



Winterbourne Centre for Horticulture

RHS Level 2 Certificate in Practical Horticulture

Costs: Course Fee £770, RHS Examination Fee: £112

29 Fridays from 4th October 2019 or 29 Saturdays from 5th October 2019, usually from 10.30am-3.30pm (see overleaf for details)

Course summary

This course is ideal for the keen amateur gardener and for those wishing to work in professional horticulture in a variety of roles. It is an in-depth practical course designed for those that wish to gain a range of practical horticultural skills including propagation, establishing and maintaining plants. You will also identify garden plants, pests and diseases.

Course content

The qualification consists of six mandatory units which cover the following topics:

- Soil Testing
- Sowing seeds and vegetative propagation techniques
- Practical skills in ground preparation for seeding and planting
- Practical skills in establishing seeds and plants in soil
- Care and pruning of plants
- Identification of a range of common garden plants, weeds, pests, diseases, disorders and beneficial organisms

In addition to the mandatory units, you must also successfully complete one of the following optional units.

- Sustainable garden practice
- Safe operation of powered garden machinery*
- Establishing, Repairing and Maintaining a Lawn*
- Practical Skills in Vegetable Growing
- Practical Skills in the Maintenance of Established Soft Fruit
- Practical Skills in the Maintenance of Established Top Fruit

*For health and safety reasons you must be aged 16 or over to take this unit

Assessment

Assessment is ongoing through the achievement of a number of practical activities and underpinning knowledge questions relating to the units studied. We feel that undertaking the assessments is essential to engaging in the course fully, and therefore require students to register for examinations at the time of enrolment.

Entry requirements

There are no formal entry requirements needed to study the Level 2 Certificate in Practical Horticulture, however your application must demonstrate an interest in and enthusiasm for horticulture and gardening. Please also note that as this is a practical course, it does make physical demands, including digging.

Progression

If you achieve this qualification, you will have gained a range of practical horticultural skills relevant to employment in various roles in the horticultural sector, such as a gardener in private, public, or botanic gardens or parks and urban green spaces

The qualification supports progression to further learning on Level 2 certificates and level 3 courses in horticulture, for example, the RHS Level 3 Certificate in Practical Horticulture.

Course Dates

This course will take place on 29 Fridays or Saturdays from October 2019 to July 2020. We intend to run lessons on the following dates, but additional dates may become necessary should staff sickness or other unforeseeable events prevent one of these lessons from taking place.

Most lessons will run from 10.30am until 3.30pm with a half hour break for lunch, but for three weeks during November and December lessons will finish at 2.30pm to account for the fading light.

Friday classes

Autumn Term 2019

October 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th; November 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th*; December 6th*, 13th*

Spring Term 2020

January 17th, 24th, 31st; February 7th, 14th, 28th; March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th; April 3rd

Summer Term 2020

April 24th; May 8th, 15th; June 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th; July 3rd

*Finish at 2.30pm



Saturday classes

Autumn Term 2019

October 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th; November 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th*; December 7th*, 14th*

Spring Term 2020

January 18th, 25th; February 1st, 8th, 15th, 29th; March 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th; April 4th

Summer Term 2020

April 25th; May 9th, 16th; June 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th; July 4th

*Finish at 2.30pm

Additional Information

You will be required to wear suitable clothing for working outside and to provide your own protective footwear and gloves.

Any absence, anticipated or unforeseen, could result in delay to your completing the qualification and receiving your certificate. There is limited leeway to reschedule practical and written assessments on an individual basis during the course. Your missed assessments would be re-scheduled in due course, but the taught element of the class would be lost.