

# HORT 401B: LANDSCAPE CERTIFICATION: SOFTSCAPE INSTALLATION

## Foothill College Course Outline of Record

| Heading                            | Value   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Units:</b>                      | 0   |
| <b>Hours:</b>                      | 12 lecture per quarter (12 total per quarter) |
| <b>Degree &amp; Credit Status:</b> | Non-Degree-Applicable Non-Credit Course       |
| <b>Foothill GE:</b>                | Non-GE  |
| <b>Transferable:</b>               | None  |
| <b>Grade Type:</b>                 | Non-Credit Course (Receives no Grade)         |
| <b>Repeatability:</b>              | Unlimited Repeatability                       |

## Student Learning Outcomes

- Properly install plant material.
- Properly locate plants on a site based on a landscape planting plan.

## Description

General subjects related to certification with the California Landscape Contractors Association. Topics to include plan reading, plant layout, horticultural principles, irrigation components, controller programming, lateral repair and head adjustment, plant installation, post-planting care, sod installation, plant identification and rototiller operation. This course is intended for students seeking Certified Landscape Technician certification.

## Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

- Read landscape plan.
- Identify plants.
- Layout plant material from plan.
- Describe horticultural principles.
- Identify irrigation components.
- Program irrigation controllers.
- Repair irrigation laterals and adjust irrigation heads.
- Install plants.
- Complete post-planting techniques.
- Install sod.
- Operate a rototiller.

## Course Content

- Read landscape plan.
  - Identify objects on plan.
  - Note the scale and orientation of the plan.
  - Identify which plants go in which locations.
- Identify plants.
  - Review identification of trees and shrubs.
  - Review identification of vines, ground covers, perennials and decorative grasses.
- Layout plant material from plan.

- Identify location of designated species.
- Choose and place species from nursery to site.
- Describe horticultural principles.
  - Describe growing conditions at planting site.
  - Identify corrections necessary to improve planting site.
- Identify irrigation components.
  - Identify irrigation controllers.
  - Identify irrigation mainline and laterals.
  - Identify irrigation valves.
  - Identify irrigation heads.
  - Identify drip irrigation components.
- Program irrigation controllers.
  - Set up irrigation zones.
  - Set time and frequency for zones based on plant type.
  - Demonstrate operation of controller.
- Repair irrigation laterals and adjust irrigation heads.
  - Identify problems with irrigation laterals.
  - Repair irrigation laterals.
  - Reset irrigation heads for proper spray pattern.
  - Adjust irrigation heads for proper spray pattern.
- Install plants.
  - Excavate proper planting hole.
  - Examine plant for root problems and correct any problems found.
  - Place plant.
  - Backfill plant.
- Complete post-planting techniques.
  - Mulch installed plant.
  - Water installed plant.
  - Stake or guy installed plant (if necessary).
  - Wrap installed plant (if necessary).
- Install sod.
  - Prepare site for sod installation.
  - Lay sod.
  - Roll and water sod.
- Operate a rototiller.
  - Fuel and prep equipment.
  - Start equipment.
  - Operate rototiller over site.

## Lab Content

Not applicable.

## Special Facilities and/or Equipment

- Classroom with multi-media equipment.
- Lab area with open space to operate equipment.
- Arboretum with species from plant list.
- Nursery with plant species from list.
- Horticultural equipment and tools.

## Method(s) of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation may include but are not limited to the following:

- Objective written exams.
- Reports on field conditions for softscape installation.
- Descriptions of applied practice procedures.
- Written reports on horticultural topics.

## Method(s) of Instruction

Methods of Instruction may include but are not limited to the following:

- A. Lecture from instructor.
- B. Lecture from guest speakers.
- C. Observe participatory activities.
- D. Discussion with groups and students in class.

## **Representative Text(s) and Other Materials**

Landscape Training Manual for Installation. Professional Landcare Network (PLANET), 2017.

Study manual required for training courses.

## **Types and/or Examples of Required Reading, Writing, and Outside of Class Assignments**

- A. Reading 10-25 pages per week from assigned text.
- B. Reading handouts and website material.
- C. Writing papers on landscape softscape material options.

## **Discipline(s)**

Ornamental Horticulture