SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
RIVERHEAD, NEW YORK

SPRING 2006
COURSE OUTLINE

Course Title: Plant Identification
Catalog #: HO45
Section #: 1576
Instructor: Prof. Keith Henn
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Course Objectives:
1. Identify and explain the scientific and horticultural classifications of plants.
2. For the plants studied, name each by its scientific nomenclature.
3. Distinguish between the common leaf types and shapes.
4. Distinguish the various types of buds, their configurations and arrangements.
5. Observe the various modifications of stems and their characteristics.
6. Explain the identification approaches of various texts dealing with plant materials.
7. Using the characteristics of an unknown plant, successfully use a dichotomous key to identify the plant.
8. Given selected plant materials, develop a workable dichotomous key for the plants.
9. Contrast and identify various types of plant materials through the observations of plant specimens, pictures, or drawings.
10. Identify the landscape plant materials on campus.
11. Identify commonly used plant materials of various types: woody, herbaceous, bulbs, and foliage.
12. Explain the cultural requirements for each plant presented.
13. Explain the landscape value or greenhouse value for each plant presented.

Tentative Outline:
1. Fundamentals of plant identification
   a. Dichotomous keys with plant basics
   b. Pictures
   c. Specimens
   d. Sources for identification
2. Identification of plant materials, their landscape values and cultural requirements
   a. Woody plants
   b. Trees
   c. Shrubs
   d. Herbaceous plants
      1. Annuals
      2. Perennials
      3. Greenhouse
   e. Bulbs
   f. Foliage plants
Methods of Presentation for Plant Material:

- Slides, filmstrips
- Pictures, drawings
- Specimens
- Field trips (you will be responsible for the identification of *specimen material* only)

Grading:

- Plant quizzes (lowest one dropped) . . . . . . . 50%
- Mid-term (written) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 20%
- Final exam . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 30%

- No make-up for quizzes.
- Absences totaling more than 6 hours is cause to drop student from course.
- You will be responsible for the identification of previously studied plants on future quizzes, so constant review will be necessary and important to retain the course information.
- In the identification of the plants both common and scientific names will be required. Both names must be correctly spelled.