General Horticulture                          Hort 41                                  Rm. Phys 112
Section #1228                           Tuesday-Thursday                      4:00 to 5:25 P.M.
Fall 2009

My Office Phone No.: (310) 532-3670 x5359
My E-mail at School: rlafond@elcamino.edu
Office Hours:
3:00 to 4:00 PM Tuesdays and Thursdays; 5:00 to 6:00 PM Wednesdays
1:30 to 2:00 PM on Saturdays
Or by appointment

Course Prerequisites: None

Catalog description: This class consists of three hours of lecture each week. Lecture will include:
the identification and usage of ornamental plants; care and culture of ornamental plants;
morphology of leaves, flowers and fruit; a survey of soils and fertilizers; landscape design
principles; landscape irrigation; pruning practices and basic horticultural skills for the gardening and
nursery industry.

Student Learning Outcome: The successful General Horticulture student should be able to
demonstrate, through application and in discussion, a basic understanding of plant communities,
planting zones and plant groups; soils, basic plant nutrients and fertilizers; plant selection, planting
terms and practices; pruning equipment, terms and practices; and lawn care equipment, terms and
practices.

Course Objectives:
Ability to identify a variety of horticultural occupations and define educational requirements
Operate common tools and equipment
Analyze soil makeup
Calculate fertilizers and amendment needs
Compare and contrast macronutrients and micronutrients
Apply the principles of plant taxonomy
Select plants for cultivation based on zone, exposure, season, size, life-span and type
Differentiate sexual and asexual propagation
Identify residential design concepts
Apply basic integrated pest management strategies
Recognize the anatomy and morphology of a plant
Practice care and culture of plants
Distinguish and apply proper pruning techniques
Analyze a residential landscape and recommend basic integrated pest management strategies

Text books and materials:
Sunset Western Garden Book (Sunset Publishing Corporation) - current edition

CD of lecture materials - PowerPoint presentations, handouts, etc. provided by the instructor

Three-ring notebook (for note taking and handouts)
Clipboard, things for plant sample collecting - (bag, 1" masking tape, etc.), flashlight (for night
class) hand clippers, gloves.
PowerPoint Lecture Outline
Section 1 - Biomes
Section 2 - Sunset Western Climate Zones
Section 3 - Plant Life Cycles
Section 4 - Ferns, Gymnosperms, Monocots and Dicots
Section 5 - Soils
Section 6 & 7 - Fertilizers
Section 8 - Turf care
Section 9 - Planting Terms
Section 10 & 11 - Pruning Terms
Section 12 - Plant Selection
Section 13 - Landscape Design Basics

One to two Plant ID walkabouts depending upon time

Grading Policy:

Total of about 13 quizzes at 100 points each

There are likely to be a couple of additional quizzes during the semester.

Note: There are NO makeups on quizzes. The two lowest quiz scores will be dropped. There are no make-ups on the Plant ID quizzes. Zero scores caused by absences will not be dropped.

Attendance is expected.

Grading schedule:
A = 89% - 100 % of the total points
B = 76% - 88% " " " "
C = 63% - 75% " " " "
D = 50% - 62% " " " "
F = < 50%

Drop Policy: The last day to drop the class without a "W" is September 25th. The last day to drop the class with a "W" is November 20th. Students can be dropped due to excessive absences. Excessive absences are defined as missing three classes without notification to the instructors. The College drop dates can be found on inside cover of the Fall 2009 Class Schedule.

College Services: There are several services available to the students of El Camino College. These services include: Tutoring, Basic Skills Lab, Math Lab, Health Center, Disabled Students Center, and more.

Cell Phone/Pager Policy: All cell phones and pagers must be turned off or put on a vibration setting. If you have to take a call, take it away from the rest of the class. If you are on the phone excessively instead of lecture/walkabout you may be dropped from class. Texting during class will not be tolerated.

Special Resource Center: Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Special Resource Center on campus as soon as possible to
better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. You may also contact me privately to discuss your specific needs.