

**Faculty of Science Course Syllabus
Department of Biology**

**PLANTS IN THE HUMAN LANDSCAPE (BIOL 3225/ENVS 3225)
Winter 2022**

Instructor: Rajesh Rajaselvam Email: Rajesh.Rajaselvam@Dal.Ca Office: LSC 3082
Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 14:30 – 15:30 hrs, Thursdays by appointment

Lectures: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 13:35 – 14:25 hrs (LSC C 244)

Tutorials: 6 tutorials (80 min/tutorial)
Thursday 13:05 – 14:25 hrs (LSC C 334)

*****Delivery of lectures & tutorials: In-person (if lockdown occurs; synchronous via Collaborate Ultra on Brightspace) and will NOT be recorded; therefore, it is very important to attend live lectures and tutorials.***

Course Description

The use of plants for human recreation and aesthetic purposes in gardens, public parks, suburban and urban landscapes. Topics include: history of gardens, garden design, identification, uses, and horticultural requirements of plants, soil and nutrients, plant materials, edible and medicinal plants in landscaping and plants and human health. The course includes interactive seminars and a landscape design group project.

Course Prerequisites

BIOL 1010.03/BIOL 1020.03 (B- or higher) or BIOL 1011.03/BIOL 1021.03 (B- or higher) or DISP or PLAN 2001.03 or instructor's permission.

Course Textbook

Alissa Smith & Jack Ingles, 2019. *"Landscaping principles and practices"*. 8th Edition. Nelson Education Ltd. OR *"Plants in the human landscape"*, custom made text. Nelson Education Ltd.

Learning Objectives

- Explain the importance of plants in landscaping and their different roles
- Understand soils and the importance of nutrients
- Become familiar with basic horticultural practices
- Describe and draw different landscape designs
- Understand the use of wild and medicinal plants
- Understand sustainability through landscaping

Course Assessment

Assignment, Exam, or Presentation	Marks %	Date
Quiz 1	05	Feb 09
Mid-Term Exam	20	Feb 18
Oral Presentation (group presentation)	10	Mar 07, 09 & 11
Quiz 2	05	Mar 16
Project: Landscape Design	20	Apr 04
Lab/Seminar Reports	16	TBA
Final Exam	24	Apr 06
Total	100	

Landscape Design Project and Oral Presentation

A professional landscape design for the given location should be submitted by the groups at the end of the course. Students/Groups are expected to do a 12 minute power point presentation on their proposed landscape design.

Grading Scale

Conversion of numerical grades to Final Letter Grades follows the [Dalhousie Common Grade Scale](#)

A+ (90-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (65-69)	D (50-54)
A (85-89)	B (73-76)	C (60-64)	F (<50)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (55-59)	

Course Policies

General Policies:

Class participation is considered vital.

Tutorial/Seminar sessions are compulsory. Complete attendance of all lectures is highly recommended, since it helps to improve your grade significantly.

Meeting deadlines is mandatory. No late submission without a valid reason is accepted for marking.

Brightspace (course web-tool) is used for regular updates and announcements. TAs are the first point of contact (unless for major issues) and copying the instructor on messages is highly recommended.

During the Online Delivery Period:

Online class participation is considered vital. Detailed PPT lectures are uploaded before the lectures. No 'full lecture recordings' are uploaded (except for a few small clips), and virtual attendance in synchronous lectures to learn landscape drawing is highly encouraged. Summary lecture clips and biweekly discussion sessions are offered (mainly considering students in the time zones with at-least eight-hour difference) on request.

Tutorial/Seminar sessions are compulsory. Complete attendance of all lectures is highly recommended since it helps to improve your grade significantly. Details of the tutorials can be accessed asynchronously too.

Meeting deadlines is mandatory (during the online delivery period a two-week deadline is given to all landscape drawing submissions). No late submission without a valid reason is accepted for marking.

Specific Policies:

The policies will only be implemented when a student's absence is due to physical or mental health conditions; involvement in an accident; immediate family illness, injury, or death; or other extenuating circumstances as described in Dalhousie University's Academic Calendar Regulation: Missed or Late Academic Requirements due to Student Absence (SDA)⁽¹⁾. The student must notify the instructor or teaching assistant *prior* to the academic requirement deadline and must submit a completed Student Declaration of Absence form⁽²⁾. No more than **two (2)** separate Student Declaration of Absence (SDA) forms may be used per course during a single term. SDA forms are valid **only** for tutorials, mandatory lectures/presentations & quizzes.

Quizzes

- If quiz #1 is missed for a valid and credible reason, those marks will be re-distributed to quiz #2
- If quiz #2 is missed for a valid and credible reason, those marks will be re-distributed to the final exam
- If both quizzes are missed, only one will be re-distributed

Midterm Exam and Final Exam

- One makeup exam can be scheduled for any student(s) provided the examination was missed for a valid and credible reason (document/s may be required), the instructor or teaching assistant was notified prior to the examination start time.
- The makeup exam will be a different exam than the one given during the regularly scheduled examination time
- If the missed exam is a final examination in the Fall term, the makeup exam will be scheduled for January of the following year.

