



PIS 305 Landscape Design Course Syllabus: Spring 2025

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

Office Location: AgIT 249, PSC 103

Office Hours: @PSC 103 MW 8 am – 10 am, M 1 – 2 pm
@AgIT 249 TR 11:00 – Noon, W 3:30 – 4:30 pm

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I. Course Description

Landscaping of homes and public buildings. Nomenclature, use, placement, and care required by woody ornamentals used in landscaping. 3 hours credit (2/2).

II. Prerequisites PLS 230 Ornamental Plant Identification

III. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Students will develop a working understanding of the concepts and practices of residential and small commercial landscape design.

B. Students will be able to develop, read, and apply landscape plans towards the development of a landscape.

C. Students will develop skills used in estimating and bidding landscape projects.

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

Undergraduate: *None*

Materials needed: Architect and Engineer scale, DynaScape Landscape Design Software

VI. Basis of Student Evaluation

- A. 3 Lecture Exams - 300 points
- B. Cumulative Final Exam - 200 points
- C. Designs – 500 points
 - a. Basic shapes (100 points)
 - b. Property measurements (100 points)
 - c. Design drafts (100 points)
 - d. Final design and estimate (200 points)
- D. Grading Scale
 - 900+ = A, 800-899 = B, 700-799 = C, 600-699 = D, <600 = F

Course Outline

- Week 1 The Modern Landscape
- Week 2 Elements of Art
- Week 3 The Typical Residential Site
- Week 4 Outdoor Rooms

Feb 5 Exam I

- Week 5 The Design Process / Meeting the Clients
- Week 6 Base Map Preparation
- Week 7 Functional Diagrams
- Week 8 Preliminary Design
- Week 9 Form Composition

Mar 5 Exam II

- Week 10 Spatial Composition
- Week 11 Master Plan
- Week 13 Specialized Design Considerations
- Week 14 Irrigation Design
- Week 15 Bidding and Estimating

Apr 28 Exam III

May 3 *Final Exam, 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

Computer for Dynascope Landscape Design Software

- Microsoft Windows 10, 8.1, or 7 (32 or 64-Bit) Operating System
- Intel i5 processor (i7 recommended) or equivalent
- 4 gigabytes (GB) of system memory (RAM)
- 2GB GDDR5, GDDR6 or HBM dedicated video card with support for DirectX 9 graphics
- Minimum screen resolution of 1024 x 768 pixels
- Microsoft Internet Explorer® 9 or later (Google Chrome recommended)
- Internet connection (required for access to updates and the online plant database)
- Microsoft .NET Framework 3.5 or later

*If using a non-english version of Windows, English must be set as the primary language. (may require an additional Microsoft Language Pack)

Microsoft Office Suite 2003-2016® software (or equivalent) is required for viewing plant and material lists.

Adobe Reader® software (or equivalent) is required for viewing plant picture catalogues.

DynaScope Landscape Design Software cannot be run in the native Mac environment, and you must install software that allows you to run Windows 10 on a Mac computer.

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.

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 305 in Fall 2020 will be taught as a face to face course. Materials will be made available online, and a Zoom lecture may be added for any students needing a medical accommodation. The student should make a decision concerning attendance based upon personal decisions about their health.

The PLS 305 laboratory will meet on Monday afternoons, also face to face. Dynascape Landscape Design Software will be installed on computers in the Agriculture computer lab, and primary instruction will occur in PSC 100.

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.