



# Horticulture AGRI-1315

Course Syllabus: Fall 2020

*“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”*

**Instructor:** Rene’ McCracken

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Office	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Hours	8am – 10am	8am – 9:20am	8am – 10am	8am – 9:20am	8am – 10am	

*Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.*

**Course Description:** 3 credit hours - Structure, growth, and development of horticulture plants from a practical and scientific approach. Environmental effects, basic principles of propagation, greenhouse and outdoor production, nutrition, pruning, chemical control of growth, pest control, and landscaping. (Fall, Spring, Summer)

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Co-requisite(s):** Agriculture majors are required to enroll in AGRI 1115

**Rationale:**

Horticulture enriches our lives by providing such basic requirements as nutritious food, esthetic environment, and emotional well-being. Gardening and other horticultural practices have long been considered as the most favorite leisure activities in American life. This class is designed to provide first-hand experiences in basic horticulture to students interested in the subject.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Identify the various horticultural industries and their roles in our society.
- Describe the fundamentals of plant science.
- Assess the interactions of soils, water, and fertility in plant science.
- Contrast the methods of plant reproduction and propagation.
- Explain the impacts of production methods and technologies on plant science.
- Contrast methods of pest management in plant science.
- Investigate methods of environmental manipulation (e.g. greenhouse controls, frost management methods, hot caps).

**Evaluation/Grading Policy:**

Grades will be computed as follows:

(3) Exams:	60%
(1) Group Project:	15%
Writing Assignments:	10%
iCEV quizzes:	15%
Total:	100%

**Other grading information:**

Your lowest two grades for ICEV will be dropped before final grade average is applied. ICEV material is time sensitive and you will have to turn in by due dates. Late work will receive 10 point deduction each

week. All group projects will receive a grade from instructor as well as each of their team members. Mid-term grades will be calculated and provided in the blackboard gradebook. Grades on all turned in work will be returned to you graded by next scheduled class period.

The grading scale below will be used to determine your final grade.

Points:	Grade:
90-100	A
80- 89	B
70- 79	C
60- 69	D
BELOW 59	F

**Required Instructional Materials:** None

**Publisher:** Pearson; 7<sup>th</sup> Edition

**ISBN Number:** ISBN-10: 0135038669

ISBN-13: 978-0135038666

**Optional Instructional Materials:** Practical Horticulture, Seventh Edition, by Laura Williams Rice and Robert P. Rice Jr.

**Minimum Technology Requirements:** None

**Required Computer Literacy Skills:** None

**Course Structure and Overview:**

**Tests/Exams:**

There will be 3 exams accounting for 60% of your overall grade. Exams will be multiple-choice, matching, short answer, true/false and essays developed from the iCEV online materials, classroom lecture and group projects. You will not be allowed to retake a test. Review for the exam will be given the class day prior to the exam. I strongly urge you not to miss the review.

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

Group Presentations Protocol: Students will be required to develop 1 oral group presentations with visual aids (ex: poster board or power point) that will account for 15% of their final grade. The instructor will assign groups and provide each group a problem or question in plant science. Each group will form a hypothesis of the question and test the hypothesis by doing an experiment(s) and then report the results in class for discussion. Your grade will be assessed on the group and individual effort within the group on the presentation of their hypothesis, experiment, and results.

**Written Assignment Protocol:**

One written report during the semester will account for 10% of the final grade. Written assignment will be researched and scientific method applied to controversial horticulture topics assigned by instructor. Technical papers must be hand-written as a rough draft, typed, 3-5 pages in length with at least 3 citations supporting your position with credible scientific facts. Writing assignments can be first checked by QEP writing tutors prior to submitting for grade. QEP writing tutors are available to all NTCC students free of charge and have posted hours and locations.

**Other related courses:** AGRI 1115 is the lab section of this AGRI 1315 lecture course. Agriculture students are required to take this course in their degree plan for their Ag concentration. However, its

activities and grades will be independent of the lecture course. All students including various degree plan options and agriculture students may take ONLY this lecture course to satisfy 3 credit hours of their life science core required courses.

**Communications:** Turnaround time for email responses (i.e. within 24 hours), stipulating if you will allow student text messages (i.e. Remind app), etc. \*Reminder: NTCC email is the official form of communication used by the college.

**Institutional/Course Policy:**

**Student Responsibilities/Expectations:**

Students are required to participate in all classroom activities. Students are expected to be on time and ready to begin when classes start. Brain teasers or quizzes will be done in the beginning of each class period and students will only have the first 2 minutes to determine their answer. Points will be given for correct answers and no make-ups are available. Students may utilize bonus points on any one grade average but not your final grade. Student should be courteous and treat one another with respect to allow for a peaceful and effective learning environment.

**NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:**

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

**ADA Statement:**

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

**Tentative Course Timeline (\*note\* instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to this timeline at any point in the term):** Include a course outline that lists all assignments (i.e. by week and/or chapter), due dates, test dates, notable college dates, and any other information important to the course. For hybrid courses, also note what will be completed in class versus online. It is strongly suggested that you include the date of graduation for students to see.