



Winterbourne Centre for Horticulture

RHS Level 2 Certificate in Practical Horticulture

Costs: Course Fee £795, RHS Assessment Fee: £203

30 Fridays from 24th September 2021 or 30 Saturdays from 25th September 2021, 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

Please note completion of all 3 Certificates at Level 2 entitles you to claim a full RHS level 2 Diploma in Horticulture. Those wishing to complete this diploma will need to plan carefully as there are changes planned to the RHS Qualifications which will impact this diploma.

Course Dates

This course will take place on 30 Fridays or 30 Saturdays from September 2021 to June 2022. 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.

In the event of any significant disruption (such as further coronavirus lockdowns) we will endeavour to reschedule lessons where appropriate.

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 2021

September 24th; October 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd; November 5th, 12th, 19th *, 26th* ; December 3rd *, 10th*

Spring Term 2022

January 14th, 21st, 28th; February 4th, 11th, 18th; March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th; April 1st, 8th,

Summer Term 2022

April 29th; May 6th, 13th, 20th; June 10th, 17th, 24th;



Saturday classes

Autumn Term 2021

September 25th; October 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd; November 6th, 13th, 20th *, 27th *; December 4th*, 11th*

Spring Term 2022

January 15th, 22nd, 29th; February 5th, 12th, 19th; March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th; April 2nd, 9th,

Summer Term 2022

April 30th; May 7th, 14th, 21st; June 11th, 18th, 25th;

*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.