

COMMON COURSE NUMBER:   ORH 1523  

COURSE TITLE:   Native Upland Plants  

CREDIT HOURS:           2          

**CONTACT HOURS BREAKDOWN:**

Lecture/Discussion           32          

Lab                   0          

Other                   0          

Contact Hours/Week           4           (8 week course)

**CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Prerequisite: None

Corequisite: None

This course includes the identification of approximately 100 plants and plant groups native or naturalized in the higher ground habitats of South Florida. The application of these plants as in-situ, mitigation or landscape materials in the ecological and esthetic situations of this area will be an additional objective. Most instruction will be done in the field utilizing local passive- and active-use parks. Completion of any Landscape Plant Identification Class, ORH 1524, ORH 1510, ORH 1511, ORH 2512 or ORH 1101 is strongly recommended.

General Education Requirements - Associate of Arts Degree, meets Area(s):

General Education Requirements - Associate in Science Degree, meets Area(s):

**UNIT TITLES:**

1. Explanation and Definition of Habitats in South Florida
2. Brief Review of Taxonomy, Morphology and Trade Vernacular
3. Introduction to Materials and References Needed In This Course
4. Plant Purchasing Information
5. Landscape Codes and Tree Preservation Ordinances
6. Field Records and Collection Techniques
7. In-field Plant Identification

## **I. Course Overview:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the students should be able to identify common native upland plants and describe the current and potential use of native upland plants in the industry.

## **II. Units:**

### **Unit 1. Explanation and Definition of Habitats in South Florida**

#### General Outcome:

- 1.0 The students should be able to produce and discuss the reference materials and regulations for habitat determination and delineation.

#### Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 1.1 Produce from their files examples of notes, handouts, publications and regulations pertaining to habitat definition.
- 1.2 Refer to and discuss various lists of plants from high-ground hammocks, sand pine areas and dry prairie margins.
- 1.3 Review a site and discuss their conclusions on the status of the area as one of the above habitats based on their files and the plants identified on or from the site.

## Unit 2. Brief Review of Taxonomy, Morphology and Trade Vernacular

### General Outcome:

2.0 The students should be able to apply the basic vernacular of plant nomenclature, description and availability of the plants discussed.

### Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 2.1 Discuss and describe plants physically using simple botanical vegetative terminology in common usage.
- 2.2 Place plants in their proper taxonomic groupings using common names, Genus, species and Family terminology.
- 2.3 Use standardized trade terms for the purchase and handling of native plants.

**Unit 3. Introduction To Materials and References Needed In This Course**

General Outcome:

3.0 The students should be able to assemble supplies and explain the use of BCC Plant Materials Cards, cite reference books, and access plant lists from the habitats to be taught.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

3.1 Explain and demonstrate the use of BCC Plant materials Cards.

3.2 List the basic attire, collection equipment, and personal supplies needed for field trips in this course.

3.3 Assemble for reference, plant lists for the sites and habitats to be studied.

## Unit 4. Plant Purchasing Information and Plant Sources

### General Outcome:

4.0 The students should be able to list publications and agencies which can provide information on native and invasive exotic plants; and locate nurseries that are sources of native plants and propagules.

### Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 4.1 Name at least three publications that list native plants for sale or distribution.
- 4.2 Contact and discuss available inventory with native plant nurseries.

## Unit 5. Landscape Codes and Tree Preservation Ordinances

### General Outcome:

5.0 The students should be able to assemble a file of local Landscape regulations and be able to discuss in general the theory of their origins and enforcement techniques in common usage.

### Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 5.1 Contact local municipal governments to obtain copies of Landscape codes, tree preservation ordinances and deed restrictions.
- 5.2 Ascertain the applicability of state or federal codes in certain types of construction or properties.
- 5.3 List and discuss the application and effectiveness of enforcement procedures.

## Unit 6. Field Records and Collection Techniques

### General Outcome:

6.0 The students should be able to apply common methods of indexing and documenting plant collections, and use the standardized methods for collection and herbarium preservation of collected plants.

### Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 6.1 Tag and list plants collected in the field.
- 6.2 Locate specific sites of collection and be able to return to them.
- 6.3 Explain the use of GPS (Global Positioning Systems) and equipment required.
- 6.4 Field-collect plants and be able to herbarium-mount specimens.

## Unit 7. In-field Plant Identification

### General Outcome:

7.0 The students should be able to identify the plants required for this course to Family groups, Genus, species and/or trade names. The student should also demonstrate awareness of books and other identification materials.

### Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

7.1 Identify plants in the field or from collected specimens using the identification aids discussed in class and suggested reference texts.

7.2 Develop a reference book list for further study.