



AGRI 1415 –Horticulture Dual Credit

Course Syllabus: Fall 2026 – Spring 2027

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

Instructor: Stephanie Dickson

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Weekday	Office Hours
Monday	9:37am – 10:29am
Tuesday	9:37am – 10:29am
Wednesday	9:37am – 10:29am
Thursday	9:37am – 10:29am
Friday	By Appt.

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 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:

1. Identify the various horticultural industries and their roles in our society.
2. Describe the fundamentals of plant science
3. Assess the interactions of soil, 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:

The breakdown of the course requirements is as follows:

%	Requirement
60%	Tests
20%	Labs & Journal Abstract
20%	Daily Grades

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

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:

No textbooks will be required. The instructor may choose to use the following texts and resources for delivery of informational content.

- Practical Horticulture, Seventh Edition, by Laura Williams Rice and Robert P. Rice Jr, Pearson; ISBN-10: 0135038669 ISBN-13: 978-0135038666
- iCEV- 1415 Horticulture & iCEV Advanced Plant and Soil

Optional Instructional Materials:

None

Minimum Technology Requirements:

School issued or personal laptop

Required Computer Literacy Skills:

Basic computer skills and Google Classroom

Course Structure and Overview:

This dual credit course is a combination of face-to-face and online (blended) environments. All content and instruction will be available for access within Google Classroom, iCEV, and Blackboard Ultra. Please see more information about alternate course delivery in the syllabus below.

4 Credit Hours are earned by the student participating in a minimum of 96 hours of student engagement with course learning activities. This may include lectures, podcasts, videos, reading excerpts of provided textbook chapters, the study of lecture materials, participation in interactive activities and presentations, lab participation and skills assessments, lab write-ups and other associated projects, and additional review and study for examinations

Communications:

All students are required to check their email daily. This will be the primary communication vehicle utilized to disperse important announcements and updates for this course. Emails sent to the instructor will be answered within 24hrs on weekdays only while class is in session. *Reminder: NTCC email is the official form of communication used by the college. For MVISD Dual Credit student's you may also use your Mt. Vernon ISD issued email address to communicate to the instructor.

Institutional/Course Policy:

Attendance is expected and required per the Mt Vernon 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.

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

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.