

**Common Course Outline**  
**HORT 216**  
**Herbaceous Garden Plants: Spring**  
**2 Semester Hours**

**The Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

HORT 216—Herbaceous Garden Plants: Spring—2 credits—provides for the study of herbaceous perennials, annuals, biennials, and geophytes that are cultivated in gardens and landscapes for spring interest, with emphasis on identification, environmental requirements, aesthetic character, and landscape design uses. Attendance at one Saturday field trip is required.

Prerequisite: RDNG 052 or LVR 2.

**Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. define common botanical terms associated with plant identification;
2. apply botanical terms in describing parts of herbaceous plant specimens;
3. identify specimens of at least 60 herbaceous species by botanical and common names;
4. use a standard pronunciation for botanical names;
5. describe the aesthetic value of each species, such as the bloom, fragrance, visual texture, plant form, and seasonal color;
6. describe the growth habit, mature size, and rate of growth for each species;
7. describe cultivars, where available, for common herbaceous garden species;
8. explain the environmental parameters within which the species can be expected to grow satisfactorily, e.g. sunlight, soil, moisture, and winter temperatures;
9. identify common insect and disease pests of the species studied;
10. demonstrate a basic knowledge of herbaceous garden planning;
11. demonstrate knowledge of appropriate site preparation and planting; and
12. demonstrate routine maintenance activities for herbaceous garden plantings.

## **Major Topics**

- I. Plant Nomenclature
- II. Plant Morphology
- III. Introduction to Herbaceous Garden Plants
  - A. Definitions
  - B. Herbaceous Garden Planning
  - C. Site Preparation
  - D. Seasonal Maintenance and Management
- IV. Species Characteristics
  - A. Growth Habit
  - B. Rate of Growth
  - C. Visual Texture
  - D. Flowers
  - E. Fruits
  - F. Foliage Effects
  - G. Winter Interest
- V. Environmental Parameters
  - A. Soil Moisture
  - B. Atmospheric Humidity
  - C. Sunlight
  - D. Soil
  - E. Wind
  - F. Winter Hardiness
  - G. Heat Tolerance
- VI. Insect and Disease Pests
  - A. Identification
  - B. Principles of Integrated Pest Management
  - C. Information Resources

## **Course Requirements**

**Grading/exams:** Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

1. weekly lecture quiz;
2. weekly written lab;
3. class participation; and
4. attendance at a Saturday field trip.

**Writing:** The individual faculty member will determine specific writing assignments. One such assignment will be the completion of a semester-long journal project.

## **Other Course Information**

This is one of the horticultural plant materials courses offered in the program. Successful completion of at least one course in herbaceous garden plants is a requirement for the A.A.S. degree.

Class attendance, lab participation, and attendance at the Saturday field trip are essential for successful completion of this course.

An individual faculty member may include additional course objectives, major topics, and other course requirements to the minimum expectations stated in the Common Course Outline.

Date: 10/24/07