



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
HORTICULTURE PROGRAM

FOUNDATIONS IN HORTICULTURE  
Growing and Caring for Plants in Wisconsin

# Course Summary (Syllabus)

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## Reminders

- ★ Reflect on what you want to get out of this course. With an online course, you get out what you put in - you are in control.
- ★ This is **not** a graded course.
- ★ You don't need to memorize anything/everything!
- ★ Reach out if you are confused, have questions, or just need some help.

## Course Description

Foundations in Horticulture - Growing and Caring for Plants in Wisconsin is an online course which teaches you research-based methods to grow your plants and manage pests. We introduce you to a decision making framework that focuses on understanding how plants best grow, why pests and problems happen, and how to do your best to keep plant problems from happening. If you are interested in becoming a Master Gardener Volunteer, you will also be prepared to complete the exam requirement in the Master Gardener Onboarding course.

## Course Objectives

The following objectives are connected directly to the readings, videos and interactive exercises presented in the weekly modules. By the end of the course, you will:

- Demonstrate knowledge in pest/host/ecosystem biology to improve the productivity and health of gardens and landscapes.
- Demonstrate knowledge in decision making aids to improve the productivity and health of gardens and landscapes.



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- Demonstrate knowledge of pest management tactics to improve the productivity and health of gardens and landscapes.
- Demonstrate skills to find and use university research-based resources.
- Demonstrate various plant management techniques to improve the productivity and health of gardens and landscapes.

#### **Who to contact for help**

If you need help with your NetID, contact the Learn@UW Help Desk via email [help@doit.wisc.edu](mailto:help@doit.wisc.edu) or by phone 1-888-435-7589 (staffed seven days a week from 6:00 a.m. - 1:00 a.m. US Central Time). Please use the word L3 in all correspondence with Learn@UW Help Desk! You MUST specify you are enrolled as a Lifelong Learner (L3) so the Help Desk knows you are not a student on campus. If you already have a UW-Madison netID, you may contact the Help Desk to combine your accounts should you choose to do so.

**All other course related questions can be directed to:**

[gardening.class@extension.wisc.edu](mailto:gardening.class@extension.wisc.edu)

#### **Course Dates**

September 12 - December 11, 2021

Online access to the course materials in Canvas begins September 12, 2021 and will remain available until August 31, 2022. Continuing Education units (4 CEUs) and a Certificate of Completion will automatically be emailed to you if you complete all of the module quizzes by January 15, 2022.

#### **Course Materials**

There are a variety of materials used in the course, each designed to meet the objectives and increase your knowledge about growing and caring for plants in Wisconsin.



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## **FOUNDATIONS IN HORTICULTURE** **Growing and Caring for Plants in Wisconsin**

Course materials include:

- **Course Website**

All students must log into the Canvas course website to access the course materials, interactive exercises, course calendar, important announcements, and recordings of the Q & A with the Experts.

- ***Foundations of Horticulture Training Manual***

Throughout the course, we will refer to the corresponding chapters from the FIH manual. Downloadable PDFs of all FIH manual chapters are available within the course website (Canvas).

- **Multimedia Resources**

The Canvas course website has instructor-created videos, recordings of the Q&As with the Experts, supplemental videos and other related material.

- **Q & A with the Experts (Webinars)**

Q & A with the Experts are live Zoom webinars with UW-Madison and UW-Madison Division of Extension specialists and experts. During the webinar, they will answer your plant and gardening questions within their area of expertise. We know that bringing in specialists will enrich your educational experience. You are encouraged to complete the program module specific to the Q & A content area before attending (if possible) and will be able to submit questions ahead of time. Attendance is optional. All will be recorded.

In Canvas, you will find the **Q & A with the Experts** module. It will include the schedule, links to access the webinars, and the form to submit questions. All recordings of each Q & A webinar will also be posted here. The schedule is listed in the course calendar.

- **Optional Labs**

If you signed up for a Lab section, you will receive additional information via email from your Lab Instructor.



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#### **Course Website - Canvas**

We use Canvas for the online learning experience. The course is divided into 3 units that will open sequentially during the course: Unit 1 - introduction, Unit 2 - pests, and Unit 3 - plants. Within each of these units are modules that focus on different topics. All modules (or topics) within a unit will be open at the same time. We recommend completing the modules in the order they are in the course as some modules build upon earlier ones, however it is not required that you complete them in a specific order.

