



Hort 330 – “Landscape Plants for Urban and Community Environments”

– Fall 2024 –

Mondays and Wednesdays (class): 12:10 – 1 PM

Location: Spark 212

Tuesdays and Thursdays (lab1): 9:10 – 10:25 AM (lab 2): 10:35 – 11:50

Location: Vogel 39

Catalog description: 3 (2-3) Plants for solving problems in human-dominated landscapes: their characteristics and functions, such as storm water management and climate change mitigation, ecology, identification, and selection.

Recommended: BIO 120 or HORT 202.

Expanded course description: Accelerated urbanization, globalization and climate change impact our environment, ecosystems and human health with a wide range of negative outcomes. Consequences of these impacts include increases in invasive plants and pests, increase in plant diseases, the rising urban heat-island effect, wind, excessive storm water, the need for local food production, and increases in human health problems

Many cities use landscape plants to mitigate some of these effects in the urban environment. This course focuses on understanding environmental and human health impacts in areas of concentrated populations and on using specific groups of plants, based on their characteristics, to help mitigate these issues.

Instructor: Austin Little, Clark Hall Suite 205-211, richard.little@wsu.edu

Office hours: Monday and Wed. 1:30 -2:30 (in person or zoom) or appointment

Teaching Assistant: Taylor Woodworth, email: taylor.woodworth@wsu.edu

Class content:

Importance of plants in urban and community environments

60% of the class will focus on understanding environmental issues and physical/mental health problems associated with living in human-dominated landscapes and built environments. We will examine the uses or functions of landscape plants to solve, reduce, or mitigate these problems. Topics for this portion of the class will include urban heat-island effect, energy use, loss of genetic diversity, storm water management, risks to native plants/animals/insects, and increasing human health problems and deaths associated with poor air quality and increased stress. Students will also research additional, selected urban and community problems.

Identifying plants for urban and community environments

40% of the class will focus on learning to select and identify landscape plants for these functions. For example, we will look at effective plant choices for green roofs and walls, temperature mitigation, edible landscapes, and improved human health. For selected labs, students will have input into plant choices for additional functions based on their research on selected urban and community problems.

Textbook: (optional) and Readings:

Manual of Woody Landscape Plants, Michael A. Dirr (5th or 6th edition). Also available as an app

***recommended but not required**

Readings: Articles are accessed through CANVAS

“CANVAS” - Online Course Management system

- The online course management system can be accessed via CANVAS at: wsu.instructure.com
- Please check this site frequently for :
 - Announcements
 - Syllabus and schedule

- Grades
- Weekly modules with:
 - assignments
 - Lecture power points
 - articles to read
 - Detailed assignment information
 - Plant lists

GRADING

Grading Breakdown: Points are weighted as shown below. All scores are posted on **CANVAS**

Item	Percentage of total grade
PARTICIPATION:	15%
READING ASSIGNMENTS	10 %
HOMEWORK: GROUP ASSIGNMENTS	15%
CLASS EXAMS	20%
LAB ID QUIZZES	20%
Lab ID Exams	20%
Total -	100%

Midterm Grades: assigned based on percent of points possible two to five days before grades are due.

Final Grades:

A = 93.00% +	B+ = 87.00-89.99 %	C+ = 77.00-79.99 %	D+ = 67.00-69.99 %	F = < 59.99 %
A- = 90.00 -92.99 %	B = 83.00-86.99 %	C = 73.00-76.99 %	D = 60.00-66.99 %	
	B- = 80.00-82.99 %	C- = 70.00-72.99 %		

- **Participation:**
 - includes attendance and participation (2pts/class = 8pts/week), Lab activities, group project participation
- **Reading Assignments**
 - Throughout the semester, you will have various reading assignments. all reading material is testable material. Do not skip reading assignments.
 - **Readings and quizzes:** read one or two articles and take a quiz on CANVAS
- **Homework – Group assignments**
 - There will be 3 different group assignments given throughout the semester that have both a written and oral component. Worth 50 pts each.
- **Class Exams**
 - **Lectures:** There are 2 tests and one final. If you make a higher grade on your final than one of the previous tests, then the higher final exam score will replace the lower score (of the two tests).
 - **LABS:**

