

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: HRT 250

Credits: 2

Course Title: Plant Composition

Course Description (including lecture hours, lab hours, total contacts)

Applies basic knowledge of identification and landscape traits of woody landscape plants from the prerequisite base. Emphasizes distinct and uniquely effective plant groupings/combinations to create baselines, focalization, urban/suburban tree use, foundation groupings and screening. Prerequisite: HRT 201 or HRT 202 or program head approval. Lecture 2 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

To demonstrate to students the diversity in the plant world, and how they can be combined to create distinctly unique looks in the landscape.

The course may be used as an elective for the Horticulture AAS degree program.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites (*Entry-level competencies **required** for enrollment*)

HRT 201 or 202 or Program Head Approval

Course Objectives (Each item should complete the following sentence.)

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- a. Create effective four seasons as well as seasonal plant compositions and combinations to create effective landscapes in a variety of settings, climates, microclimates, and sun-shade situations
- b. Match landscape and use objectives with correct plant composition choices
- c. Integrate plant compositions into hardscape, container, statuary, and perennial, groundcover plantings and designs
- d. Match plant attributes such as size, foliage, habit, and cultural needs to use with surrounding plants in creating a pleasing, low maintenance garden matrix

Major Topics to be Included

- a) Specific Woody Plants for Our Area: Their Habit, Size, Foliage, and Cultural Characteristics for Planning and Designing
- b) Defining a Four Seasons Garden and Designing for Year-Round Effectiveness with Correct Plant Composition
- c) Complementing and Combining Plants in the Landscape
- d) High Maintenance Vs. Low Maintenance: Plant Choices for More Effect and Less Work
- e) Alternate Plants, Alternate Reality: Expanding Plant Choices.

Effective Date of Course Content Summary (Month, Date Year): Dec. 1, 2010