



**PLS 430 Greenhouse Management
Course Syllabus: Fall 2025**

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

Office Location: PSC 103

Office Hours: M 9 - 11 am, 2-3 pm, W 9 - 11 am, R 1 -2 pm

Office Phone: (903) 886-5202

University Email Address: Derald.Harp@etamu.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Recommended: Greenhouse Operations and Management, 7th ed., Nelson

Recommended: Ball RedBook Vol. 2: Crop Production, 17th ed.

Course Description:

Greenhouse designs, coverings, heating, cooling, and watering systems. Media, pasteurization and handling systems in connection with the growing of greenhouse crops. Economics of production.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will recognize the various types and components of greenhouses and other controlled-environment structures used for plant growth, including proper selection based on crop and crop scheduling
2. Students will know greenhouse environmental control systems, including calculations of system design requirements
3. Students will understand and know the various types of containers, growing media, irrigation, fertilizers, and other materials needed for proper plant growth.
4. Students will be able to prevent, identify, and control greenhouse plant diseases and pests

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Schedule

Wk 35	Introductions / Greenhouse Structures
Wk 36	Greenhouse Structures / Choosing a Location
Wk 37	Greenhouse Coverings
Wk 38	Greenhouse Heating
Wk 39	Exam 1: Sept 25, 2025
Wk 40	Benching
Wk 41	Cooling Systems
Wk 42	Growing Media
Wk 43	Nutrition
Wk 44	Exam 2: October 30, 2025
Wk 45	Diseases and their Control
Wk 46	Pests and their Control
Wk 47	Thanksgiving! No class Thursday!
Wk 48	Bedding Plant Production / Business Management
Wk 49	Exam 3: December 2, 2025
Wk 50	Final Exam: December 9, 2025 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Lab Schedule

Wk 34	Plant Poinsettias (Pre-semester, invitation and voluntary)
Wk 35	Greenhouse structures / Crop Monitoring Techniques
Wk 36	Fertilizers and Plant Nutrition
Wk 37	Structures
Wk 38	Benching
Wk 39	<i>Greenlake Nursery, Dallas, TX</i>
Wk 40	Growing media
Wk 41	<i>Berger Horticulture Mixing Plant, Sulphur Springs, TX</i>
Wk 42	Plant Growth Regulators
Wk 43	<i>Nortex Nursery, Wylie, TX</i>
Wk 44	Diseases and their Control
Wk 45	Pests and their Control
Wk 46	Pesticide Licensing
Wk 47	Business Management
Wk 48	Thanksgiving! No lab!
Wk 49	Greenhouse Project Presentations and Poinsettia Sale

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

Exams: Three 100 point exams, One 200 point final exam

Student Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 4

Assessment: Vocabulary, Short Answer, Essay, and Mathematical Problems

Class Project: Greenhouse Business Plan

Student Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 4

Assessment: Greenhouse Business Plan Rubric (handed out with assignment)

Lab: Lab experiments, Quizzes, and Lab Final

Student Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 4

Assessment: Short answer and Mathematical problems

Grading

Exams 300 points

Project 300 points

Lab 300 points

Final 200 points

A >810 points

B 720 – 809 points

C 630 – 719 points

D 540 – 629 points

F <540 points

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

To be successful in the course, you will be provided access to university computers and facilities. The following items are available on university computers for your use.

1. Access to D2L
2. MS Word
3. MS PowerPoint

These items will be helpful for you, should you need to work at home.

1. Flash drive
2. MS Office or compatible software

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.

University Pandemic Response

A&M-Commerce recommends the use of face-coverings in all instructional and research classrooms/laboratories.

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.

“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.