



time	MW 10:00-11:50am, F 9:00-11:50am
location	TBA, plant walks meet in Lawrence Hall courtyard
credits	4
instructor	Arica Duhrkoop-Galas office: Lawrence Hall 212, office hours by appointment email: aricad@uoregon.edu

class description *Fall Plants & Ecosystems is the first of the three-term long Materials sequence. It is an introduction to plants from the point of view of the landscape architect or architectural designer. We focus this term on native plant communities and deciduous trees. The Monday and Wednesday classes are taught out-of-doors on campus, and the first five three-hour Friday classes are local plant communities field trips. The class is only open to majors and must be taken as the first class in the sequence. The course will weave together the threads of plant ID, plant care, plant selection, planting design and restoration. Plant identification focuses on deciduous trees and shrubs, groundcovers and perennials, with the intention of understanding how plants may be used in design to support both human needs and ecosystem functions.*

MATERIALS I: FALL PLANTS & ECOSYSTEMS

practice & application

Sketchbook/Journal assignments will help students learn to identify plants via leaf morphology, bud and twig characteristics, and fruit, as well as tracking fall color through the quarter to reinforce true observation. Assignments are graded on individual ability, not relative to peers.

Field Trips will introduce students to a variety of ecotypes and design scales while learning to read the landscape to determine underlying conditions, specifically focusing on soils, hydrology, and topography. Field trip discussions and lecture topics will comprise a brief written quiz portion with tree identification making up the majority of the quiz points.

final project

The final project will be a natural area map exploring plan view graphics and practicing plant identification in the field, while representing native woodland canopy layers and vegetative massing. MLA students will also prepare a written restoration recommendation report.

learning outcomes

By the end of the term, students should feel confident identifying and botanically naming 95% of the native trees, 85% of the native shrubs and 70% of the ornamental trees commonly found in the Willamette Valley.

The class will focus on learning to identify plants in the field by habitat, fall color, winter bud and silhouette. In addition to identification skills, students will gain an understanding of cultural requirements of the plants and design attributes. Students will become familiar with typical native plant communities and understand basic ecological relationships.

required books

Required books, for use during class and to complete assignments:
The Plants Reader, compiled by Ann Bettman & Arica Duhrkoop-Galas
Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast, Pojar and Mackinnon

Optional book: The Tree Book, Dirr and Warren

For use as additional resources, several books have been ordered and are available at the bookstore to help with this class and your design work. Select books based on your own personal focus and ask if you need guidance. Out of print books may be found online.

(Also see bibliography in course packet)

Landscape Graphics, Grant Reid

Pocket Guide to Ornamental Grasses, Darke

Field Guide to Trees of North America, Kershner for NWF

Northwest Trees, Arno and Hammerly

The Sibley Guide to Trees, David Allen Sibley

Trees to Know in Oregon, Herring

The Encyclopedia of Grasses for Livable Landscapes, Darke

Trees for Green Streets, Portland Metro

MATERIALS I: FALL PLANTS & ECOSYSTEMS

recommended books
recommended supplies

'Prismacolor' colored pencils, 'Rite in the Rain' all-weather writing paper,
5x/10x hand lens, approximately 8.5x11" blank sketchbook.
All of these items may be purchased at the bookstore.

tentative schedule

	Monday (10:00-11:50)	Wednesday (10:00-11:50)	Friday (9:00-11:50)
WK1	No Class Rosh Hashanah	Intro + plants Read: A Botanical Primer	Field trip - Alton Baker riparian Read: Green Guide pp 7-67
WK2	plants journal assignment #1 due	plants	Field trip - Skinner Butte Read: Green Guide pp 77-99
WK3	test #1	plants Natural History Museum	Field trip - Mount Pisgah Read: A Soil Primer
WK4	plants journal assignment #2 due	plants	Field trip - Amazon woodland practice measuring/DBH/canopy
WK5	test #2	plants	Field trip - urban forest practice drawing trees
WK6	plants journal assignment #3 due	plants	Lecture: soils/planting Workshop: map graphics
WK7	test #3	plants	flex day: work on maps color calendar due
WK8	plants	plants	Review Natural Area Map project
WK9	test #4	no class Thanksgiving	no class
WK 10	r e v i e w w e e k - n o c l a s s		
WK 11	test #5 per university assigned date (optional if not other tests missed/failed) MLA writing assignment due		

Note: Field trips subject to change. Check your email prior to departing for meeting location. Students are responsible for getting to location; no van transportation will be provided. Field trips allow for travel time to and from campus and conclude in allotted Friday class time.