

ORH 1030: Plants, Gardening and You (classes #17408/17409)
Course Syllabus, FALL 2020

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. David Clark
Environmental Horticulture Department
Office: Fifield Hall 1533
Email: geranium@ufl.edu

Course meeting time:

Thurs, Period 4 (10:40AM-11:30AM)
Thurs. Period 5 (11:45AM-12:35PM)
****ONLINE**** Live via ZOOM

Office hours: By appointment only. Simply email me at geranium@ufl.edu – in that message please tell me your schedule of availability and I will look at mine and get back to you promptly with a time to meet via ZOOM or by phone.

Summary of Course: Plants, Gardening & You is a non-majors course that provides an overview of current trends and opportunities in the field of environmental horticulture. Emphasis is placed on the art and science of growing and using plants to enhance and improve the human environment.

Grading: 1000 TOTAL POINTS

Quizzes: 300 points (2 quizzes x 150 points ea.) – 10 to 20 multiple choice questions

Exam: 300 points – COMPREHENSIVE – 50 multiple choice questions

Plant Blindness Reflection Assignments: 200 points (2 discussions x 100 points ea.)

Out of Class Project: 200 points

Grading scale:

895-1000	A	695-764	C
865-894	B+	665-694	D+
795-864	B	595-664	D
765-794	C+	<594	E

Out of Class Project: The purpose of this assignment is to help you look closely at the plants around you from a creative point of view. Students are advised to begin this project as early as possible in the semester to assure they have enough time to complete it (described below).

Plant Blindness Reflection Assignments: There will be two discussion assignments during the semester. These discussion assignments will assist you in developing your gardening skills and reinforcing what you will learn about growing plants during lectures. Plant Blindness Reflection Assignments are required and will be worth 100 points each (described below).

Extra Credit: There will be three opportunities for out of class extra credit throughout the semester. Each extra credit opportunity is optional and is worth 10 points added to your final point total (described below).

GENERAL NOTES:

- Do not expect PowerPoint presentations to be posted for ANY lecture.
- It is your responsibility to attend virtual lectures at scheduled class meeting times and take notes
- You are strongly encouraged to make a friend or colleague inside this course to make sure you have access to notes in the event you miss a lecture.
- **The best way to guarantee success in this class is to:**
 - **attend class every day**
 - **take notes and study**
 - **participate in discussion assignments**
 - **attempt the extra credit discussions**
 - **do the plant project well**

Course Decorum:

1. The best way to ensure your success in this class is by attending all virtual classes and taking notes.
2. Give your full attention to the presenter. Quizzes and the exam are based on the presentations so maximize your time in class by soaking up all the information you can.
3. **Pretend you are at a business meeting.**
 - a. **Show up on time and treat your colleagues with respect.**
 - b. **Keep your microphone muted unless you have a question or comment.**
 - c. **You are encouraged to have your webcam on, but it is not required.**
 - d. **If it goes beep, rings, makes noise, or you are able to talk into it, text friends, surf the internet or play games on it, please turn it off before you come to meetings.**
 - e. **Do not chat with your friends during the presentation. Talking not only distracts the speaker, but also other students around you that want to listen and learn.**
 - f. ***If you do not abide by these rules, you will be politely asked to leave.***

Academic Honesty:

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: *"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."* You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."*

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>

Software Use:

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Social Media Use:

I encourage students to discuss class material and share notes through Canvas or other social media platforms (eg. GroupMe, Snapchat etc.). HOWEVER – we have had problems with students using these resources to cheat on class projects and extra credit opportunities. This type of behavior will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action.

Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/

Counseling Services

Outreach and Consultation

Training Programs

Groups and Workshops

Self-Help Library

Community Provider Database

Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu/

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Disability Resource Center, 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

LECTURE SCHEDULE

Thursday, Period 4 (10:40AM – 11:30AM) – ONLINE LIVE via ZOOM

Thursday, Period 5 (11:45AM – 12:35PM) – ONLINE LIVE via ZOOM

GARDENING DEMONSTRATIONS - TBA

- Sept. 3 **An Introduction to Horticulture, Plant Science & Gardening**
- Sept. 10 **Plant Domestication**
- Sept. 17 **Plant Propagation**
DUE: PLANT BLINDNESS REFLECTION ASSIGNMENT 1
- Sept. 24 **Plant Biotechnology – Guest Lecturer: Sammy Burrell**
- Oct. 1 **UF Coleus Breeding**
****QUIZ 1****
- Oct. 8 **Edible Landscapes**
- Oct. 15 **Home and Sports Turfgrass**
DUE: PLANT BLINDNESS REFLECTION ASSIGNMENT
- Oct. 22 **Caffeine and Plants**
- Oct. 29 **All About Orchids**
****QUIZ 2****
- Nov. 5 **Cacti & Succulents**
- Nov. 12 **All About Strawberries**
- Nov. 19 **MYSTERY LECTURE**
- Dec. 3 **EXAM – DURING NORMAL CLASS MEETING TIMES**
EXTRA CREDITS AND OUT OF CLASS PROJECT DUE

