MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
COURSE SYLLABUS OUTLINE

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

COURSE NUMBER:  AGR 663       CREDIT HOURS:  3

I.  TITLE:

Advanced Arboriculture

II.  CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

A graduate study of the establishment and maintenance of trees, shrubs, and vines in the landscape. Prerequisites: AGR 263 or AGR 363.

III. PURPOSE:

To educate the student with respect to the proper techniques of establishing and maintaining trees, shrubs, and vines in the landscape.

IV.  COURSE OBJECTIVES:

A. To develop an appreciation of the importance of proper plant selection for specific locations in the landscape.
B. To develop an appreciation of the importance of site selection in successful establishment of landscape plants.
C. To develop an understanding of proper site preparation practices and their importance to successful plant establishment.
D. To develop the knowledge of proper planting techniques used with landscape plants.
E. To develop an understanding of proper initial and long term care of landscape plants.
F. To development proper pruning techniques.
G. To evaluate liability issues of Murray State University’s main campus in regard to arboricultural issues.

V.  CONTENT OUTLINE:

A. Introduction
B. Plant Growth and Form
C. Plant Selection
D. Site Selection and Analysis
E. Site Preparation
F. Planting
G. Irrigation
H. Soil Management
I. Pruning
J. Special Techniques
K. Plant Problems

VI. **INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

A. Lectures
B. Demonstrations
C. Laboratory Exercises
D. Field Trips

VII. **FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:**

Students will learn to analyze specific problems that may occur in the landscape and learn remedies to the common problems as it relates to pruning and plant care.

VIII. **RESOURCES:**

Plant materials on campus and at the University farms.

IX. **GRADING PROCEDURES:**

Two announced lecture examinations of equal importance will be given during the semester worth 20% and the remaining 80% will be broken down as follows: comprehensive final (10%), tree report (10%), three quizzes (3%), how to brochure (3%), community service pruning projects (10%), pruning log (5%), nursery visit (4%), pruning labs (15%), liability report (10%) and attendance (10%).

Grading scales:

- 90+ = A
- 80 - 89 = B
- 70 - 79 = C
- 60 - 69 = D
- Below 60 = E

X. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Please refer to the most current copy of the *Murray State University’s Graduate Bulletin.*

XI. **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

(Adopted by the MSU Board of Regents)
Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person’s material as one’s own), or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, term papers, or the presentation on unacknowledged material as if it were the student’s own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the faculty member who teaches the course in which the cheating took place.

NOTE: The School of Agriculture Faculty have adopted and implemented an Academic Honesty Policy in addition to the University Honesty Policy, which can be found in the current Graduate Bulletin. The policy sets guidelines regarding acts of dishonesty and the procedure to follow should an event occur. It is each Agriculture student’s responsibility to obtain and read a copy of this document. The School’s Academic Honesty Policy can be obtained by asking for a copy from any Agriculture Faculty member or the Secretary.

XII. TEXT AND REFERENCES:

The required text is *Arboriculture, Care of Trees, Shrubs, and Vines in the Landscape* by Richard W. Harris.

XIII. PREREQUISITES:

Either AGR 263 or AGR 363

XIV. STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact Sabrina Y. Dial, Director of Equal Opportunity, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318. Telephone: 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).

XV. MSU SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE CELL PHONE POLICY

The School of Agriculture recognizes that in today’s world cell phones are a familiar and often necessary form of communication for students.
It shall be the policy of the School that no cell phone usage shall be allowed in class and/or labs without the prior consent of the course instructor. This shall include verbal calling, incoming calls, email, text messaging, and use of cell phone calculators on tests and quizzes.

Cell phones must be kept off and out of sight (i.e. secured to a person’s belt or kept in a bag or purse away from desks and lab counters).

Should a student’s cell phone be visible, ring, or other form of unauthorized usage that is interruptive to the class or lab, the student may be asked to leave class and not return for that class/lab period.

Upon prior consent of the instructor, a student may obtain permission to have their phone on in case of an emergency or in critical family situations. Cell phones must be kept on vibrate and out of sight and use (i.e. secured to a person’s belt or kept in a bag or purse away from desks and lab counters).

This policy also includes pagers and other electronic equipment such as smart phones and/or computers/laptops.