



HORTICULTURE LAB: AGRI 1115

Course Syllabus: Fall 2025

“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide responsible, exemplary learning opportunities.”

Bernard Binns
Office: AGC 112
Phone: 903-434-8267
Email: bbinns@ntcc.edu

Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	8am-9am	8am-9am	8am-9am	8am-9am	NA

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.

Catalog Course Description: This laboratory-based course accompanies AGRI 1315. Laboratory activities will reinforce the structure, growth and development of horticultural plants. Examination of environmental effects, basic principles of reproduction, production methods ranging from outdoor to controlled climates, nutrition and pest management. (Cross-listed as HORT 1101) Lab may be taken independently of lecture: AGRI 1315 course.

Optional Textbook:

Introductory Horticulture, 8/E

Carroll L. Shry, Jr.

H. Edward Reiley

Publisher: Cengage Learning

ISBN Number: 9781435480414

Course required materials:

Appropriate clothing and shoes for outdoor work environment.

Lab Content: Lab materials and content will be provided and take place on NTCC Sustainable Market Farm and in the greenhouse. Upon successful completion of this course, students will demonstrate a competency of the following:

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Apply scientific reasoning to investigate questions and utilize scientific and horticultural tools to collect and analyze data demonstrate methods.
2. Use critical thinking and scientific problem-solving to make informed decisions.
3. Communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations.
4. Identify the various horticultural industries and their roles in our society.
5. Describe the fundamentals of plant science.
6. Assess the interactions of soils, water, and fertility in plant science.
7. Contrast the methods of plant reproduction and propagation
8. Explain the impacts of production methods and technologies on plant science.
9. Contrast methods of pest management in plant science.
10. Investigate methods of environmental manipulation (greenhouse controls, row covers)

I. WELCOME TO HORTICULTURE LAB

a. 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.

II. WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE

a. Agriculture Majors

This course can serve as a required course option in the ag concentration for all agriculture majors.

b. Non-Majors

This class is available to all students interested in the subject matter for the general education requirement in science and technology. This course is designed to provide a broad range of training in practical horticulture to any student who likes to work with plants, gardens, landscapes and lawns.

III. COURSE CONTENT (Assignment dates may be altered due to weather/availability of materials etc.)

Week 1: Introduction to “lab spaces” and scientific methods and experimentation and expectations for the course.

Week 2: Assignment of project teams, review of horticultural industries and career exploration.

Week 3-6: Fundamentals of plant science in practicum. Soil preparation, propagation methods, water resource management, and pest management.

Week 7: Review for lab midterm; mid-term skills test

Week 8: *Spring break project*

Week 9: Begin final group project

Week 10-14 Complete group project – operation of greenhouse #2

Week 15: Final comprehensive skills exam

IV. LAB PRACTICUMS: Three lab skills examinations are submitted throughout the semester. Each is worth 50 points. Students will demonstrate a process or be asked to identify and classify horticulture structures/tools etc

V. HORTICULTURE Journal: You will be expected to keep a horticulture journal for this class. This will account for 150 out of 1000 points of your total grade. On your blackboard a journal space will open on Monday mornings at 9am and will be due by Friday at 11:59pm. Once it is closed, it will no longer be accessible by students. There are 5 questions you will need to answer for each week.

VI. CLASS PARTICIPATION: As this is an applied lab necessary for the function and operation of The NTCC Sustainable Market Garden, your participation is imperative to the garden’s success. For this reason, your participation in weekly lab and assigned activities are a large portion of your overall grade. Students will receive 25 points for each lab they complete and are present, prepared for the lab and on time. Total possible points = 700 of the total 1000 points possible for this course. Should you miss a lab for a college approved excused absence you will be allowed to make it up. If the absence is not excused then you will not be allowed to make up the time.

VII. GRADING: Grades for this course are separate from the lecture AGRI 1315 course. Attendance and participation is mandatory. Absences must be made up in a timely manner. Bonus point opportunities will be available should you need them.

	Points			Grading Scale
Three lab practicums	150		A	900-1000
Horticulture journal	150		B	800-899
Class Participation	700		C	700-799
			D	600-699
			F	<600
<i>Total</i>	<i>1000</i>			

VIII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

a. Class Attendance

Regular attendance of classes is required. In case of sickness or other emergencies, students should contact the instructor so that make-up lab exercise can be arranged.

b. Students with Special Needs

Any student with disabilities or other special needs, who needs special accommodations in this course, is invited to share these concerns or requests with the instructor as soon as possible. Reasonable accommodations will be made accordingly but it is your responsibility to seek out the instructor as needed.

c. Office Hours

Office hours for the instructor: By appointment only Tues. and Thurs. You may also arrange for an appointment by zoom video conferencing.

NTCC Academic Honesty Statement:

"Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty policy stated in the Student Handbook."

Academic Ethics

The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuit. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, or collusion is unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals 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 arrange an appointment with a College counselor to obtain a Request for Accommodations form. For more information, please refer to the NTCC Catalog or Student Handbook.

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.

Other Course Policies:

The use of cell phones or texting devices is not prohibited during class and lab however, students using said devices in a manner which causes a disturbance in the course will be asked to leave for the lab period and lose the points for the lab.