

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

**PLANTS IN THE HUMAN LANDSCAPE (BIOL 3225/ENVS 3225/PLAN 3225)**  
**Winter 2020**

**Instructor:** Rajesh Rajaselvam      Email: [Rajesh.Rajaselvam@Dal.Ca](mailto:Rajesh.Rajaselvam@Dal.Ca)      Office: LSC 3082  
Office Hours: Tuesday/Friday 14:30 – 15:30 pm, Thursday by appointments

**Lectures:** Monday, Wednesday & Friday 09:35 – 10:25 hrs (LSC/C244)

**Tutorials:** 6 tutorials (80 min/tutorial)  
Friday 11:05 – 12:25 pm (LSC/C332)

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### **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 12
Mid-Term Exam	20	Feb 26
Oral Presentation (group presentation)	10	Mar 09, 11 & 13
Quiz 2	05	Mar 20
Project: Landscape Design	20	Apr 03
Lab/Seminar Reports	16	TBA
Final Exam	24	Apr 06
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	

### 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

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 valid reason is accepted for marking.

Brightspace (course web-tool) will be 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.

## Course Content

### Schedule (Tentative)

#### A. Lectures

##### Week 1:

Jan 06 - Course Introduction

Jan 08 - History of gardens/landscape

Jan 10 - Drawing/Graphic Materials and Techniques (Chap 03 & 05)

##### Week 2:

Jan 13 - Trees of Nova Scotia

Jan 15 - Plant database

Jan 17 - Landscape drawing I (Symbols/ Ground covers, Vines & Flower beds)

##### Week 3:

Jan 20 - Plant selection (Chap 08)

Jan 22 - The principles of design (Chap 02)

Jan 24 - Landscape drawing II (Non-plant features)

##### Week 4:

Jan 27 - Plant nutrients

Jan 29 - Plants in Horticulture (seminar)

Jan 31 - Flowers (Chap 09)

##### Week 5:

Feb 03 - Soil I

Feb 05 - Soil II

##### Week 6:

Feb 10 - Installing landscape (Chap 18, 19 and 20)

**Feb 12 - Quiz 01.....5 marks & Midterm Review**

Feb 14 – Project introduction & Landscape drawing III (Samples)

##### Week 7: Study Break

##### Week 8:

Feb 24 - Introduction to Students' Oral Presentations

**Feb 26 - Midterm Exam .....20 Marks (@ 9:30am at LSC 244)**

Feb 28 - Landscape design (Project details) **Mandatory**

##### Week 9:

Mar 02 - Medicinal plants in landscape I

Mar 04 - Landscape design (Project preparation I) **Mandatory**

Mar 06 - Medicinal plants in landscape II & Landscape design (Project preparation II)

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

Mar 09, 11 and 13

Week 11:

Mar 16 - Students presentation (continued.)

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

**Mar 20 – Pre-tutorial 3 & QUIZ 02 ..... 5 Marks**

Week 12:

Mar 23 - Plant injuries (Chap 26 & 28)

**Mar 25 – Pre-tutorial 4 in class/ Mandatory**

**Mar 27 - Landscape design project (Final touch/ TAs) *Mandatory***

Week 13:

Mar 30 - Benefits of plants/ Trees and Environment

Apr 01 - Final exam review

Apr 03 - Landscape Design Project Submission

Week 14:

**Apr 06 - Final exam ..... 24 Marks (@ 9:30am at LSC C244)**

## **B. Seminar/Tutorial sessions**

*Attendance mandatory, (4 x 4) = 16 marks*

Jan 17: Assignment 1: Landscape design I (Scales and symbols/ Trees and Shrubs) **(Report required)**

Feb 14: Assignment 2: Landscape design II (Backyard landscaping) **(Report required)**

Mar 06: Group project information,

Assignment 3: Landscape design (Organizing space in the landscape/ labelling)

Mar 13: Design project (Discussion/final touch)

Mar 20: Assignment 4: Landscape design III (Professional Landscaping) **(Report required)**

Mar 27: Assignment 5: Conservation of plants **(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](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](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](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](mailto:elders@dal.ca)).

**Information:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/indigenous.html](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](https://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html)

### **University Grading Practices**

[https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html)

### **Missed or Late Academic Requirements due to Student Absence (policy)**

[https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/academic/missed-or-late-academic-requirements-due-to-student-absence.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/missed-or-late-academic-requirements-due-to-student-absence.html)

## **Student Resources and Support**

### **Advising**

**General Advising** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/advising.html](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](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html)

**Black Students Advising Centre:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/black-student-advising.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html)

**International Centre:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/international-centre/current-students.html](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](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](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](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](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>

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