

**HORTICULTURE  
NRM 1301-W01  
SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY  
Fall 2024**

Instructor: John L. Few IV

Office: Online

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Office Hours: By appointment Monday-Saturday.

Course Description: A survey of the general field of horticulture; a study of the principles and practices of propagation; the growth and fruiting habits of horticultural plants and the culture, harvesting, handling, and utilization of vegetables, fruits, and nuts. Genetics, entrepreneurship skills and landscape design will be emphasized, as will the significance of soil health, biodiversity, and sustainability.

**Recommended Text: Practical Horticulture 7th Edition by Laura Rice and Robert Rice Jr.**

Tentative Schedule of Lectures and Topics (subject to change)

Week 1 (8/25- 8/30) Syllabi; Fundamentals of Horticulture

Week 2 (9/3- 9/6) Botanical Nomenclature, Anatomy, and Physiology ; Plant Growth and Development

Week 3 (9/9- 9/13) Climate and Plant Growth; Plant Propagation

Week 4 (9/16- 9/20) Outdoor Soils and Fertility; Diagnosing and Treating Plant Disorders

Week 5 (9/23 – 9/27) Vegetable Gardening ; Exam 1 Study Day

Week 6 (9/30- 10/4) Exam 1; Growing Tree Fruits and Nuts

Week 7 (10/7 – 10/11) Bush and Other Small Fruits

Week 8 (10/14 – 10/18) Flower and Herb Gardening

Week 9 (10/21 – 10/25) Home Landscape Planning;

Week 10 (10/28 – 11/1) Greenhouses; Landscape Maintenance and Installation

Week 11 (11/4- 11/8) Lawn Establishment and Installation Care; Media, Fertilizers, and Watering

**NOTE: 11/8 Last day to withdraw from the 16-week course/term with a grade of 'W'. Drops must be processed and in the university registrar's office by 4 p.m.**

Week 12 (11/11- 11/15) Exam 2 Study Day; Exam 2

Week 13 (11/18- 11/22) Light and Indoor Plant Growth; Submit Professional Interview Report (11/22)

Week 14 (11/25-11/29) Controlling Indoor Plant Pests and Diseases; Decorating With Growing Plants and Fresh Flowers

Week 15 (12/2-12/4) Greenhouses and Related Climate-Controlling Structures; Final Exam Review Day

Week 16 (12/6) Final Exam

## **Grades:**

Exam 1 appx. 125 points  
Exam 2 appx. 125 points  
Exam 3 appx. 125 points  
Professional Interview Report appx. 25 points  
Homework appx. 25  
Total appx. 425 points

## **Grades Explained:**

- Exams will quiz students on the information that was covered in the previous chapters.
- The Professional Interview Report: Students will interview a professional in the agriculture/horticulture industry that they find interesting. After interviewing the industry professional the student will present what they learned about the agriculture/horticulture industry from the professional. Presentations will be uploaded to blackboard and should be around 10-15 mins.
- Homework: After each chapter there will be a series of questions that students should answer. These questions will be posted to blackboard. Students answers to the questions should be uploaded to blackboard.

## **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOS)**

1. Learn the subsets of horticulture and other applied plant sciences
2. Develop general understanding of basic botany and genetics.
3. Understand required growing conditions for horticultural plants.
4. Understand the ecological and economical importance of the science of horticulture.

CORE OBJECTIVES ADDRESSED: 1) Communication Skills – Students will effectively communicate the results of scientific

investigations; using oral, written, and visual communication, either in group discussions or on written exams. 2) Critical

Thinking Skills – Students will include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis required to relate new

information with previous information in a way that demonstrates the diversity and similarity due to evolutionary

ancestry. 3) Empirical and Quantitative Skills – Students will use basic math skills to solve problems (e.g. related to genetic outcomes, cellular energy production, and probability) resulting in informed conclusions.

4) Teamwork Skills –

Students will work effectively with others to support a shared goal during lab sessions on activities, such as dissections, problem solving, and other experimental procedures.

MARKETABLE SKILLS: A student getting a degree in the Biological sciences would be expected to acquire the following

marketable skills by graduation. 1) Students will be able to organize, analyze, and interpret data. 2) Students will be proficient at using presentation software. 3) Students will acquire experience in managing time and meeting deadlines. 4) Students will gain the ability to speak effectively and write concisely about scientific topics. 5) Students will acquire experience and guidance in the development of professional email correspondence.

## **SRSU Distance Education Statement: LECTURE IS ONLINE AND ASYNCHRONOUS BUT LAB IS IN-PERSON**

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.

Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires a secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

### **SRSU Attendance Policy.**

#### *NOTE LECTURE IS ONLINE AND ASYNCHRONOUS BUT LAB IS IN-PERSON:*

Roll will be taken during each class meeting. The SRSU catalog states "The instructor may, at their discretion, drop a student from a course when the student has a total of nine absences in lecture and three absences in lab. An absence is defined as non-attendance in fifty minutes of class. Exams must be taken on the scheduled exam date that will be announced at least a week prior, unless other arrangements have been made with the instructor. Exams must be made up within a week from the scheduled date. **RULE TO LIVE BY: DON'T MISS ANY CLASSES!** If you absolutely have to miss, make sure you let me know beforehand. Academic Integrity. Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared, and focused; meaningful and pertinent participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor;

turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden.

## **ADA Statement**

SRSU Disability Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Alpine Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartz, LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203, or email [mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@sulross.edu). Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall – room 112, and our mailing address is *P.O. Box C122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine. Texas, 79832.*

### *Library Information*

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library and Archives of the Big Bend in Alpine offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, [library.sulross.edu](http://library.sulross.edu). Off-campus access requires logging in with your LoboID and password.

Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or phone (432-837-8123). Additional information for students at Rio Grande College: The Southwest Texas Junior College (SWTJC) Libraries at Uvalde, Del Rio, and Eagle Pass offer additional access to library spaces and resources. Del Rio, Eagle Pass, and Uvalde students may additionally use online resources available through SWTJC website, [library.swtjc.edu](http://library.swtjc.edu). The SWTJC Libraries serve as pick-up locations for InterLibrary Loan (ILL) from the Alpine campus.

## **Classroom Climate of Respect**

Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

## **Diversity Statement**

I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and honors your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, socioeconomic class, age, nationality, etc.). I also understand that the crisis of COVID, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events could impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create an inclusive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you.