I. COURSE GOALS

1. To learn plant classification and identification through a deductive process.

2. To learn the potential uses of trees, shrubs, vines, and ground covers as design elements in the creation and articulation of outdoor space for human activity in the landscape.

3. To learn to read the landscape by understanding processes of plant community development and through observations of individual plants and plant communities in various contexts.

4. To learn the basic horticultural practices for the care and maintenance of woody plants (planting, pruning, fertilizing, and disease and pest control)
II. ORGANIZATION

A. Course Components

The components of the course have been organized to support the 4 primary goals. The lecture period will generally cover the weekly plants and themes. Plants will be presented in thematic groupings with supplementary lecture material and assigned readings. The weekly thematic groupings provide the opportunity to explore related topics such as ecology, aesthetics, design and cultural practices as a complement to the specific material on plant identification. The lectures will show characteristics of selected plants throughout the year, in various designed and "natural" contexts, and examples of appropriate and inappropriate use and care.

This year, a major portion of the course, including course documents, images and quizzes will be available online, via WEB CT. To gain access to the course web site you must have an UMass OIT account. Please sign up at the OIT office.

B. Lab Periods

The laboratory periods are intended to introduce students to live specimens of the weekly plants. Teaching assistant-guided lab walks will be given each week. These walks are required important to learn the plant characteristics, and to complete the required “Plants in the landscape Workbook”.

C. Optional Field Trips

Several optional field trips will be offered during the semester. Extra credit will be given for attendance. These field trips will be led by Prof. Ahern. Travel to the sites is not provided.

Saturday September 24: Weston Nurseries, Hopkinton, MA
Sunday October 23: Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Boston, MA

D. Plant Study Room

A plant study room will be maintained on the second floor of Hills North (Room 212), near the northwest stairway, next to the drinking water fountain. The room (known as “the cave”) will contain fresh specimens and Reicher (dried) mounts for general study and workbook completion. Please be considerate of your fellow students and keep the fresh specimens in the water.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Lecture Examinations

A midterm exam will be given during the lecture period on Wednesday October 26. A final exam will be given during the Official University final exam period. Make-up exams will only be given if prior arrangements have been made or if an acceptable written explanation is submitted to the professor. The midterm and final examinations will cover material from the lectures, labs and from the readings. NOTE: The
examinations require that you know the plants by their botanical AND common names.

B. Lab Practical Examinations
This year, for the first time, lab practical examinations will be given during the midterm and final exam periods. Exams will involve field identification of selected plants from the first and second half of the semester, respectively.

C. Quizzes
Quizzes will be given online through the EnvDes 335 WebCT website. You will need to have an OIT account to gain access to the web site. The quizzes will be graded and will count for 10% of your grade. You are trusted to take your own quizzes. See academic honesty policy. Similar material to these quizzes will appear on the midterm and final examinations.

D. Workbook
You are required to submit photocopies of your completed workbook pages weekly, for all the plants of the previous week. These submissions must be submitted during your lab on the week after you see the plants during lab. Late submissions will not be accepted. These submissions will be graded and returned by your TA.
Completion of the workbook involves sketching details of the plant form, twig, and leaf as well as completing the requested information. Weekly workbook sections will be graded for completeness, neatness, and accuracy. Approximately 200 examples of completed workbook drawings are already included in the workbook to provide guidelines for expected content and to provide a variety of examples of graphic techniques. References useful for workbook completion and general reference can be found in the UMass Library. You will also find the live specimens observed during TA
guided or self guided plant walks as well as Richer mounts kept in The Cave will be useful for this purpose.

E. Readings

A selection of readings from books, journals and other sources is required for this course. The weekly assignments are intended to complement and expand on lecture topics and to promote a greater understanding of issues relative to the design, ecology, installation and maintenance of plant materials. The weekly reading assignments are listed on the section dividers contained in the "Plants in the Landscape" workbook. Several copies of these readings have been placed on reserve at the Main Library Reserve Desk. Most of the readings are also available through online reserves, and through the course web site. For those desiring to purchase a personal copy of the readings, a course packet is available at Copy Cat in Amherst. Please understand that you are NOT required to make this purchase.

F. Writing

Weekly writing assignments provide an opportunity for reflection and synthesis of the lecture and laboratory material from this course, with other courses, and with your personal experiences and interests. The assignment topics are listed in the Plants in the Landscape Notebook, which is one of the required texts for the course. The writing can usually be done without additional research. Some of the assignments ask you to visit a particular location or one that you choose. You are required to submit between one and two pages on the weekly topic to the drop box in Hills 109 by 5 PM on the Monday following the week the assignment was given (note if Monday is a holiday the deadline is Tuesday). Occasionally these readings will be discussed in class. Your writing should be typewritten, or very neatly handwritten. Illegible or sloppy work will not be accepted. These assignments will be graded check plus (10 points) check (8.5 points), check minus (7 points), or zero. Grading will be based on how effectively you engaged the topic, and particularly for evidence of original thinking. While you are not specifically graded for spelling and grammar, if these aspects of your writing severely detract from readability, your grade will be lowered. Writing assignments are due at your first lab session of the week (Please consult your "Plants in the Landscape" Workbook for Assignments).

G. Attendance

Attendance at all lectures is strongly encouraged. Your participation in the guided on and off campus plant walks is also strongly encouraged. Random attendance may be taken at lectures and at labs. The final record of attendance will be a factor in your final grade.

H. Academic Honesty

Any student found to be involved in academically dishonest conduct will be recommended to the instructor and to their academic dean for appropriate disciplinary
action. This may include suspension for the course, or receiving a failing grade. This policy is in accordance with the official University Policy on academic honesty contained in the Undergraduate Rights and Responsibilities booklet issued by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and the Office of the Provost. All students are encouraged to consult this important document to learn of their rights and responsibilities as a student at the University.

I. Make Up Policy

Students are responsible for taking exams and quizzes at the scheduled times. Students are also responsible for making alternative arrangements in advance if they have a legitimate reason for not being able to take an exam, and to provide appropriate explanation and documentation if they miss an exam without such prior arrangement. As required, make up exams will be scheduled at the mutual convenience of the student and the instructor. Make-up exams will be different in content and style than the regular exams.

J. Grading

A cumulative grade will be kept on the course web site, calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture Exams</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab Exams</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workbook</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10% (graded on completion of the quiz in the allocated time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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IV. TEXTS AND REFERENCES

A. The following workbook, text, are required and are available through the Textbook Annex (books).

   You must use the 2005 Edition!!!! There are many changes every year to the notebook, and only the 2005 edition is acceptable.


3. (Recommended) A good 10X-15X hand lens (for magnification) available at the University Bookstore in the Campus Center, Hastings Stationary, Amherst and other locations.
B. The following book has been ordered as an optional reference. You are NOT required to purchase this book. It was ordered in response to many student requests for a reference with good color photographs. It is also available at the Textbook Annex.


V. Lecture and Lab Sections

NOTE: Please consult SPIRE for registration information. Stockbridge and Undergraduate Students please sign up for EnvDes 335, Graduate Students should sign up for LA 592A (S. Plants in the Landscape) and should also sign up for LA 592 P, 1 credit, sch #898313 (no additional course meetings associated with this additional credit).