

# PLS 1115 Intro. to Horticulture Lab COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2025

**Instructor:** Desire Djidonou, (Dr. D)

Associate Professor – Urban/SustainableHorticulture

Office Location: Dallas Campus, Room 2019 Hydroponics Office Hours: M&W 11:00 am – 12:00 pm; (Dallas campus)

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#### **COURSE INFORMATION**

**Time & location:** Lab will meet every Wednesday from 1:00p - 2:50p Campus:

Dallas, Room: 2021 Agriculture Wet Lab.

## Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Required lab manual: None

## **Course Description**

Provide hands-on practical exercises that illustrate plant growth and development phases including seed germination, vegetative and reproductive morphology. Techniques and instruments used to evaluate plant metabolic processes, including photosynthesis, respiration, and water stress are demonstrated. Basic calculation related to fertilizer application and research project will be demonstrated.

This course is designed to complement the lecture materials from PLS 1315.

Prerequisites: None.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

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

- 1. Identify and describe the various parts and functions of seed, leaves, stems, flower, fruits, and roots.
- 2. Propagate plant materials from seeds and know how temperature, light, moisture affect seed germination and seedling growth.
- 3. Propagate plants from vegetative organs.
- 4. Calculate fertilizer requirements for applying fertilizer rates and concentrations.
- 5. Explain the processes of photosynthesis and respiration and know how to measure them.
- 6. Apply the knowledge of plant science to grow a number of crops from seed to harvest.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

## **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Basic knowledge of Microsoft office (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint) and familiarity with D2L. Students will need reliable internet access to retrieve course materials from D2L and submit assignments or complete online guizzes if needed.

#### **Instructional Methods**

<u>Lab:</u> PowerPoint presentation of concepts related to the lab topic followed by practical lab activity. PowerPoint slides will be made available on the course D2L page for students to download.

## **Student Responsibilities**

## **Expectation of Students**

- 1. Students are expected to attend all lab activities unless ill;
- 2. Be on time to lab;
- 3. Completion of homework assignments, quizzes, and projects by the due dates;
- 4. Late submission of assignments or make-up of quizzes, and other work in this course will only be allowed for legitimate, pre-excused absences.

## **ASSESSMENTS and GRADING**

## **Course Evaluation**

Student's final grade will be based on 400 points total from weekly quizzes, final quiz, lab research, and class presentation

Course work category	Points
Weekly quizzes 200	
Comprehensive Final quiz	100
Lab project and presentation	100

Quizzes: (Multiple choice): 10 weekly 20-point quizzes and one final quiz.

Research project and Presentation: Students will give group presentation on the research projects conducted during the lab.

## **Grade Assignment**

Letter grades for the course will be assigned according to the chart below:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80% - 89%

C = 70% - 79%

D = 60% - 69%

F = 59% or Below

# TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University 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

#### YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements

## **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: <a href="https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport">https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport</a>

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

## **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

Attendance to lectures and lab activities are required unless ill.

## **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

# **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/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: <a href="https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette">https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette</a>

## **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the <u>Attendance</u> webpage and <u>Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01</u>.

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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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

## **Academic Integrity**

Students at East Texas A&M University 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

## Al use in course

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

## 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:

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## Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

East Texas A&M University 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/

## **East A&M Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit <a href="https://www.tamuc.edu/counsel">www.tamuc.edu/counsel</a>

## **Mental Health and Well-Being**

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



http://telusproduction.com/app/5108.html

#### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law

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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 <u>Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus</u> document and/or consult your event organizer.

#### Web url:

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34S afetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf

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.

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Lab schedule: Wednesday, 1:00pm – 2:50pm Location: Dallas Campus Room 2021

Week	Date	Lab Topic
1	Aug 27 Wed	Introduction and Syllabus review
		Laboratory safety
2	Sep 03 Wed	Vegetative Morphology
3	Sep 10 Wed	Reproductive Morphology
4	Sep 17 Wed	Seed morphology and Germination
5 Sep 24 Wed	Pots and Media	
		Seeding for student research projects
6	Oct 01 Wed	Asexual Propagation
7	Oct 08 Wed	Plant nutrition and fertilizers
8	Oct 15 Wed	Research project
9	Oct 22 Wed	Photosynthesis and Respiration
10	Oct 29 Wed	Photosynthesis and respiration
11	Nov 05 Wed	Plant Water Relations
12	Nov 12 Wed	Landscape Planting Tools
13	Nov 19 Wed	Landscape Trees and Turfgrasses
14	Nov 26 Wed	No lab – Thanksgiving break
15	Dec 03 Wed	Research project termination
16	Dec 10 Wed	FINAL Quiz & Student Presentations