

# **EVDL 645 – PLANTS IN THE LANDSCAPE**

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*Term: Fall 2017*

## *Course Description:*

*EVDL 645 introduces the characteristics and uses of trees and shrubs in the local landscape. Emphasis is placed on plant taxonomy, plant identification and planting design. Native and non-native trees, shrubs, vines and groundcovers will be reviewed in both natural and designed landscapes. There will be a focus on plant materials appropriate in the local region.*

## *Teaching Approach:*

*The course is divided into two sections. The first half of the course focuses on basic plant taxonomy and methods of plant identification through lectures and plant walks. Local trees, shrubs and ornamental grasses will be identified on outdoor plant walks around the university campus or off-site locations. Students will prepare a plant journal and complete two exams based on this material. The second half of the course will focus on planting design and will include guest lectures on various topics. A planting design is the final assignment where students can apply their new knowledge of plant material and the spatial characteristics of plants.*

## *Course Objectives:*

- 1. Ability to recognize, correctly name and describe characteristics of common evergreen and deciduous woody plants*
- 2. To develop an understanding of the cultural requirements of plants in built environments*

3. Become proficient at accessing horticultural information from a variety of sources and apply knowledge in planting design
4. To gain an increased awareness of the role and importance of plants to society
5. To begin executing planting designs at a small scale that will enable the student to apply knowledge in future courses/studios and in professional practice

#### Readings:

Required readings are listed in the course schedule provided below.

The following books are recommended to supplement class learnings:

#### Plant Identification

- *Botany in a Day: The Patterns Method of Plant Identification* – Elpel, Thomas.
- *Plant Identification Terminology: An Illustrated Glossary* – Harris, James.

#### Trees and Shrubs Common to the Region

- *Trees and Shrubs for the Northern Plains* – Hoag, D.
- *Native Trees of Canada* – Hosie, R.
- *Guide to the Common Native Trees and Shrubs of Alberta* – Available Online at <http://aep.alberta.ca/land/land-industrial/programs-and-services/pesticide-management/pesticide-use/documents/CommonNativeTreesShrubsAlberta-Guide.pdf>

#### Planting Design

- *The Planting Design Handbook* – Robinson, Nick.
- *With People in Mind: Design and Management of Everyday Nature* – Kaplan, R. and Kaplan, S.

## Course Requirements:

1. Two plant exams
2. A plant journal consisting of plant identification pages, representing all plants covered in the course with appropriate accompanying notes and illustrations, sketches or photographs (students choice). The plant journal can be used as a study tool for exams and a useful reference in future courses and professional practice. The journal must be neatly presented, organized and include an index or table of contents when submitted. Further details regarding this assignment are provided on a separate handout.
3. A planting design with a detailed program. A rationale for the program must be provided that includes behavioural, ecological or horticultural considerations. A detailed plant list including botanical and common names + quantities is also required. Planting plans must be drawn to scale either hand-drawn or computer generated. Further details regarding this assignment are provided on a separate handout.

## Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated on the basis on two plan exams, a plant journal, a planting design exercise and participation. The exams are held indoors with samples of plant materials.

Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Plant Journal*	25%
Planting Design *	25%
<u>Attendance + Participation</u>	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

\* Note: A passing grade is required on these assignments in order to pass the course as a whole.

### *Attendance and Participation:*

*Class attendance and participation are essential elements in the learning process. There may be times when it is not possible for you to attend class. Please notify the instructor prior to your absence, if possible. Missing more than 25% of class hours may result in a failing grade for the course.*

### *Grading Scale:*

*Final grades will be reported as letter grades, with the final grade calculated according to the 4-point range. Assignments will be evaluated by percentage grades, with their letter grade equivalents as shown.*

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade Point Value</i>	<i>4-Point Range</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Description</i>
<i>A+</i>	<i>4.00</i>	<i>4.00</i>	<i>95-100</i>	<i>Outstanding - evaluated by instructor</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>4.00</i>	<i>3.85-4.00</i>	<i>90-94.99</i>	<i>Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter</i>
<i>A-</i>	<i>3.70</i>	<i>3.50-3.84</i>	<i>85-89.99</i>	<i>Very good performance</i>
<i>B+</i>	<i>3.30</i>	<i>3.15-3.49</i>	<i>80-84.99</i>	<i>Good performance</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>3.00</i>	<i>2.85-3.14</i>	<i>75-79.99</i>	<i>Satisfactory performance</i>
<i>B-</i>	<i>2.70</i>	<i>2.50-2.84</i>	<i>70-74.99</i>	<i>Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies</i>
<i>C+</i>	<i>2.30</i>	<i>2.15-2.49</i>	<i>65-69.99</i>	<i>All final grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>2.00</i>	<i>1.85-2.14</i>	<i>60-64.99</i>	
<i>C-</i>	<i>1.70</i>	<i>1.50-1.84</i>	<i>55-59.99</i>	
<i>D+</i>	<i>1.30</i>	<i>1.15-1.49</i>	<i>50-54.99</i>	
<i>D</i>	<i>1.00</i>	<i>0.50-1.14</i>	<i>45-49.99</i>	
<i>F</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0-0.49</i>	<i>0-44.99</i>	

*Notes:*

- *A student who receives a "C+" or lower in any one course will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average (GPA) unless the program recommends otherwise. If the program permits the student to retake a failed course, the second grade will replace the initial grade in the calculation of the GPA, and both grades will appear on the transcript.*

Tentative Schedule – Fall 2017

Date	Lecture	Assignment/Exam	Required Readings
September 11	Plant walk		
September 18	Plant walk		
September 25	Plant walk		
October 2	Plant walk	Plant Quiz 1	
October 9	Thanksgiving – no class		
October 16	Plant Walk (specimen review)		
October 23	Plant Walk (specimen review)		
October 30	Plant Walk (specimen review)		
November 6	Guest Lecture – Maria Galdon	Plant Quiz 2	
November 13	Planting Design 1		Planting Design Handbook: Chapter 3 With People in Mind: Page 7-48
November 20	Planting Design 2		Planting Design Handbook: Chapter 4 With People in Mind: Chapter 5
November 27	Guest Lecture (TBD)		
December 4 Last Class	Desk Crits – Planting Design		
December 15		Planting Design Due Plant Journal Due	

**Notes:**

1. Written work, term assignments and other course related work may only be submitted by e-mail if prior permission to do so has been obtained from the course instructor. Submissions must come from an official University of Calgary (ucalgary) email account.
2. Academic Accommodations. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the designated contact person in EVDS, Jennifer Taillefer ([jtaillef@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jtaillef@ucalgary.ca)). Students who require an accommodation unrelated to their coursework or the requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Vice-Provost (Student Experience). For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/)
3. Plagiarism - Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:(a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),(b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,(c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,(d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course(although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported

to the Dean, and dealt with as per the regulations in the University of Calgary Graduate Calendar.

4. Information regarding the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>) and how this impacts the receipt and delivery of course material
5. Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>)
6. Safewalk information (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>)
7. Contact Info for: Student Union (<https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/contact/>); Graduate Student representative (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>) and Student Ombudsman's Office (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/>).