliminary plan
  F. Final plan
  G. Presentation
VIII. Design Principles
  A. Order
  B. Unity
  C. Rhythm
IX. Plant Uses
  A. Architectural
    1. Screens
    2. Barriers
    3. Canopies

4. Walls
5. Baffle
6. Buffer

B. Functional/Engineering
1. Temperature control
2. Windbreak
3. Erosion control
4. Noise control
5. Dust control

C. Aesthetic
1. Focal point/ accent
2. Fragrance
3. Frame/screen views

X. Fire Resilient Landscaping
A. Defensible space concept
B. Plant qualities and their relationship to flammability
C. Design strategies to mitigate fire risk

XI. Client Relations and Presentation Methods

NOTE: All topics covered in lecture will also be covered in lab.

Assignment:

Lecture-Related Assignments:
1. Weekly reading and homework (10-20 pages per week)
2. Assignments and exercises (2-12) related to: drafting tools, lettering, analyzing and identifying different types of landscape drawings (e.g., site plan, site analysis, functional diagram, master plan, various construction documents)

Lab-Related Assignments:
1. Lab exercises (4-12) related to: elevation and plan view drawings, landscape graphic standards, orthographic projection, and construction details
2. Field work including: site measuring, inventory, and analysis
3. Field trip(s) may be required (0-4)

Lecture- and Lab-related assignments:
1. Quiz(zes) (0-8)
2. Midterm exam
3. Final project and presentation: residential landscape design

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.

None, This is a degree applicable course but assessment tools based on writing are not included because problem solving assessments and skill demonstrations are more appropriate for this course.	Writing 0 - 0%

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

Lecture assignments, homework, field work	Problem solving 20 - 40%

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

Lab exercises, final project and presentation	Skill Demonstrations 20 - 50%

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

Quiz(zes) and midterm exam	Exams 10 - 40%

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

Participation including field trip(s)	Other Category 5 - 20%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

The Essential Garden Design Workbook. 3rd ed. Alexander and Myers. Timber Press. 2017. (classic).
Residential Landscape Architecture. 6th ed. Booth, Norman and Hiss, James. Pearson. 2011. (classic).
The Planting Design Handbook. Robinson, Nick. Ashgate Publishers. 2011. (classic).
Sunset Western Landscaping. Brenzel, Kathleen. Oxmoor House. 2006. (classic).
Plan Graphics for the Landscape Designer. 2nd ed. Bertauski, Tony. Pearson. 2006. (classic).
Landscape Graphics: Plan, Section, and Perspective Drawing of Landscape Spaces. Reid, Grant. Watson-Guptill Pub. 2002. (classic).
Lettering for Architects and Designers. 2nd ed. Sutherland, Martha. Wiley. 1989. (classic).