



HORTICULTURE

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Horticulture offers rewarding careers for individuals who are passionate about working with nature and enhancing and caring for our environment. It is a field rich with diversity. One of its most appealing aspects is that individuals can create their own niche to meet personal needs such as time commitments, duties, benefits, location and entrepreneurial goals. The Horticulture program at College of DuPage provides fundamental and advanced education and practice to prepare graduates for successful entry into the workforce. Students develop knowledge and skills in a range of topics including horticulture and horticulture business, horticultural mathematics, landscaping and landscaping design, floral design, plant propagation, plant taxonomy, soils and fertilizers, and sustainable urban agriculture. Students can also choose from a wide variety of electives to customize their education and specialize in their areas of interest. We offer Associate in Applied Science degrees in Horticulture, Landscape Contracting and Management, and Sustainable Urban Agriculture. Our nine specialized certificates are designed to address the diverse nature of the horticulture industry, and offer a sound foundation to students who wish to create their own small businesses.

For a complete list of courses in this program visit:

cod.edu/catalog

WHY COLLEGE OF DuPAGE IS RIGHT FOR YOU

Whether you are preparing for a career in horticulture, planning to transfer to a four-year baccalaureate-granting institution, or updating your skills, College of DuPage has the right program for you. We offer:

- Dedicated instructors with years of practical industry experience, certification, and licensing
- Instruction in top-notch facilities and on cutting-edge equipment
- Flexible schedules with day, evening, and online learning
- Practical, hands-on experience as well as classroom-based studies
- Affordable programs that get you on the fast track to success without breaking the bank
- Long-standing relationships with local companies and professional organizations that can help students get a foot in the door towards employment
- Students planning to enroll may be qualified for various scholarships.

DEGREES IN HORTICULTURE

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (A.A.S.) DEGREE IN HORTICULTURE

The A.A.S. in Horticulture degree program is designed to meet the needs of students entering the horticulture industry as well as those presently employed who wish to gain new knowledge and skills. The curriculum includes classes in horticulture and horticulture business, horticultural mathematics, plant propagation, plant taxonomy, and soils and fertilizers. Also available are a broad range of electives that enable students to customize their education and specialize in their areas of interest. Students in this program are required to complete a minimum of 64 credits of coursework in program requirements, program electives and general education.

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (A.A.S.) DEGREE IN LANDSCAPE CONTRACTING AND MANAGEMENT

The Landscape Contracting and Management degree develops a student's ability to design, implement and maintain landscape projects. Students build professional skills in plant healthcare, design, estimating, installation, construction, maintenance and irrigation while earning an Associate in Applied Science Degree. Landscape contracting graduates are well-placed to work in the growing field of landscape contracting and management. This degree requires a minimum of 71 credits in program requirements, program electives, and general education. This is a nationally accredited program.

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (A.A.S.) DEGREE IN SUSTAINABLE URBAN AGRICULTURE

The Sustainable Urban Agriculture program offers a hands-on approach to becoming a professional in the field of urban farming and sustainable urban agriculture. The goals of the program are to provide students practical hands-on experience in urban agriculture, and teach students how to critically analyze historical and current food systems to offer more sustainable solutions. It includes management and marketing techniques for urban agriculture food production systems. The Sustainable Urban Agriculture degree program requires a minimum of 66 credits in program requirements and general education.

CERTIFICATES IN HORTICULTURE

The Horticulture program offers nine certificate programs to prepare graduates for entry into the horticulture industry or enable currently employed professionals to update their knowledge and skills. Certificates are available in horticulture, landscape design and construction, landscape and turf maintenance, greenhouse management, nursery and garden center management, sustainable landscapes, floral shop management, sustainable urban agriculture, and power equipment and technology.

Horticulture

The Horticulture certificate program provides students with fundamental knowledge and skills in horticulture. Students are required to complete 15 credits of coursework in topics such as horticulture, horticulture business, plant propagation, plant taxonomy, and soils and fertilizers.

Landscape Design and Construction

The Landscape Design and Construction certificate program provides students with the knowledge and skills used by landscape design professionals. Students are required to complete 41 credits of coursework in topics such as horticulture, landscape design, landscape graphics, landscape maintenance, landscape construction, irrigation, and landscape plants, as well as computer-aided drafting and soils and fertilizers. Students are required to complete an internship to earn the certificate.

Landscape and Turf Maintenance

The Landscape and Turf Maintenance certificate program offers a broad range of instruction including horticulture, diseases and insects of ornamental plants, landscape maintenance, landscape construction, irrigation, soils and fertilizers, and turf science and management. Students are required to complete 39 credits of coursework, which includes 30 credits in core required classes and nine credits in approved program electives. Students are required to complete an internship to earn the certificate.

Greenhouse Management

The Greenhouse Management certificate program provides students with core competencies required to effectively manage a greenhouse. Students are required to complete 24 credits of coursework in a selection of topics including greenhouse crop production, bedding plant production, greenhouse operations and procedures, horticulture, horticulture business, plant propagation, and soils and fertilizers. Students are required to complete an internship to earn the certificate.



Nursery and Garden Center Management

The Nursery and Garden Center Management certificate program provides students with core competencies needed to effectively manage nurseries and garden centers. Students are required to complete 35 credits of coursework in topics that include horticulture, horticulture business, herbaceous perennials, landscape plants, ornamental grasses, and plant propagation. Students are required to complete an internship to earn the certificate.

