Texas A&M University – Commerce
Department of Agricultural Sciences
PIS 230 – Ornamental Plant Identification
Fall 2012

Instructor: Dr. Derald A. Harp
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Phone: (903) 886-5367
Lecture: TR 9:30 – 10:20 am STC 211
Lab: TBA
Office: Ag/IT 154
O. Hours: Posted on door

I. Course Description
Ornamental trees, shrubs, vines, and garden annuals and perennials. Their identification, nomenclature, classification, cultural requirements and landscape uses. 3 hours credit (2/2).

II. Prerequisites
None

III. Student Learning Outcomes
A. Students will become familiar with and learn to use plant vegetative and reproductive morphology terminology

B. Students will be able to identify common interior and exterior landscape plants

C. Students will learn the proper cultural and environmental requirements, pest and disease issues, and propagation techniques for the landscape plants discussed

IV. Expectations of the Students

A. Regular attendance in lecture and lab

B. Evidence of accumulated knowledge

C. Active participation in laboratory exercises.

D. Appropriate dress for lab and classroom activities
V. Textbook

*Landscape Plants for Texas and Environs, 2nd edition*, Michael A. Arnold. Stipes Publishing (Recommended!)

VI. Basis of Student Evaluation

A. 3 Lecture Exams - 600 points
B. Cumulative Final Exam - 200 points
C. Lab – 600 points
   a. Weekly quizzes - 200 points
      i. These 20 point quizzes will be given weekly, beginning week 3
      ii. You may drop the quiz with the lowest grade
   b. Plant book - 200 points (see addendum)
   c. Lab final – 200 points
D. Grading Scale
   1260+ = A, 1120+ = B, 980+ = C, 840+ = D

VII. Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes. Make up will be allowed for sickness, family illness, and college functions. Some class projects cannot be made up so make sure that you have a legitimate excuse.

VIII. Student Conduct:

Students are expected to respect the rights of others in the class. Cell phones and other electronic equipment should be turned off prior to the beginning of class. Use of these items during class time, or any other unwarranted classroom disruption, will result in your immediate excusal from class for the remainder of the period.

You may bring drinks to class. Please finish any meals before class begins. The use of tobacco products during class time is strictly prohibited.

Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. Copying of others’ work, use of disallowed material on exams, plagiarism in assignments, or cheating in any other form as defined by the instructor will result in a grade of zero for that assignment. Multiple infractions will result in a grade of ‘F’ for the course.

Students requesting accommodations for disabilities must go through the Academic Support Committee. For more information, please contact the Director of Disability Resources & Services, Halladay Student Services Building, Rm. 303D, (903) 886-5835.
For this class, you are asked to create a photographic plant collection. Portions of this project may be completed during lab, but, due to time constraints, we may not be able to accommodate everyone during class time. You should be prepared to complete this project outside of class.

Your book should consist of at least 180 ornamental plants from the following categories: 1) trees, 2) shrubs, 3) groundcovers, 4) perennials and grasses, 5) annuals, and 6) interior plants. Your book should include every plant covered during lab and at least 5 new plants in each category. Each specimen should include a photograph and a plant description. Description sheets for most species can be found on the T: drive.

The book should include a table of contents with page numbers and be arranged in sections according to the categories above. Within each category, plants should be arranged alphabetically, by botanic name.

The photographs may be digital or film, but the pictures must be in color. Pictures should be 4 x 6, and the plant should be readily identifiable from the print. The images may be printed, but the print must be photo quality. The text must be outside of the picture and must be typed or printed. The font is at your discretion.

This book should be made using a 3-ring binder or may be ring-bound. A 3” binder should be large enough for the project. The paper should be heavy enough to resist warping. Pages may be laminated or placed in plastic protective sheets, but that is not required. You may use a photo album if so desired. You will get these back, and this can be a book you can add to in the future, so do the best job you can.

**Grading Rubric**

Plants 1 point each (Identification and spelling)
Categories 15 points (All plants accounted for, Lab +5)
Photos 10 points (Arrangement)
Appearance 15 points (Table of Contents, overall quality)