- **Lab ID Quizzes:** Starting week 3, we will have identification quizzes each week in Tuesday labs. There will be 8 plants on the quiz and most plants will come from the current plant list. All quizzes are cumulative and so a plant from week 4 could be on a week 6 ID quiz. The two lowest lab quiz scores will be dropped.
- **Lab ID Exams:**
 - Midterm lab exam – lists 1-6
 - Final lab exam – lists 6 -10

COURSE POLICIES

- **In the classroom:**
 - Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, etc., and have been warned, may suffer a reduction in their final class grade
 - Please silence mobile phones, laptops, devices etc. during all classroom lectures and labs. Those not respecting this rule will be asked to leave the classroom to not disrupt the learning environment.
 - You may use a laptop or other electronic device only for **note taking**.
 - Be respectful of your instructor, speakers, and fellow classmates by refraining from text messaging, online social media, games, etc. during class time. Such activities are a distraction to those around you and have no place in a lecture classroom.
 - Be respectful of your classmates
- **Participation Expectations:**
 - Be a positive, contributing member of the class. Come to class prepared. Assist others when you can.
 - Regular attendance and participation are essential to doing well in this course. The material to be learned depends heavily on presentations and activities in class and lab. There are no good alternative sources of materials for much of the information covered. Assignments and other information will be posted on **CANVAS. CHECK CANVAS OFTEN!**
 - Be prepared to go outside during lab, regardless of weather. Be prepared to walk rapidly on wet, muddy, or slippery surfaces. If it is raining, please wear a raincoat or carry an umbrella.
 - If you miss a class, go to CANVAS to find out what you missed. If anything is still unclear, ask the instructor.
 - Check your student e-mail regularly. If there is an unexpected class cancellation, I will send you an e-mail and add an announcement to CANVAS
- **Make-Up Scores, Exams & Quizzes:**
 - You are expected to attend all classes and labs. **No make-ups** will be given for class or lab participation, class exams, lab ID quizzes, or lab ID exams. If you miss any of these, you will receive a zero for your score. A specified number (see above) of low scores for exams and attendance are dropped to keep you from being unduly penalized for missing class for unforeseen circumstances, such as an illness, death in the family, court appearance, or faulty alarm. You do not need to provide an excuse. If there are extreme, extenuating circumstances, an alternative arrangement or to assigning an incomplete may be considered.
- **Late Work:**
 - You may turn in a written assignment late, but **you will lose 2 points for every day** (including weekends) it is late. **All oral presentations** must be given on the due date. If you are not present for your group's presentation, you will not receive credit for that part of the assignment.
- **Submitting Assignments in CANVAS**
 - **SUBMISSION POLICY:**
 - When you submit assignments into CANVAS you must use only the acceptable file types (see below) If you try to submit a different file type, CANVAS will not accept your submission.

- Check to see if your submission has been accepted by clicking back into the assignment in the gradebook. Click here for instructions: [How-do-I-know-when-my-assignment-has-been-submitted in CANVAS](#)
- Label all assignments appropriately, beginning with your last name: “Kawula-homework 1 “
- You are responsible to submit all files properly. If you are having trouble, please contact one of us for help.
- **Acceptable Electronic File Policy:**
 - There are many types of electronic devices used to create documents. Due to the wide array of file types, we are limiting our acceptable file format. The following file types are acceptable:
 - pdf
 - doc
 - docx
 - ppt
 - pptx

WSU POLICIES

WSU Reasonable Accommodation Statement

- **Students with documented Disabilities or chronic medical or psychological conditions:**

Reasonable accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities or chronic medical or psychological conditions. If you have a disability and need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please visit your campus’ Access Center/Services website to follow published procedures to request accommodations. Students may also contact their campus offices to schedule an appointment with a Access Advisor. All disability related accommodations are to be approved through the Access Center/Services on your campus. It is a university expectation that students visit with instructors (via email, Zoom, or in person) to discuss logistics within two weeks after they have officially requested their accommodations.

