

Winterbourne Centre for Horticulture

RHS Level 3 Certificate in Practical Horticulture

Costs: Course Fee £1095, RHS Examination Fee: £105

30 Saturdays from 5th October 2019, from 12.30pm-4pm or 5pm (see overleaf for details)

Course summary

The Level 3 Certificate in Practical Horticulture provides a route to employment in professional horticulture by assessing a range of advanced horticultural skills, and supports career development for those already working in the profession. The course covers the management and application of skills involved in soil analysis, seed propagation, maintaining plants and identification of plants and plant problems.

Course content

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

- Collecting and testing of soil samples and specifying adjustments for horticulture
- Collecting, preparing and propagating from seed
- Establishing and maintaining a range of plant types and forms
- Identification of a range of common garden plants, weeds, pests, diseases and disorders

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

- Planning, collecting, preparing and establishing propagation material
- Management of green spaces, landscaped areas, and ornamental gardens

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

Applicants should hold a Level 2 qualification in horticulture or a related subject, such as the RHS Level 2 Certificate in Practical Horticulture, or be able to provide evidence that you are working at this level.

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 head gardener or supervisor in private, public, or botanic gardens or parks and urban green spaces. The skills are also relevant to those currently working in, or seeking employment in, commercial plant production.

The qualification, when combined with appropriate Level 3 horticultural knowledge qualifications, supports progression to further learning on Level 4 courses in horticulture, or entry to specialist horticultural training programmes.

Course Dates

This course will take place on 30 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.

During October, April, May, June and July classes will run from 12.30pm-5pm with a half hour break (each class will contain four hours of teaching). During November, December, January, February and March classes will run from 12.30pm-4pm with no break (each class will contain three and a half hours of teaching). This is due to Winterbourne's winter closing hours and the fading light. Learners are welcome to arrive early to eat, and help themselves to tea and coffee.

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, 11th

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.