

Course Description/Rationale: This course (AG 508) provides a review of research and resources related to school and university-based gardening programs for academic enrichment, nature awareness, nutrition improvement, and other aspects of garden-based learning. This course will compare techniques used in justifying, funding, designing, implementing, evaluating, and sustaining selected programs.

This course meets for 8 weeks of the semester beginning January 13 and ending on March 9, 2025. The content is presented in an accelerated format to include two weeks of content per weekly module.

Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Identify and select curriculum resources for school gardening.
2. Integrate core academic subjects into school garden projects.
3. Apply national core academic subject standards to school gardening programs.
4. Synthesize relevant research articles into a literature review.
5. Analyze grant applications and proposals for school gardening programs.
6. Compare techniques for evaluating school gardening programs.
7. Critically review school gardening websites and/or local examples.
8. Develop budgets and work plans for school gardening projects.
9. Discuss the opportunities and challenges of using volunteers in school gardening.
10. Promote school gardening projects to appropriate audiences.

Grade Determination

This course is a web-based, but you may be required to engage with individuals and places off the Internet for some class activities. The course is organized into eight instructional modules or units with each consisting of an overview; lecture notes and review of related websites, documents, journal articles, and/or videos; online discussions on relevant topics/issues. Additionally, some modules will include projects, reflective essays, or experiential activities that extend beyond the virtual boundaries of D2L. Each student will provide a comprehensive review by video reflection or a self-authored term paper related to a specific aspect/issue/theme related to school gardening. Details of these and other assignments will be provided online in D2L.

<i>Assessment Activity</i>	<i>Possible Points</i>
Online discussions for each module (8@30)	240
Research Reflection Video or Term Paper	100
<i>Innovative Idea Poster</i> on a Specific School Garden	100
<u>Public Relations Project (in lieu of exam)</u>	<u>100</u>
Total possible points	540

Your grade _____ % = $\frac{\text{Your Total Points Earned}}{\text{Total Possible Points}}$

A=90% or higher B=80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69% F= below 60%

The professor reserves the right to modify this syllabus during the semester, if needed. The professor also reserves the right to extend credit for alternative assignments, projects, or presentations.

Syllabus Addendum for Dr. Bob Williams for the Spring 2025 Semester

OFFICE HOURS

Office hours are available for student conferences with the professor for additional course support and, if applicable, academic/career advisement. The following hours will be maintained for this purpose, provided they are not circumvented by administrative assigned tasks beyond the professors control, professional travel to conferences or meetings, or medical appointments for professor or his household dependents.

Monday	9:00-9:50 a.m.
Tuesday	9:30-11:30 a.m.
Wednesday	9:00-9:50 a.m.
Thursday	by appointment
Friday	by appointment

TECHNOLOGY ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

The electronic gradebook on D2L will be used in this course. 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.

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace [D2L] , please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words “[click here](#)” to submit an issue via email.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

The professor and GAs or SIs will be accessible to students via email as well as the professor will have specific office hours and times when students may schedule an appointment. Email is the most effective form of correspondence with the professor. Do not attempt to text, Skype, or Facetime the professor. Response to emails, except for the weekends or during times which the professor may be in remote area conducting research, will normally occur within 24 hours or receipt of the original message.

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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

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

[Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

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>

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ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

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: Sandi.Patton@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 Concealed Carry Statement

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 the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer. Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

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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.

COVID-19 Conditions and Response

During this COVID pandemic, you may face periods of isolation or restriction of movement. Since this is an online course, it is designed for your completion from anywhere that internet access exists. If you do not have internet access in your current residence, you need to identify how you will access your assignments if you cannot leave. This may include the use of a smart phone or other digital device that can offer connectivity. Most assignments can be completed offline, but the internet may be required for research, online discussions, and the uploading of assignments/projects. If you have a medical reason for an assignment to be delayed, I will excuse that. Internet access, or the lack of it, is not a medical excuse.

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