Tutorials

- Missing a tutorial is only acceptable in those cases where the student has notified the teaching assistant prior to the start time of the tutorial with a valid and credible reason

Altogether, **no more than three (3)** tutorials, quizzes, and exams may be missed as there will not be enough material to adequately evaluate the student on.

⁽¹⁾Academic Calendar Regulation: Missed or Late Academic Requirements due to Student Absence:
[https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/dept/university_secretariat/Student%20Absence%20Regulation%20\(May%202018\).pdf](https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/dept/university_secretariat/Student%20Absence%20Regulation%20(May%202018).pdf)

⁽²⁾Student Declaration of Absence Form:
<https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/campuslife/Health%20and%20wellness/FINAL%20Student%20Declaration%20of%20Absence%20Form.pdf>

Course Content

Schedule (Tentative)

A. Lectures

Week 1:

Jan 05 - Course Introduction

Jan 07 - History of gardens/landscape

Week 2:

Jan 10 - Trees of Nova Scotia/ Plant database

Jan 12 - Drawing/Graphic Materials and Techniques (Chap 03 & 05)

Jan 14 - Landscape drawing I (Symbols/ Ground covers, Vines & Flower beds)

Week 3:

Jan 17 - Plant selection (Chap 08)

Jan 19 - The principles of design I (Chap 02)

Jan 20 - Landscape drawing II (Non-plant features)

Week 4:

Jan 24 - The principles of design II (Chap 02)

Jan 26 - Plant nutrients

Jan 28 - Fertilizers

Week 5:

Jan 31 - Flowers (Chap 09)

Feb 02 - Soil

Week 6:

Feb 07 - Installing landscape (Chap 18, 19 and 20)

Feb 09 - Quiz 01.....5 marks & Midterm Review

Feb 11 - Project introduction & Landscape drawing III (Samples)

Week 7:

Feb 14 - Introduction to Students' Oral Presentations/Project discussion

Feb 16 - Pre-tutorial session **Mandatory**

Feb 18 - Midterm Exam20 Marks (@ 13:35 hrs @ LSC C 244)

Week 8: Study Break

Week 9:

Feb 28 - Medicinal plants in landscape I

Mar 02 - Medicinal plants in landscape II & Landscape design (Project preparation I)

Mar 04 - Landscape design (Project preparation II) **TA Session/Mandatory**

Week 10: Students' Presentation (Landscape design)..... 10 Marks

Mar 07, 09 and 11

Week 11:

Mar 14 - Students presentation (continued.)

Mar 16 - Pre-tutorial 3 & QUIZ 02 5 Marks

Mar 18 - Maintaining landscape plants (Chap 24 & 25)

Week 12:

Mar 21 - Plant injuries (Chap 26 & 28)

Mar 23 - Pre-tutorial 4 in class/ Mandatory

Mar 25 - Landscape design project (Final touch/ TAs) **Mandatory**

Week 13:

Mar 28 - Benefits of plants/ Trees and Environment

Mar 30 - Final Revision/ Question period

Apr 01 - Group project/ class time

Week 14:

Apr 04 - Group project submission

Apr 06 - Final exam 24 Marks (@ 13:35 hrs @ LSC C 244)

B. Seminar/Tutorial sessions

Attendance mandatory, (4 x 4) = 16 marks

Jan 13: Assignment 1: Landscape design I (Scales and symbols/ Trees and Shrubs) **(Report required)**

Feb 24: Assignment 2: Landscape design II (Backyard landscaping) **(Report required)**

Mar 03: Group project information,

Landscape Design: Landscape design (Organizing space in the landscape/ labelling)

Mar 10: Design project (Discussion/final touch)

Mar 17: Assignment 3: Landscape design III (Professional Landscaping) **(Report required)**

Mar 24: Assignment 4: Landscape design IV **(Report required)**

University Policies and Statements

This course is governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the University Calendar and by Senate

Academic Integrity

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all of our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility and respect (The Center for Academic Integrity, Duke University, 1999). As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity.

Information: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html

Accessibility

The Advising and Access Services Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for student accessibility and accommodation. The advising team works with students who request accommodation as a result of a disability, religious obligation, or any barrier related to any other characteristic protected under Human Rights legislation (Canada and Nova Scotia).

Information: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html

Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner—perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution.

Code: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html

Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness

Statement: <http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>

Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi'kmaq Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support. Visit or e-mail the Indigenous Student Centre (1321 Edward St) (elders@dal.ca).

Information: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)

https://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html

University Grading Practices

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html

Student Resources and Support

Advising

General Advising https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html

Science Program Advisors: <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/science/current-students/academic-advising.html>

Indigenous Student Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Black Students Advising Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html

International Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/international-centre/current-students.html

Academic supports

Library: <https://libraries.dal.ca/>

Writing Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html

Studying for Success: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html

Copyright Office: <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office.html>

Fair Dealing Guidelines <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office/fair-dealing.html>

Other supports and services

Student Health & Wellness Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/services-support/student-health-and-wellness.html

Student Advocacy: <https://dsu.ca/dsas>

Ombudsperson: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html

Safety

Biosafety: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/biosafety.html>

Chemical Safety: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/chemical-safety.html>

Radiation Safety: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/radiation-safety.html>

Scent-Free Program: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.html>

Dalhousie COVID-19 information and updates: <https://www.dal.ca/covid-19-information-and-updates.html>

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