Bergen Community College
Division of Mathematics, Science & Technology
Department of Biology and Horticulture

Interior Plantscaping (HRT-120)
General Course Syllabus
Revised: Summer 2015

Semester and year:  
Section Number:  
Meeting times & locations:  
Instructor:  
Office Location:  
Phone:  
Office Hours:  
Email Address:  

Course Description: HRT-120 Interior Plantscaping acquaints the student with interior plant materials with emphasis on their cultural requirements, maintenance practices and key ornamental aspects. Emphasis will be placed on selection of appropriate plants in environments calling for a balance of human needs and plant culture. Basic business applications regarding the interior plantscape industry are covered.

Prerequisites: None  
General Education Course: No  
Course Credits: 3.0  
Hours per week: 4.0: 2 hours lecture and 2 hours lab  

Course Coordinator: Dr. Steven Fischer

Required Text: The Healthy Indoor Plant, first edition, by Charles Powell and Rosemarie Rossetti  
Supplementary Text: Interior Plantscaping prepared by Dr. Steven Fischer and Susan K. Gruben  
Required Laboratory Manual: None  
Supplementary Materials: None

Student Learning Objectives  
The student will be able to:

1. Identify the most common tropical plants used in the interior plantscape and recognize their diversity in physical appearance as well as their cultural needs. Assessment will be based upon performance on exams.
2. Recall the structure and function of the basic plant organs; leaves, stems, and roots. Assessment will be based upon performance on exams.
3. Recognize how the growth, development, and health of indoor plants are affected by both foliar and root environments. Assessment will be based on performance on exams and a plant utilization project.
4. Perform a site analysis on indoor areas and create a simple design utilizing indoor tropical plants in an aesthetically pleasing manner. Students will be evaluated by creation of a site analysis and design project.
5. Demonstrate the proper maintenance techniques to promote plant health and an attractive appearance in the interior plantscape. Students will be assessed by their performance on exams and by observation in the laboratory.

6. Identify the common problems, pests and diseases of indoor plants and how to control them. Students will be assessed by their performance on exams and by observation in the laboratory.

**Student Assessment Tools:**
The above student learning objectives will be generally assessed or evaluated by instructors using a variety of assessment instruments including lecture exams, laboratory exams, quizzes, laboratory reports, written reports, presentations, projects, etc. The decisions concerning the type or types and number of instruments that are used in a specific section of the course will be left to the instructor of that section. This information, when given by the instructor should be recorded by the student in the Student Assessment Section of this document.

**Course Content Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction, the history of indoor gardening, why grow plants indoors? Introduction to low light plants, “greening up” E-186</td>
<td>ch. 1 to p. 5</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Plant biology, plant needs, observation of plant parts and their diversity Selected low light plants</td>
<td>ch. 2 to p. 15</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>The foliage environment, site analysis in East Hall Selected low light plants</td>
<td>ch. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The root environment, FIELD TRIP Artificial lighting, selected low light plants</td>
<td>ch. 4</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Container mixes and fertilizers, introduction to medium light plants Selected medium light plants, FIELD TRIP, review</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>EXAM, PROJECT #1 DUE</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Design Aspects of the Interior Plantscape, selected medium light plants</td>
<td>p.58-61</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>FIELD TRIP, medium light plants</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Indoor Plant Maintenance Techniques, selected medium light plants Acclimation, Introduction to High Light Plants</td>
<td>ch.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>The Interior Plantscape Business, guest speaker Chris Raimondi</td>
<td>ch.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>FIELD TRIP, selected high light plants</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Interior Plant Maintenance Techniques, selected high light plants</td>
<td>p.5-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>PROJECT #2 DUE: Indoor Plant Problems, Pests and Diseases</td>
<td>ch7+8</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>EXAM</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
FIELD TRIPS (dates to be announced):

- Garden State Plaza and/or other commercial planting (observe large commercial plantings)
- Metropolitan Plant Exchange (retail)
- Alexander Hay (wholesale tropical and seasonal indoor plants, dish gardens)
- Brian Fischer, Morningside: “Orchids”

Faculty Addenda:

Lecture Attendance:
Lab Attendance:
Policy Concerning Late Assignments:
Policy Concerning Make-Up Testing:
Safety Information:
Other Class Policies:

Student Assessment:

Lecture Examinations %
Laboratory Component %
Student Project/Report %
Class Participation %
Other %
Total 100%

If you have a medical condition or develop a medical condition during this semester, which prevents you from fulfilling the requirements of this course, you must notify your physician. You and your physician must decide whether or not it is appropriate for you to remain in this course. If the decision is to remain in this course, please obtain a letter from your physician indicating that your continued participation in this course is appropriate and present it to the Department Chair.

College Policies:
Student Responsibility
Students will be held responsible for reading all pertinent information in college publications regarding withdrawals, course drops, college deadlines, and tuition refunds. Students are responsible for compliance with the rules and regulations as stated in college publications.

