



## **AGRI 1115 025 – Horticulture Lab**

Course Syllabus: Fall 2026

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

**Instructor:** Bernard Binns

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| Weekday   | Office Hours      |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Monday    | 7:30 AM – 8:AM    |
| Tuesday   | None              |
| Wednesday | None              |
| Thursday  | 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM |
| Friday    | None              |

**This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.**

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 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.

**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 competence of the following student learning outcomes.

Prerequisite(s): Co-Requisite AGRI 1315

### **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)

## Evaluation/Grading Policy:

*The breakdown of the course requirements is as follows:*

| %   | Requirement        |
|-----|--------------------|
| 30% | Practical Exams    |
| 25% | Writing Assignment |
| 30% | Lab Participation  |
| 15% | Lab Journal        |

*Semester grades will be earned as follows*

| Percentage      | Letter Grade |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 90% and above   | A            |
| 80 %–89%        | B            |
| 70 %–79%        | C            |
| 60%–69 %        | D            |
| 59.9% and below | F            |

Using the Normal Style text insert full detailed grading policies

### Required Instructional Materials:

No textbook is required as all materials needed will be provided to the students, however; students will be required to wear appropriate clothing for working in outdoor lab spaces and the greenhouses. No open-toed shoes.

**Publisher: N/A**

**ISBN Number: N/A**

### Optional Instructional Materials:

Student's are allowed to bring their own gloves and safety equipment, i.e. goggles, if they so desire.

### Minimum Technology Requirements:

Computer with internet access

### Required Computer Literacy Skills:

Basic computer skills with literacy in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and use of search engines

### Course Structure and Overview:

**LAB PRACTICUMS:** Three lab skills examinations are submitted throughout the semester. Each is worth 100 points

for 300 possible points. Students will demonstrate a process or be asked to identify and classify horticulture structures/tools etc.

**HORTICULTURE Journal:** Students 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 will be questions you will need to answer each week.

**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 10 points for each lab they complete and are present, prepared for the lab and on time. Total possible points = 300 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.

**Writing Assignment:** Students will be required to write a 3-page 1.5-line spaced paper, with one-inch margins, 12-point times new roman font, with at least 3 scholarly articles cited using APA 7<sup>th</sup> edition. This paper will be over a topic in horticulture that we will go over in class. The grading rubric will be as follows: 40 points for proper formatting and citations, 40 points for being scientifically and scholarly written. In other words, your content makes sense and it is supported by your references, and 20 points for punctuation and grammar. This assignment will be given in week four and will not be due until week 12 to ensure students have adequate time to research their topic. There will be some labs when it is not possible to go outside that can be used to work in the classroom. Any questions should be given to the instructor so that I may provide general feedback to help you along the way. This assignment is worth 25% of your total grade.

### **Communications:**

The primary method of communication will be via NTCC e-mail. I will respond to all e-mails within 24 hours, except for emails received on Saturday and Sunday. Those e-mails will be responded to on the following Monday.

### **Institutional/Course Policy:**

Attendance and participation in the labs is mandatory. If a student is sick and unable to attend class, they should contact the instructor or it will be treated as an unexcused absence. Students are expected to show up on time and be ready to get to work, any student showing up to class late needs to contact the instructor to see if it will be excused and upgraded to a tardy versus an absence. Tardies earn half the points of attendance so multiple tardies can have a substantial impact on your participation grade. Make up labs will be offered in the event of an excused missed lab. There will be opportunities for bonus points during the semester should you need them.

### **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.

### **Statement Regarding the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technology:**

Employees and students shall be permitted to explore artificial intelligence (AI) and implement its use in and out of

the classroom in accordance with policy and administrative regulations. The use of AI shall only be as a support tool to enhance student outcomes or as necessary to engage in research and shall never take the place of faculty, staff, and student decision-making. Any use of AI must comply with law, policy, and administrative regulations relating to student and employee privacy and data security. A student shall only use AI tools with faculty permission and shall be expected to produce original work and properly credit sources, including AI tools used in creating the work.

Example:

APA (7th edition)

OpenAI. (2026). ChatGPT (March 25 version) [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/>

MLA (9th edition)

OpenAI. ChatGPT. 25 Mar. 2026, <https://chat.openai.com/>.

Employees or students who use AI tools to deceptively harm, bully, or harass others shall be disciplined in accordance with policy. [See DH, DIA series, FFD series, FFE, FLB, and the FM series] AI Use by Employees and Students. Northeast Texas Community College 225500 TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES CRB ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (LOCAL) DATE ISSUED: 12/8/2025 1 of 1 UPDATE 50 CRB(LOCAL)-AJC Adopted: 12/16/2025

### **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 accommodation 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 accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodation. 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 Schedule:**

Course schedule will be given in class and is subject to change.