Each module contains the following components:

- **Toolkit for Success** - contains helpful hints and handouts
- **Learn**
  - **Read** the chapter or selected pages
  - **Watch** the videos
  - **Practice** with interactive exercises
  - **Supplemental Materials** - if you are interested in learning more, there are readings, videos, or resources providing additional information
- **Practice Questions** to check your knowledge
- **Module Feedback** provides us input about your experience

Also, in Canvas, you will find the **Q & A with the Experts** and **Master Gardener Program** modules that provide additional information.

#### **Continuing Education/Certification of Completion**

Continuing Education units (4 CEUs) and a Certificate of Completion will automatically be emailed to you if you complete all of the module quizzes by January 15, 2022. There is no makeup after the deadline. (*Note: you will still have access to the course materials until 8/31/2022. To receive the CE units and Certification of Completion, the module quizzes must be completed by 1/15/22.*)



## Course Calendar

The following course calendar shows when each unit becomes available in Canvas, a suggested order of modules if you would like to complete one module per week and the Q & A with the Experts schedule. You do not have to follow this order. The Course Calendar is also available for viewing in Canvas and will be updated if there are changes.

If you are considering participating in the Master Gardener Program, all modules (except Houseplants/Containers) are covered on the exam in Master Gardener Program Onboarding course. A **Webinar for prospective Master Gardener Volunteers** will be held on December 7, 2021 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. If you are interested in becoming a Master Gardener Volunteer, this webinar will provide you all the information you need to know.

### Course calendar with suggested order of completing Canvas modules (subject to change, updates will be posted in Canvas)

Unit	Week	Canvas Module	Q & A with the Experts Schedule
<b>Unit 1</b>  Available September 12	September 12 - 18	Welcome/ Integrated Pest Management	
	September 19 - 25	General Gardening Practices	
	September 26 - October 2	Soils	
	October 3 - 9	Botany	October 5 6:30-8:00 p.m. Soils with Doug Soldat



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Unit	Week	Canvas Module	Q & A with the Experts Schedule
<b>Unit 2</b>  Available October 10	October 10 - 16	Entomology (Insects)	October 13 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Insects with PJ Liesch
	October 17 - 23	Plant Pathology (Diseases)	October 21 6:00-7:30 p.m. Plant Diseases with Brian Hudelson
	October 24 - 30	Wildlife	October 25 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Wildlife with David Drake
	October 31 - November 6	Weeds	November 4 12:00-1:00 p.m. Weeds with Mark Renz
Unit	Week	Canvas Module	Q & A with the Experts Schedule
<b>Unit 3</b>  Available November 7	November 7 - 13	Herbaceous Ornamentals Woody Ornamentals	
	November 14 - 20	Houseplants/ Containers	November 17 12:00-1:30 p.m. Houseplants/Containers with Johanna Oosterwyk
	November 21 - 27	Fruits	November 22 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Fruit with Leslie Holland, Christelle Guedot, and Amaya Atucha

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Syllabus updated 8/24/2021



Unit	Week	Canvas Module	Q & A with the Experts Schedule
Unit 3, continued	November 28 - December 4	Vegetables	November 29 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Vegetables with Amanda Gevens, Russ Groves and Claire Strader
	December 5 - 11	Lawns  Closing and Evaluation	December 6 12:00-1:00 p.m. Lawns with Paul Koch  December 7 6:30-7:30 p.m. Webinar for prospective Master Gardener Volunteers

### **Completing the Course:**

At the end of each module, please complete the quizzes and module feedback survey. We will send Certificates of Completion after January 15, 2022 to everyone completing the quizzes by that deadline. You still have access to the course materials in Canvas until August 31, 2022.

***If you are interested in becoming a Master Gardener Volunteer*** after the completion of FIH, you must complete the Master Gardener Program Onboarding online course. The Onboarding course will be open in early 2022. Prior to registering for the Master Gardener Program Onboarding online course, you must connect with your county's Extension staff by attending an "open house" informational session to learn more about the local Master Gardener volunteer opportunities. Details of "open house" dates and times will be provided in the FIH course. You must live in or adjacent to the county you wish to volunteer.

Counties accept new volunteers based on current local ability to provide volunteer support and available volunteer opportunities. The counties accepting new volunteers in 2022 are listed in the [FIH Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#).