



Horticulture 381: Plant Identification II

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Marietta Loehrlein

Fall, 2009

PHONE: 298-1089

OFFICE: Knoblauch Hall B12

3 credits

Office Hours: MW 10:50 AM -11:50 A.M.& M 3-4PM, TH 2 - 3 P.M., or by appointment

WESTERN ONLINE:

<https://westernonline.wiu.edu/webct/logonDisplay.dowebct?insId=4130001&glcid=URN:X-WEBCT-VISTA-V1:75d7e9fe-8f2b-de2a-0179-5061889529a7&insName=Western%20Illinois%20University>

(Log-in using your e-com student id and password, these are the same as you used to get your WIU e-mail account. If you haven't done this, go to Stipes 126.)

Description: **Horticulture 381** is a plant identification class in which students will learn to identify herbaceous perennials, ornamental grasses, vines, groundcovers, ferns and bulbs used in landscape plantings. In addition, students will learn important horticultural characteristics of each species.

"Nothing is a better lesson in the knowledge of plants than to sit down in front of them and handle them and look them over as carefully as possible." ---Gertrude Jekyll

Objectives: There are numerous objectives for this course. Among them, students will:

1. Be able to identify ornamental landscape plants;
2. Develop expertise to use or recommend use of plants for specific horticultural properties (flower color, flowering season, growth habit, texture, etc.)
3. Know the cultural needs and problems associated with the plants covered in class (insect or disease limitations, growth characteristics, soil requirements, site requirements, etc.)
4. Become familiar with the taxonomic characteristics of the plants discussed in class (inflorescence and flower type, leaf characteristics, fruit type, and growth habit, etc.)

Text: Rodale's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Perennials Phillips and Burrell. 2004. 2nd ed. Rodale Inc.

Course Grade:				<u>FINAL GRADE</u>
NO.	TYPE	POINTS	TOTAL	
1	Presentation	50	50	A = 90-100%
3	Quizzes	~30	~90	B = 80-89%
3	Exams	100	300	C = 70-79%
1	Final Exam	200	200	D = 60-69%
TOTAL			~730	F = below 60%

"The greatest service anyone can render their country is to add a new plant to its culture." ---Thomas Jefferson

COURSE POLICIES

Your enrollment and attendance in this course automatically subjects you to course policies that have been established. Additional policies may be developed if needed, and are based on common sense and University Policies as set forth by the University Provost.

It is the student's responsibility to follow the course policies. A brief description of those policies are listed below. The University Handbook will be followed in cases where further clarification is needed.

See: <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/>

Special Needs:

In accordance with University policy and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation.

For the instructor to provide the proper accommodation(s), you (the student) must obtain documentation of the need for an accommodation through Disability Support Services and provide it to the instructor.

It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as he/she is not legally permitted to inquire about such particular needs of students.

Students who may require special assistance in emergency evacuations (i.e. fire, tornado, etc.) should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow in such an emergency. Contact Disability Support Services at 298-2512 for additional services.

Academic Integrity:

Students are expected to do their own work on exams, quizzes and homework, unless specifically instructed otherwise. The Western Illinois University Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty Policy is adhered to in this course, to protect the basic rights and responsibilities of all the members in it. See <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php> for the University student academic integrity policy.

Expectations

Participation is mandatory. I hope that you enjoy the class, and especially viewing plants on campus. It is imperative that you focus attention on the instructor and limit personal conversations during this time. This is very distracting to others around you and you may miss important information that is only presented one time.

Attendance

- Each student will be allowed two excused absences with **PRIOR PERMISSION** of the instructor. **Any other absences will result in a deduction of 10 points each.**
- Your attendance during **other student presentations** is mandatory. *There will be an automatic deduction of 20 points, regardless of other absences during the semester.*
- See: <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/stuabsc.php> for the provost's policy on student absences.

- Missed exams, quizzes, and presentations are unacceptable. Failure to give a presentation or miss any tests or quizzes may result in an automatic deduction of 10% of the final grade or even an "F" in the course.
- I DO AWARD **5 POINTS** OF EXTRA CREDIT FOR HORT. CLUB MEMBERSHIP AND FOR EACH MEETING ATTENDED, if you actively participate in club activities!
- I do **not** assign extra credit projects or homework, etc. Please do not ask for extra credit. There is opportunity for all students to earn their desired grade within the grading structure presented in the syllabus.
- I **do not** grade "on a curve". Students are awarded the grade they earn.
- I **do not** give grades other than those the student has earned, regardless of the implications for scholarships, internships, graduation, etc. DON'T EVEN ASK

It is the student's responsibility to earn the grade they desire. This can be achieved by:

1. Attending every class period
2. Reading the text and asking questions if there is any confusion, lack of understanding, etc.
3. Studying regularly
4. Reviewing notes daily
5. Completing and handing in all assignments on time.

Some personal habits are distracting to others in the classroom and are disallowed. They include, but may not be limited to: text messaging, making or receiving phone calls, using personal electronic devices for gaming, etc. Please respect those around you and limit these practices to personal time.

ESPECIALLY FOR THIS CLASS:

Learning new plants and remembering their names is not likely to happen after a one-time exposure to the information. In addition to "memorizing" material, you are highly encouraged to go back around campus and look at the plants discussed each week. Take a classmate along and quiz one another, review the information you have, make your own observations. In this way, you will become personally familiar with each plant, much in the same way you would make a new friend.