

# College of San Mateo Course Outline

- New Course  
 Update/No change  
 Course Revision (Minor)  
 Course Revision (Major)

Date: Feb. 21, 2007

**Department:** Horticulture                      **Number:** 712  
**Course Title:** Landscape Shrubs, Groundcovers and Vines                      **Units:** 3  
**Hours/Week:** Lecture: 3                      **Lab:**                      **By Arrangement:** 2

**Length of Course**

- Semester-long  
 Short course (Number of weeks \_\_\_)  
 Open entry/Open exit

**Grading**

- Letter  
 Credit/No Credit  
 Grade Option (letter or Credit/No Credit)

**1. Prerequisite (Attach Enrollment Limitation Validation Form.)**

None

**2. Corequisite (Attach Enrollment Limitation Validation Form.)**

None

**3. Recommended Preparation (Attach Enrollment Validation Form.)**

None

**4. Catalog Description (Include prerequisites/corequisites/recommended preparation.)**

712 Landscape Shrubs, Groundcovers and Vines (3) (Credit/No Credit or letter grade option.)  
Three lecture hours per week plus two hours by arrangement per week. Study of shrubs, groundcovers, and vines commonly used in California. (CSU)

**5. Class Schedule Description (Include prerequisites/corequisites/recommended preparation.)**

712 Landscape Shrubs, Groundcovers and Vines (3) (Credit/No Credit or letter grade option.)  
Three lecture hours per week plus two hours by arrangement per week. Study of shrubs, groundcovers, and vines commonly used in California. (CSU)

**6. Student Learning Outcomes (Identify 1-6 expected learner outcomes using active verbs.)**

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

1. Identify up to 150 different species of shrubs, groundcovers and vines used in the San Francisco Bay Area.
2. Differentiate among different leaf, floral and fruiting structures used to identify shrubs, groundcovers and vines.
3. Select appropriate shrubs, groundcovers and vines for different landscape situations.

4. Apply the binomial nomenclature system to name shrubs, groundcovers and vines used in the landscape.
  5. Apply the basics of plant classification to shrubs, groundcovers, vines and ferns used in the landscape.
  6. Construct a plant specimen reference collection using pressed plant specimens and/or photographs collected by the student.
7. **Course Objectives** (Identify specific teaching objectives detailing course content and activities. *For some courses, the course objectives will be the same as the student learning outcomes. If this is the case, please simply indicate this in this section).*

Same as Student Learning Outcomes

8. **Course Content** (Brief but complete topical outline of the course that includes major subject areas [1-2 pages]. Should reflect all course objectives listed above. In addition, you may attach a sample course syllabus with a timeline.)

1. Shrubs, groundcovers and vines defined
2. Nomenclature – how shrubs, groundcovers and vines are named
  - Common names
  - Botanical names
  - Rules of nomenclature
  - Plant family names
3. Shrub, groundcover and vine Leaves
  - Parts of the leaf
  - Simple and compound leaves
  - Leaf margins
  - Leaf arrangements
4. Shrub, groundcover and vine flowers
  - Parts of the flower
  - Types of flowers
  - Inflorescence
5. Shrub, groundcover and vine fruit
  - Definition of fruit
  - Parts of the fruit
  - Types of fruit
6. Ferns
  - Structure
  - Life cycle
7. Using an identification key to identify an unknown plant
8. Identification, characteristics and uses of 150 species of shrubs, groundcovers and vines in the landscape.

9. **Representative Instructional Methods** (Describe instructor-initiated teaching strategies that will assist students in meeting course objectives. Include examples of out-of-class assignments, required reading and writing assignments, and methods for teaching critical thinking skills.)

Lecture will be used to introduce material needed by the student in order to successfully achieve all six of the Student Learning Outcomes.

Live plant specimen material will be provided for students in order to augment information given during lecture.

Instructor will demonstrate the proper techniques used to prepare and label pressed plant specimens and/or photographs necessary to fulfill Course Objective #5.

Student's pressed specimen / photo collection will give the student hands-on experience with plant material to achieve Student Learning Outcomes #1, 3, 4 and 5.

Field trips demonstrating plant identification, growth habits and proper plant use will reinforce classroom presentations for Student Outcomes #1-5.

10. **Representative Methods of Evaluation** (Describe measurement of student progress toward course objectives. Courses with required writing component and/or problem-solving emphasis must reflect critical thinking component. If skills class, then applied skills.)

Written exams will evaluate student mastery of all Student Learning Outcomes. Written exams may include questions concerning plant selection for different landscape situations, plant morphology, nomenclature, plant classification, and identification of plant material in the classroom and field.

Pressed plant and/or photo collection will demonstrate student's ability to create a reference collection of plant material. Specimen labels will demonstrate student's knowledge of plant identification, nomenclature and classification

11. **Representative Text Materials** (With few exceptions, texts need to be current. Include publication dates.)

1. Sunset Western Garden Book, Sunset Editors, 2007
2. Plants and Landscapes for Summer-Dry Climates, East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), 2005

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Email address: ledy@smccd.edu

Submission Date: \_\_\_\_\_