Absence of Instructor
Students are expected to wait twenty minutes for a faculty member to come to class. If at the end of twenty minutes, the faculty member does not come, the students should sign an attendance sheet, which indicates the course, date, and time. A student should deliver the attendance sheet to the divisional office (A304) if between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or to the Evening Office (C107) if before 9:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m. Students cannot be penalized by faculty for not waiting longer than twenty minutes.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism
Bergen Community College is committed to academic integrity – the honest, fair and continuing pursuit of knowledge, free from fraud or deception. Students are responsible for their own work. Faculty and
academic support services staff will take appropriate measures to discourage academic dishonesty.

**Plagiarism** is a form of academic dishonesty and may be a violation of U.S. Copyright laws. Plagiarism is defined as the act of taking someone else’s words, opinions, or ideas and claiming them as one’s own.

**Consequences of Violations Academic Integrity**

**A. Instructor’s Sanctions for a Violation**
The faculty member will determine the course of action to be followed. This may include:
- Assigning a failing grade on the assignment;
- Assigning a lower final course grade;
- Failing the student in the course
- Other penalties appropriate to the violation;
In all cases, the instructor shall notify the Vice President of Student Services of the violation and the penalty imposed. The student has the right to appeal the decision of the instructor to the appropriate department head.

**B. Institutional Sanctions for Violations**
When a violation of academic integrity has been reported regarding a student, the Vice President of Student Services may impose disciplinary penalties beyond those imposed by the course instructor, which may include suspension or dismissal from the College. The student shall have the right to a hearing before the Vice President of Student Services or a designated judicial affairs committee. Judicial procedures governing violations of academic integrity are contained in the student handbook.

**Class Attendance**
All students are expected to attend punctually every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance and lateness policies and sanctions are to be determined by the instructor for each section of each course. These will be established in writing on the individual course outline. Attendance will be kept by the instructor for administrative and counseling purposes.

**Eating and Drinking**
Eating or drinking in classrooms, lecture rooms, laboratories, gymnasium, swimming pool, or passageways is forbidden. Covered beverages only are permitted in the library. Eating and drinking are permitted in cafeteria and vending areas only.

**Learning Assistance**
**Henry and Edith Cerullo Learning Assistance Center**
The Tutoring Center, English Language Resource Center, Math Walk-In Center and Writing Center are collectively known as the Henry and Edith Cerullo Learning Assistance Center. The Cerullo Learning Assistance Center is located in the Pitkin Education Building, in Room L-125. The telephone number is (201) 447-7489. The Learning Assistance Center, staffed with peer and professional tutors, offers free individual and group tutoring, supplemental instruction, and online tutoring for subjects offered at the College. The Center provides alternative approaches to problem solving and organizational skills. Tutors help clarify classroom lectures and textbooks and help students prepare for exams. These services build student self-confidence and reduce fear of failure. The Center is equipped with the latest technology and software, including tapes, books, review sheets, exercises and software.

**Services for Students with Disabilities**
The Office of Specialized Services/Deaf Services, located in L-115 in the Pitkin Education Center provides accommodations and auxiliary services to students with disabilities attending Bergen Community College. Students are encouraged to submit documentation to OSS during the early stages of the admission process. The suggested deadlines for submitting documentation are as follows: August 1st for fall semesters, December 1st for spring semesters. For more information please contact our office at 201-612-5270 or at www.bergen.edu/oss.

**Sidney Silverman Library**
Main Building, Pitkin Education Center, L-wing, 2nd Floor
Paramus Library Hours: (201) 447-7131 or visit http://www.bergen.edu/library/calendar/gcal.htm
Paramus Service Desk: (201) 447-7970
The Bergen Community College Office of Testing Services (OTS) is located in Room S-127. OTS serves the college community by identifying, developing, procuring, administering, processing, and/or evaluating examinations, which meet a variety of administrative and instructional needs. To contact the OTS, please call (201) 447-7202. The Office of Testing Services administers makeup tests as a service for students who, for compelling and exceptional reasons, have missed a scheduled classroom examination. Students must receive prior permission from and make arrangements with their course instructors to take these examinations, under specific conditions, in the Office of Testing Services, Room S-127.

WebAdvisor

WebAdvisor is a web interface that allows students to access information contained in Datatel’s Colleague, the administrative database used by Bergen Community College. Students may use WebAdvisor to register for classes, to pay tuition and fees, to view their class schedules, to check grades, to check on progress toward degree requirements, etc. WebAdvisor accounts are available for all students enrolled in credit programs. New students are strongly encouraged to attend an in-person registration or advisement session before using a WebAdvisor account. Eligible students without WebAdvisor user names and passwords may access their WebAdvisor account by going to go.bergen.edu and selecting “I’m new to WebAdvisor.” Then, follow the on-screen directions. Check the WebAdvisor FAQ for answers to common questions, such as how to reset your password. Students must have a valid e-mail address on file with the College to use WebAdvisor.