Sustainable Landscapes

The Sustainable Landscapes certificate program provides students with knowledge and skills incorporating principles of sustainable landscaping. Students are required to complete seven credits of coursework covering topics such as green roofs, sustainable landscape design, landscaping for wildlife, perennial plant communities, and water use and conservation.

Sustainable Urban Agriculture

The Sustainable Urban Agriculture certificate program offers a hands-on approach to becoming a professional in the field of urban farming and sustainable urban agriculture. Students receive practical, hands-on experience working in urban agriculture. The program includes management and marketing techniques for urban agriculture food production systems. Students are required to complete 28 credits in program requirements including sustainable urban vegetable and herb production, urban agriculture issues, hydroponic/aquaponic production systems, and local foods. Students are also required to complete an internship to earn the certificate.

Power Equipment and Technology

The Power Equipment and Technology certificate program is designed to provide students with the basic knowledge, required skills and hands-on experiences to maintain and repair outdoor power equipment such as lawnmowers, chainsaws, rotary tillers, portable power generators, compact diesel engines, small garden tractors, outboard motors, motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles, as well as the use of technical manuals. This certificate requires 16 credits in program requirements including 2-cycle small engine repair and maintenance, 4-cycle small engine repair and maintenance, and compact diesel engines. Industry certifications are available.

Floral Shop Management

The Floral Shop Management certificate program prepares students for positions as designers or managers in floral shops. The curriculum includes classes in floral design, horticulture, horticulture business, and herbaceous perennials. Students are required to complete 24 credits of coursework that includes 21 credits in core required classes and three credits in approved program electives. Students also are required to complete an internship to earn the certificate.



STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES

Horticulture program facilities are housed in the Technical Education Center (TEC). This \$50-million facility is approximately 178,000 square feet and provides training across several disciplines. The TEC includes 31 classrooms, 16 state-of-the-art laboratories to accommodate 1,400 students, as well as space for raw material and storage. Outdoor areas of the facility include a landscape lab, a greenhouse and a sustainable urban agriculture lab.

AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS

Students who are planning to enroll in the Horticulture program may be qualified to receive a financial award through a variety of supported scholarships, including professional organizations such as National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP), Illinois Landscape Contractors Association (ILCA) and various garden clubs.

Visit cod.edu/programs/horticulture/scholarships.aspx for requirements and a full list of available scholarships.

TRANSFER OPPORTUNITIES

The Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) facilitates the transfer of students from one Illinois institution to another. Both a general education core curriculum and a lower-division major recommendation course listing have been developed.

For more information on transfer opportunities at College of DuPage, visit cod.edu/academics/transfer_programs.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

There are a variety of possible careers available to graduates of the Horticulture program at College of DuPage, with an equal variety of wages and projected growth. Jobs range from entry level to upper management positions and include part-time, full-time, seasonal, temporary and permanent positions. The Bureau of Labor Statistics and the NALP Foundation Landscape Industry Career Survey reports that the median annual wage for common careers for graduates of the horticulture program ranged from \$25,000 to \$115,000 in 2018, with top earners in certain disciplines bringing in more than \$186,000. The \$84 billion-dollar horticulture industry that employs one-million people is growing by approximately 4.8 percent each year and is facing a huge labor shortage, with more than 2,000 annual openings projected in the Chicago metropolitan area through 2022.





COMMON CAREERS FOR GRADUATES OF THE HORTICULTURE PROGRAM

- **Landscape Designer:** Creates landscape designs for residential and small commercial sites.
- **Groundskeeper:** Landscapes or maintains grounds of public or private property.
- **Greenhouse Manager:** Plans, organizes, directs, and coordinates activities involved in propagating, cultivating and harvesting horticultural crops.
- **Nursery/Garden Center Manager:** Plans, organizes, directs, and coordinates business and/or production of woody landscape plants in a plant nursery or garden center setting.
- **Arboriculture/Tree Care:** Plants, maintains and removes trees and promotes tree health care.
- **Sports Turf Manager:** Manages and directs maintenance, management and operation of sports turf, golf courses and park districts.
- **Floral Designer:** Cuts and arranges live, dried, or silk flowers and greenery to make decorative displays.
- **Small Engine Mechanic:** Troubleshoots, repairs, and maintains 2 cycle, 4 cycle, and compact diesel engines.
- **Urban Agriculture Farmer:** Manages, plants, harvests, and markets local foods with sustainable practices.





GETTING STARTED

If you are considering this program as an area of study:

- Visit our website at cod.edu/programs/horticulture
- Consult with a program advisor:

Brian Clement, Program Coordinator/Assistant Professor, clement@cod.edu
(630) 942-2526

Frank Balestri, Instructor/Advisor, balestrif@cod.edu
(630) 942-3498

Peter Deeman, Program Advisor, deemanp@cod.edu
(630) 942-2548

Monica Miller, Program Support Specialist, millermo@cod.edu
(630) 942-3074

- Contact the Business and Technology Division office: (630) 942-2592

The College will not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, arrest record, military status or unfavorable military discharge, citizenship status, or physical or mental handicap or disability.

For ADA accommodations, call (630) 942-2141 (voice) or (630) 858-9692 (TDD).
Please call two weeks in advance.

For individuals who need language assistance, please contact Campus Central at (630) 942-2380.



 **College of DuPage**

425 Fawell Blvd.
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137-6599
www.cod.edu



The Horticulture program at College of DuPage is accredited by the National Association of Landscape Professionals.