PLANT BLINDNESS REFLECTION ASSIGNMENTS

****YOU ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THESE ASSIGNMENTS IN CANVAS****

PLANT BLINDNESS REFLECTION ASSIGNMENT 1 -- EVALUATE YOUR GROWING ENVIRONMENT

Part 1 (5 points each): Briefly answer the following questions to help us guide you to a successful garden:

- 1a. Have you received your welcome package yet?
- 1b. Which seed(s) will you plant? Do you plan on adopting any other plants during the semester?
- 1c. What is your experience with plants and gardening?
- 1d. Where will you grow your plants during this class (windowsills, porch, balcony, yard, etc.)?
- 1e. Post a picture of your growing space.

Part 2 (15 points each): To become a successful gardener you must understand your growing environment (temperature, light, water, soil, and nutrition). List the 5 factors and answer the questions relevant to your growing space.

- 2a. Temperature (What will the temperature range be? Will the plants be inside with air conditioning, or will they face the summer heat?)
- 2b. Light (Do you have low, medium, or high levels of light?)
- 2c. Water (Will your plants be exposed to rain? How will you manage watering for your plant?)
- 2d. Soil (For container gardens: which growing media will you use? For in-ground gardens: what type and quality of soil do you have?)
- 2e. Nutrition (Will you use fertilizer or other methods to increase plant nutrition? How will you deal with nutrient deficiencies or toxicity?)

DUE ON/BEFORE SEPT. 17, 2020 AT 11:59PM. Late submissions will not be accepted.

PLANT BLINDNESS REFLECTION ASSIGNMENT 2 -- EVALUATE SOMEONE ELSE'S GROWING ENVIRONMENT

It's time for a scavenger hunt to find a plant and discuss its ideal growing environment vs. the growing environment it is currently in. You can use a plant from your neighborhood, a garden center, a supermarket, botanical garden, or anywhere else with plants! Keep in mind it will be easier to notice the effects of different environments if you choose a plant that is in a more permanent position (e.g. plants in a garden center may have been grown in an ideal environment, then moved to less than ideal conditions).

Part 1 (12.5 points each): A plant never forgets where it comes from.

- 1a. Post a picture of what the plant should look like (an image you didn't take is fine).
- 1b. List the common or scientific name.
- 1c. What region/country did the plant originate from?
- 1d. What does their natural growing environment look like? (remember to discuss the 5 factors- temperature, light, water, soil, nutrition)

Part 2 (12.5 points each): Discuss the plant you found and compare its current environment to its ideal environment.

- 2a. Post a picture of the same species that you found in real life (this must be your original image).
- 2b. Where did you find this plant? If the plant is outside, what city and state was it in?
- 2c. What does its current growing environment look like? How does it compare to its natural growing environment? (If you aren't certain of the 5 factors it is currently facing just give it your best guess).
- 2d. Do you think this plant is doing poorly, or has the plant owner done a good job at caring for the plant? If the plant is doing poorly, how can the owner alter one or more of the factors to improve the growing environment?

DUE ON/BEFORE OCT. 15, 2020 AT 11:59PM. Late submissions will not be accepted.

EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

**** YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO ANY OF THESE ASSIGNMENTS****

EXTRA CREDIT 1 – GERMINATE SEEDS, GET A FLOWER

- Obtain a seed from your plant mail that flowers before producing fruit. Good choices for this assignment include 'Sweet 100' tomatoes, Thai peppers from Dave's garden, or other seeds from the *Solanaceae* family.
 - Germinate the seed.
 - Grow the plant until it produces a flower.
 - Take a picture of your plant and identify yourself in the picture.
 - Upload to Canvas as a comment in the extra credit discussion.
 - Receive 10 extra credit points.
- **DUE ON/BEFORE DEC. 3, 2020 AT 11:59PM. Late submissions will not be accepted.**

EXTRA CREDIT 2 – HARVEST SEEDS, MAKE NEW PLANTS

- Obtain a RIPE fruit or vegetable from a salad, supermarket, farmer's market or from a plant.
 - Harvest the seeds and dry them properly.
 - Plant the seeds in potting soil, water them and watch them sprout.
 - Take a picture of one or more seedlings and identify yourself in the picture.
 - Upload to Canvas as a comment in the extra credit discussion.
 - Receive 10 extra credit points.
 - **Hint:* Easy ones to use for this project are tomatoes, peppers (red), citrus and melons.
- **DUE ON/BEFORE DEC. 3, 2020 AT 11:59PM. Late submissions will not be accepted.**

EXTRA CREDIT 3 – CLONE A PLANT/ASEXUAL PROPAGATION

- Asexually propagate ANY plant using ANY asexual propagation method
 - Wait until you have visible roots. **You will not receive credit if we cannot see roots.**
 - Take a picture of your new plant and roots and identify yourself in the picture
 - Upload to Canvas as a comment in the extra credit discussion.
 - Receive 10 extra credit points.
 - **Hint:* Easy plants include coleus, basil, and some succulents. Rooting cuttings in a cup of water is often the easiest method for beginners.
- **DUE ON/BEFORE DEC. 3, 2020 AT 11:59PM. Late submissions will not be accepted.**

****NOTE**** These THREE opportunities allow you to observe plant growth and development from “seed-to-seed” with EC1&2, and also how to clone a plant with EC3. They also provide points you may find valuable at the end of the semester.

OUT OF CLASS PROJECT: 200 POINTS

The purpose of this assignment is to help you look closely at the plants around you from a creative point of view. For this assignment you will need to create one ORIGINAL creative project using the guidelines from one of the choices below.

Article/Report

- Write a 1,000+ word article about any topic concerning student-plant interactions
- You MUST conduct interviews and include quotes with names and job titles/majors
- Interview two people you do not know OR
- Interview three people that you do know
- Include at least one original photo to complement your article
- Upload to Canvas as a Word document or PDF

Video

- Create a video at least 60 seconds in length
- Video must highlight college students and plants in some way
- ONLY original images/video/music/audio or music available under Creative Commons
- Cannot solely consist of still images with overlaid text
- Upload to Canvas as mp4 or mov file
- If you do not have access to software that will produce a video without watermarks, you should choose another option
- Examples: <https://endowment.org/flower-love-videos>
- Other Example: <https://youtu.be/j8JrZiW4kgQ>

Photography

- Take 20 high-quality images of plants or people with plants.
- Create a PowerPoint presentation and insert the images into slides
- Insert a textbox into each slide and caption the image with the following information:
 - The plant's common or scientific name
 - Location where the photo was taken
 - A fun fact about the plant or a caption that could be used on social media
- Upload to Canvas as a PowerPoint

Art (Painting, sketch, digital graphics, diorama, sculpture, landscape plan, etc.)

- Create an original project that uses one or both of the following phrases as inspiration:
 - People Who Love Plants
 - Plants People Love
- If you have a physical art piece, take a high quality picture or scan to upload. Please try to take pictures in a well-lit area and keep all of the art in-frame. Multiple angles are appreciated but not required.
- Write a few sentences describing your project and its relevance to students and plants. This description can be in Canvas comments or in an attached file.
- Upload to Canvas as AI, PDF, JPEG, PNG, Word document, or PowerPoint.

DUE ON/BEFORE DECEMBER 3, 2020 AT 11:59PM. Late submissions will not be accepted.

If you would like the Collegiate Plant Initiative Instagram and Facebook account to share your project and first name, please include "CPI Approved" with any accounts you would like to be tagged. You can also include "CPI Approved Anonymous" if you would like it to be shared without identifying information.

GOOD EXAMPLES OF PAST PROJECTS AND TOPICS:

Article/Report

- Plants & Design Studio: How Plants Inspire and Comfort Architecture Students
- Should College Students Bring Flowers on First Dates?
- A Growing Dependence on Caffeine
- Gardening in a Stressful World

Video

- What do plants mean to you? (student interviews around campus)
- Blind Dates with Plants (a student going on 'dates' with a coleus and tomato plant)
- Art Imitates Life (makeup inspired by plants from class)
- Plants in College Cooking (cooking dinner with plant-based ingredients)

Photography



Playing with Fire | Croton 🔥

#stepback

#isithotinhereoritistjustme #fire

#burnbabyburn #colorful

Art (Painting, sketch, digital graphics, diorama, sculpture, etc.)

