

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: HORT 115.1      Title: DSGN ORNAMENTAL GRASSES  
Full Title: Designing with Ornamental Grasses  
Last Reviewed: 12/14/2015

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	3	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:        00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP  
Also Listed As:  
Formerly:             AG 297.81

**Catalog Description:**  
Course presents effective choices of ornamental grasses for specific landscape varieties of soil, moisture, exposure, and climate, as well as for size, texture, color and garden theme. A field trip will demonstrate extensive application of ornamental grasses in a professionally designed landscape. In-class lectures illustrated with live specimens.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

**Recommended Preparation:**  
Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: Course presents effective choices of ornamental grasses for specific landscape varieties of soil, moisture, exposure, and climate, as well as for size, texture, color and garden theme. A field lecture will demonstrate extensive application of ornamental grasses in a professionally designed landscape. In-class lectures illustrated with live specimens. (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:
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
<b>UC Transfer:</b>		Effective:	Inactive:

**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

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

1. Evaluate and select grasses by size, color, texture and growth form for effective design.
2. Make effective selections of ornamental grasses and grass-like plants for specific landscape situations and conditions.
3. Create effective plant combinations including grasses.
4. Identify at least 15 ornamental grasses by foliage or flower characteristics.

### **Topics and Scope:**

- I. Grasses as design elements
  - A. Texture
  - B. Color
  - C. Growth forms
    1. Tufted
    2. Mounded
    3. Upright
    4. Upright divergent
    5. Upright arching
    6. Arching
  - D. Flower forms
  - E. Light
- II. Uses of grasses in the landscape
  - A. Native plant habitats
  - B. Water and bog gardens, wet soils
  - C. Containers
  - D. Groundcovers and turf substitutes

- E. Erosion control
- F. Color schemes and floral decoration
- G. Accent plantings
- H. Xeriscape
- I. Thematic and special effects
- J. Turf substitutes
- K. Privacy
- III. Creating combinations with grasses
  - A. Effective plant combinations
  - B. Color palettes
  - C. Companion plantings
- IV. 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. Sight identify specimens of 10-15 new plants per week.
2. Write and correctly spell botanical and common names of 10-15 new plants per week.
3. Two quizzes.
4. Final Report: critique of designed landscape (3-7 pages) that features ornamental grasses.

### **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.

Landscape critique
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Writing 40 - 60%
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**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None	Problem solving 0 - 0%
<b>Skill Demonstrations:</b> All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.	
Plant identification	Skill Demonstrations 10 - 20%
<b>Exams:</b> All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.	
2 quizzes	Exams 10 - 20%
<b>Other:</b> Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.	
Attendance and participation	Other Category 10 - 20%

**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

The Encyclopedia of Grasses for Livable Landscapes. Darke, Rick. Timber Press: 2007 (classic). Sunset Western Garden Book; Editors of Sunset Books; Oxmoor House: 2012.