Garden Oral History Project
Globalized Module for Landscape Gardening, Photography and English
Johnston Community College

Course Numbers and Descriptions

**LSG 122** - Spring Gardening Lab prepares students to perform various techniques essential to maintaining the landscape in the spring season.

**LSG 123** - Summer Gardening Lab prepares students to perform various techniques essential to maintaining the summer landscape.

**ART 265** - Digital Photography II prepares students to produce well-executed images using a variety of photographic and photo manipulative approaches.

**ART 212** - Gallery Assistantship I covers the practical application of display techniques.

**ENG 111** - Expository Writing prepares students to produce unified, coherent, well-developed essays using standard written English.

Description of Module

This global education module integrates disciplines by allowing students from different programs to practice skills learned in classrooms and to become aware of different traditions in various cultures while working on a joint project. The entire project spans two 16-week semesters. It includes research, interviews, photography, plant propagation, and an exhibition.

Objectives

All Students
- All students will be exposed to different cultures and will learn about a variety of cultural traditions.
- All students will be engaged in contextualized learning to connect individual classroom lessons in field experiences.

Landscaping Students
- Research the cultural history of plants.
- Take sample plants.
- Tend samples in college garden.
English Students
- Demonstrate interview techniques.

Photography Students
- Photograph plant life and people.
- Plan and set up an exhibition of personal work.

Methodology

Landscape gardening, photography and English students work in teams of three to interview local residents about gardens typical of their cultures. Student research what makes each garden unique and how traditions have been passed down from previous generations.

English students interview gardeners about what plants have been included in each garden and why they were chosen, if other materials have been used to create the garden such as wheels and other decorative items, and if the plant materials are used in traditional ways from their cultures.

Photography students photograph individual plants and gardens as well as take portraits of each interviewee.

Landscape gardening students take cuttings of plants, research the gardening methods and uses for each, and plant the samples as part of a garden on campus.

The project culminates with publicizing lessons learned through local media outlets and photographs in local shows. In addition, the oral histories and photographs may be archived with local organizations that preserve local history.

Lectures - Landscape Gardening students will have lectures and readings on ethnobotany to examine the cultural traditions of gardens among different ethnic groups.

Discussion – Students share their own gardening experiences including family and community traditions related to gardening. After visits to the gardens, students share insights.

Class projects- English students determine appropriate questions to ask gardeners about their gardens, conduct interviews, and summarize the interviews to share with the public. Photography students take high quality photographs of each garden and gardener and then organize a show to display their collection of photographs and each gardener’s story for their final project. Landscaping students take samples of plants to cultivate for campus gardens.
Audio visual – Students view films and instructional videos to prepare for visits with gardeners. They also use them as references when summarizing the experience, cultivating plants, and preparing exhibits.

Evaluation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Final Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Interview preparation, interviews and summaries would account</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landscaping</td>
<td>Propagation of cuttings and planting into the campus garden</td>
<td>15-25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photography</td>
<td>Photographs and exhibit</td>
<td>25%</td>
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</tbody>
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Resources

Landscape Gardening


*Photography*
