

Teaching Plan for HORT 240 (Beginning Floral Evaluation and Design)

Instructor: Sabine Green

Semester: Fall 2020

HORT 240. Beginning Floral Evaluation and Design. 2 Credits. Principles, history and practices involved in modern retail floristry, including crop evaluation, floral design principles, floriculture product identification, customer relations and communication, and marketing techniques.

HORT 240 is a two-credit course that meets once a week for lecture (T 4-630 pm), and once per week for floral sales hands-on lab (W 830-1130 am). The lectures are scheduled to meet in Skeen Hall W138 and the labs are scheduled to meet in Gerald Thomas Hall lobby. We typically have 15 to 20 students in the class. Daily attendance is recorded. I intend to teach the course with a similar content as in prior semesters, when both lectures and labs have been taught exclusively in a live, in-person setting that includes not only the Skeen classrooms mentioned previously, but also campus greenhouse facilities, Skeen W142 preparation lab for floral designs, and Gerald Thomas Hall lobby area. In the Fall 2020 offering of HORT 240, the following exceptions will be enforced to help mitigate COVID-19 transmission.

1. Lectures and Design labs. Lecture activities and hands-on design techniques will be taught in person in Skeen W138. Since the time of Hort 240 is late in the day, building population should be far less than peak lecture hours. No more than 17 students shall register for HORT 240 at any given time to allow for social distancing practice as per CDC guidelines for lecture times. Following is my consideration for proposed changes to the in-person lectures with hands-on designing in the event of change in the severity of health threats. **Scenario 1: There are no longer any significant health threats.** My lectures and hands-on assignments will be held in-person for the duration of the semester. Students will have floral product given to them at stations within the classroom. Space for design will no longer be shared. Students will sit every other seat, and have assigned seating for the entire semester. **Scenario 2: Significant health threats have emerged during the semester and face-to-face instruction is no longer tenable.** Students will be required to pick up a box or bucket of fresh floral product each week on Monday afternoon with no contact of instructor or teaching assistants, so as to have materials for the hands-on training. They will return home with product for zoom instruction during regularly scheduled class time on Tuesday at 4 pm. Students will use photographs of their work as submission of assignments rather than returning the fresh floral product as a design. These adjustments will be necessary to accommodate an increased health threat. **Scenario 3: My class has more than 50 students and health guidelines state that such large gatherings are prohibited.** As of May 30, a total of 13 students have registered for Fall 2020 HORT 240, thus this scenario is not applicable.
2. Design Labs for flower sales. Discrete instructions will be provided in the syllabus and practiced during the semester, as per CDC guidelines, to prevent COVID-19 transmission during lab meetings. We will not meet in person in Skeen W139. These instructions will include 1) self-monitoring using guidelines from the Aggie Health and Wellness Center; 2) 'remaining at home if ill' policy; 3) wearing an approved facemask when on campus if such a directive remains in effect; 4) maintaining six feet social distancing as work duties permit; 5) cleaning and disinfecting countertops, common areas, and shared equipment during and after use; and 6) and practicing frequent hand washing. A student will immediately notify me and the aggie

health center by email or telephone if they suspect they are ill (body temperature in excess of 100.4F, cough, or shortness of breath).

If needed, I will employ two measures depending on lab topic, in order to effectively reduce student density of this relatively small class by 50%. The first measure will be to stagger the 2-h instructional laboratory sessions at the Skeen W138 lab, to accommodate one-half of the students from 4:00 to 6:00 pm, and the other half from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. With this measure, I expect no more than 10 students per session in the classroom, maintaining a minimum of six feet social distancing will be feasible. The Fabian Garcia Agricultural Science Center will also be used for laboratory activities occasionally, and reserved for one to two groups consisting of three to four students, each of whom will (individually) water plants throughout the semester.

Following is my consideration for proposed changes to the physical presence labs in the event of change in the severity of health threats. **Scenario 1: There are no longer any significant health threats.** In this scenario, there are no proposed changes to the physical presence labs. **Scenario 2: Significant health threats have emerged during the semester and face-to-face instruction is no longer tenable.** Students will be assigned design discussions. These labs will be converted to online Zoom meetings using a combination of powerpoint presentations, videos, and live-streamed demonstrations by the instructor and industry professionals.