For more information, contact a Disability Specialist on your home campus:

- Pullman, Everett : 509-335-3417 [Access Center](#) (<https://www.accesscenter.wsu.edu>) or email at access.center@wsu.edu

Academic Integrity Policy (www.conduct.wsu.edu/)

- All members of the university community share responsibility for maintaining and promoting the principles of integrity in all activities, including academic integrity and honest scholarship. Academic integrity will be strongly enforced in this course. Students are responsible for understanding the full Academic Integrity Statement found here: [WSU academic policy](#)
- If the instructor thinks a student has violated the Academic integrity policy they will begin the process of reporting the offense: [WSU - academic integrity process](#)
- Students who violate WSU’s Academic Integrity Policy (identified in WAC 504-26-010(3) and -404) will receive a zero grade for the assignment and will be reported to the Office of Student Standards and Accountability. Students will not have the option to withdraw from the course pending an appeal. If you have any questions about what is and is not allowed in this course, you should ask course instructors.

WSU Safety Information

Please sign up for emergency alerts on your account at MyWSU. For more information on this subject, campus safety, and related topics, please view the FBI's Run, Hide, Fight video and visit the classroom safety page <https://provost.wsu.edu/classroom-safety/>.

Discrimination and Harassment Policy Statement

Discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct (including stalking, intimate partner violence, and sexual violence) is prohibited at WSU (See [WSU Policy Prohibiting Discrimination and Harassment](#) (Executive Policy 15) and [WSU Standards of Conduct for Students](#)). If you feel you have experienced or have witnessed discriminatory conduct, you can contact the WSU Compliance & Civil Rights (CCR) and/or the [WSU Title IX Coordinator](#) at 509-335-8288 to discuss resources, including confidential resources, and reporting options. (Visit ccr.wsu.edu for more information). Most WSU employees, including faculty, who have information regarding sexual harassment or sexual misconduct are required to report the information to CCR or a designated Title IX Coordinator or Liaison. (Visit ccr.wsu.edu/reporting-requirements for more info)

“Lauren’s Promise” – I will listen and believe you if someone is threatening you.

Lauren McCluskey, a 21-year-old honors student athlete, was murdered on October 22, 2018, on the University of Utah campus by a man she briefly dated. *We must all take actions to ensure that this never happens again.*

University Support and Response for Discrimination and Harassment:

- Discrimination, discriminatory harassment, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct (including stalking, intimate partner violence, and sexual violence) are prohibited at WSU (see Executive Policy 15 - [WSU Policy Prohibiting Discrimination and Harassment](#), the [WSU Standards of Conduct for Students](#), and relevant employee manuals). WSU has instituted procedures to respond to violations of these laws and standards, programs aimed at the prevention of such conduct, and intervention on behalf of victims.
- If you are in immediate danger, call 911. If you are experiencing sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, discrimination or harassment, **you have support and options**. If you share information with me, please know that I am required to reach out to the Title IX Coordinator in WSU Compliance and Civil Rights (CCR), and CCR will reach out to you with information about on and off campus reporting options and resources. CCR is a system-wide resource (all campuses) which is available for intake consultations for you to learn more about available support. You can reach them directly at 509-335-8288, ccr@wsu.edu, or [report online](#) (anonymous reports accepted).

You can also speak to a victim advocate, a medical provider, or counselor confidentially about your concerns. Advocates help survivors of crime determine their own needs in regard to their physical and emotional health, reporting options, and academic concerns. At no cost, advocates connect survivors to campus and community services, and provide accompaniment to important appointments

Accommodation for Religious Observances or Activities

- reasonably accommodates absences allowing for students to take holidays for reasons of faith or conscience or organized activities conducted under the auspices of a religious denomination, church, or religious organization. Reasonable accommodation requires the student to coordinate with the instructor on scheduling examinations or other activities necessary for course completion. Students requesting accommodation must provide written notification within the first two weeks of the beginning of the course and include specific dates for absences. Approved accommodations for absences will not adversely impact

student grades. Absence from classes or examinations for religious reasons does not relieve students from responsibility for any part of the course work required during the period of absence. Students who feel they have been treated unfairly in terms of this accommodation may refer to Academic Regulation 104 - Academic Complaint Procedures. See also Rule 82, available <https://registrar.wsu.edu/academic-regulations/>

Syllabus Changes: Information in this syllabus, on CANVAS, and in class handouts is correct, but could change if something unexpected occurs. Changes will be presented in class, on CANVAS announcements and e-mails.

Class Policy Violations: Any violations of class policies or instructors' instructions could result in being banned from specific classes or labs or expelled from the entire course.

