

Dakota County Technical College

LAHT 2605: Introduction to Sustainable Landscape Practices

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 2

Lecture Hours/Week: 2

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

The ability of Earth's ecosystems to sustain life as we know it is coming under increasing pressure from the demands of our consumer oriented society. If future generations are to inherit a healthy planet then we will need to rethink the way we live our lives right down to the way we landscape our back yards, school grounds and city parks. This course will introduce students to the broader concepts and definitions of sustainability - meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs - and illustrate how those concepts can translate to the site specific scale and influence our approach to the design of our local landscapes. While acknowledging the underlying premise of reduced - reuse - recycle this course will introduce students to topics including landscaping with native plants, water resources management (rain gardens and shoreline plantings) green roofs and concepts of Permaculture that can be applied to future landscape projects. This course will consist of classroom lectures and fieldtrips to natural areas and built projects that demonstrate current examples of sustainable landscape practices. Prerequisites: None.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/25/2008 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. acquire an appreciation of the natural environment and the role it plays in sustaining our well-being
2. become familiar with 150 native plants (herbaceous and woody) of Minnesota
3. become familiar with the concepts of permaculture
4. demonstrate knowledge in the benefits and design concepts of green roofs
5. demonstrate knowledge in the benefits and design of bio-infiltration (rain) gardens and natural shoreline restorations
6. demonstrate knowledge in the concepts of sustainability at a global as well as site-specific scale

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted