



**PLS 230 Ornamental Plant Identification
Course Syllabus: Fall 2024**

Instructor: Derald Harp, Ph.D., Professor - Horticulture

Office Location: AgIT 155, PSC 103

Office Hours: @PSC 103 MW 10 – 11 am, M 3 – 4 pm
@AgIT 155 MW 8 – 9 am, TR 11 am - Noon

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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 be able to accurately identify vegetative and reproductive morphological structures of plants

- 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, 3rd edition, Michael A. Arnold. Stipes Publishing (Recommended)

Manual of Woody Landscape Plants, 6th edition, Michael Dirr, Stipes Publishing (Recommended)

VI. Basis of Student Evaluation

- A. 4 Lecture Exams - 800 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
 - 1440+ = A, 1280-1439 = B, 1120-1279 = C, 960-1119 = D, <960 = F

VII. Course Outline

Week 1	Plant Environments
Week 2	Plant Names and Soils
Week 3	Vegetative Morphology
Week 4	Reproductive Morphology
Week 5	Exam 1 Thursday, September 26, 2024
Week 6	Large Shade Trees and Oaks
Week 7	Medium Shade Trees
Week 8	Pines and Crepe Myrtles
Week 9	Small Trees and Japanese Maples
Week 10	Exam 2 Thursday, October 31, 2024
Week 11	Large Shrubs and Hollies

Week 12	Medium and Small Shrubs, Roses
Week 13	Groundcovers and Perennials
Week 14	Annuals, Thanksgiving Holiday, November 28 and 29, 2024
Week 15	Exam 3 Tuesday, December 3, 2024
Week 16	Final Exam, Tuesday, December 7, 2024, 10:30 am

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

ATTENDANCE

PLS 230 in Fall 2020 will be taught as a “flipped” classroom, with materials available online, but group discussions will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays, with half of the class attending each session. These sessions are recommended, but not required. The student should make a decision concerning attendance based upon personal decisions about their health.

The PLS 230 laboratory will meet on Wednesday afternoons. These sessions will include walks around various locations in Commerce, primarily the Plant Science Center and Main Campus. For these sessions, masks will be required and students on the walk will be asked to maintain a physical separation of at least 6 feet. Again, if students have the option of watching the lab via a video posted after the lab has been completed. An online lab quiz will be available for those unable to attend.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures:

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. 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. No electronic equipment, except calculators,

will be allowed during exams. Violation of this will result in an immediate grade of '0' for the exam.

The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx).
<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

“Campus Carry”

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

University Pandemic Response

A&M-Commerce requires the use of face-coverings in all instructional and research classrooms/laboratories. Exceptions may be made by faculty where warranted. Faculty have management over their classrooms. Students not using face-coverings can be required to leave class. Repetitive refusal to comply can be reported to the Office of Students’ Rights and Responsibilities as a violation of the student Code of Conduct.

Students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness. Communicate such instances directly with your instructor. Faculty will work to support the student getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments.

**PIS 230 Ornamental Plant Identification
Plant Collection Project
Fall 2024**

Due Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2024

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 at least 2" x 3", 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) 10 points (Arrangement)
Photos	10 points (Clarity and quality)
Appearance	15 points (Table of Contents, overall quality)