Student learning goals and outcomes:

WSU Learning Goal	Outcome: By the end of the semester, you will be able to:	Activity to advance learning goal	Evaluation of proficiency
1. Critical & creative thinking	Select plants to solve different environmental or human health problems, including climate change, and justify the selection	Lectures, readings, and discussions	Participation; Homework; Exams
2. Quantitative reasoning	Explain graphical information on environmental and human health issues associated with human-dominated landscapes and the role of plants in mitigating the issues	Lectures, readings, and discussions	Participation; Homework; Exams; Quizzes
3. Scientific literacy	Describe biological basis for plant responses to environmental factors, and define how this contributes to plants' ability to benefit human-dominated landscapes	Lectures, lab activities, readings, and discussions	Participation; Homework; Exams; Quizzes
4. Information literacy	Find and evaluate resources on plants, environment, and human health issues associated with human-dominated landscapes	Class discussions and homework	Participation; Homework
5. Communication skills	Describe (orally and in writing) functional uses of landscape plants to solve selected environmental and human health issues associated with human-dominated landscapes	Class discussions, lab activities, and homework	Participation; Homework; Exams; Quizzes
6. Diversity	Recognize and compare the values of working effectively alone and in groups	Class and lab activities	Participation; Homework
7. Depth of learning	Demonstrate awareness of the ways that landscape plants can be used to solve environmental and human health issues associated with human-dominated landscapes	Class discussions, lab activities, and homework	Participation; Homework; Exams; Quizzes

Horticulture 330 – 2024 Tentative Weekly Schedule

(Subject to change as presented in class, on the class web site, or on CANVAS)

Week	Class (M/W)	Lab (T/Th)	Homework, quiz, or exam
1	Introduction; Taxonomy and Nomenclature	Introduction; Plant Blindness discussion. Plant benefits	H.W. - 1
2	Sci Names, Quiz how-to, Plant Nomenclature, Morphology	List 1: Pollution reduction	Lab quiz 0 (Tues.)
3	Holiday (Mon.); Plants for pollinators and wildlife	List 2: Pollinators and wildlife	Lab quiz 1 (Tues.) H.W. 1 - presentations
4	Raingardens and storm water management	List 3: Storm water mgt.	Lab quiz 2 (Tues.)
5	Edible landscapes	List 4: Edible landscapes	Lab quiz 3 (Tues.) H.W. 2 – presentations (Mon)
6	Stormwater management	List 5: Parking strips	Lab quiz 4 (Tues.)
7	Class exam review and catch-up Exam 1	List 6: Green roofs and walls	Lab quiz 5 (Tues.) Class exam 1 (Wed)
8	Green roofs and walls	Lab midterm ID review	Lab quiz 6 (Tues.)
9	ID Review; Invasive plants	Lab midterm ID exam	ID exam (Tues. & Thurs.)
10	Plants to mitigate urban heat island effect	List 7: Cooling	No quiz (Tues)
11	Windbreaks and energy use	List 8: Windbreaks	Lab quiz 7 (Tues.) H.W. 3- presentations (Mon)
12	Water conservation	List 9: Water conservation	Lab quiz 8 (Tues.) H.W. 3- presentations (Mon)
13	Genetic diversity	List 10: Selected problems	Lab quiz 9 (Tues.)
14	Class exam preparation or catch-up; Exam 2	Lab exam ID review	Lab quiz 10 (Tues.) Class exam 2 (Wed)
15	ID Review; Class summary and conclusions	Final lab ID exam	ID exam (Tues. & Thurs.)
Exam	Monday Dec. 9, 1:30 – 3:30		Final class exam

Important dates:

Homework	Date
#1 – submit written justification	Sat. Aug. 24 11:59 p.m.
#1 - Presentations	Wed. Sept. 4
#2 – Written & Presentations	Mon. Sept. 16
#3 – Written & Presentations	Wed. Oct 30
#3 – Presentations cont.	Mon. Nov 4

Exam	Date
Lecture exam 1	Wed. Oct. 2
Midterm ID exam	Tues. & Thurs. Oct. 15 & 17
Lecture exam 2	Wed. Nov. 20
Final ID exam	Tues. & Thurs. Dec. 3 & 5
Final Exam	Wed. Dec. 9, 1:30 – 3:30 PM

Reading and reading quizzes due per dates posted in CANVAS.