



## Intro Horticulture AGRI 1415 – Dual Credit (Advanced Plant Science)

**Course Syllabus:** Fall 25' - Spring 26'

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

**Instructor:** Amy Podlewski

**Office:** Beckville Jr/Sr High Ag  
Building

**Phone:** 903-678-4738

**Email:** podlewskia@beckvilleisd.net

Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
	7:30am - 4pm Conference: 12:50-1:40	7:30am - 4pm Conference: 12:50-1:40	7:30am - 4pm Conference: 12:50-1:40	7:30am - 4pm Conference: 12:50-1:40	7:30am - 4pm Conference: 12:50-1:40	

*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:** This course is designed to introduce students to the basic concepts and skills utilized in horticulture and soil sciences. Students will receive an introduction to basic botanical concepts such as morphology, anatomy, taxonomy, physiology, genetics, and propagation as they apply to horticulture. They will also discuss the importance of soil conservation and chemical makeup.

**Prerequisite(s):** None

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

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

**Evaluation/Grading Policy:** Final course grades will be assigned as follows:

90-100 = A 80-89 = B 70-79 = C 60-69 = D 59 or Below = F

Grades will be calculated as follows:

Tests = 45%

Labs & Journal Abstract = 30%

Daily grades/Quizzes = 25%

This course offers no re-testing opportunities as multiple test/project/research paper grades will be taken each grading period. Late work may be turned in, but will receive a 10 point per day late deduction.

**Required Instructional Materials:** Composition Book (college ruled 100+ pgs)

**Minimum Technology Requirements:** Beckville ISD issued laptop/personal laptop

**Required Computer Literacy Skills:** Basic computer skills and Google Classroom

**Course Structure and Overview:**

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
<b>Week #1</b>	Introduction	<b>Week #1</b>	Intro to Crop Production
<b>Week #2</b>	Lab Safety & Intro to Scientific Method	<b>Week #2</b>	Regional Crop Production
<b>Week #3</b>	Scientific Method & Research	<b>Week #3</b>	Hydroponics
<b>Week #4</b>	Ecological Systems	<b>Week #4</b>	Aquaponics
<b>Week #5</b>	Nutrient Cycles	<b>Week #5</b>	Plant Anatomy
<b>Week #6</b>	Energy Flow & Ecological Succession	<b>Week #6</b>	Plant Anatomy
<b>Week #7</b>	Soil Characteristics	<b>Week #7</b>	Plant Classifications
<b>Week #8</b>	Soil Biology	<b>Week #8</b>	Plant Taxonomy
<b>Week #9</b>	Soil Water, Fertility & Productivity	<b>Week #9</b>	Plant Cell
<b>Week #10</b>	Soil Importance	<b>Week #10</b>	Genetics
<b>Week #11</b>	Intro to Environmental Science	<b>Week #11</b>	Genetics
<b>Week #12</b>	Human Population & Laws	<b>Week #12</b>	Genetics
<b>Week #13</b>	Soil Conservation	<b>Week #13</b>	Reproduction
<b>Week #14</b>	Introduction Watersheds	<b>Week #14</b>	Reproduction
<b>Week #15</b>	Watersheds Importance	<b>Week #15</b>	Biotechnology
<b>Week #16</b>	Semester Exams	<b>Week #16</b>	Semester Exams

**\*\* Weekly topics will include both lecture & lab's for that week \*\***

**Communications:**

- Best form of communication is by email (response time within 24 hours)
  - [podlewskia@beckvilleisd.net](mailto:podlewskia@beckvilleisd.net)
- **Remind101** will be used throughout the year for important updates and reminders.
  - **Code: @beckplant**
  - Do not try to text/communicate through Remind.

**Institutional/Course Policy:** Attendance is expected and required per the Beckville ISD District Policy. Tardiness on days labs are held off campus will be counted as an absence, as you will be unable to participate in lab activities that day. As stated above, this course offers no re-testing opportunities as multiple test/project/research paper grades will be taken each grading period. Late work may be turned in,

but will receive a 10 point per day late deduction.

**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.

**Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements**

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site."

**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):**