



MAJOR FIELD ASSESSMENT PLAN B.S. HORTICULTURE

The mission of Southeastern Louisiana University is to meet the education and cultural needs, primarily of Southeast Louisiana, to disseminate knowledge and to facilitate lifelong learning through quality instruction, research and service in a safe, student-centered environment.

The Department of Biological Science's offering of a bachelor of science degree in Horticulture attempts to foster, among all the students, an appreciation of the scientific study of plants as it relates to the principles and practices of Horticulture. This study is oriented to stimulate the student's interest in all areas of Horticulture as they relate to the benefit of mankind as a food source or as an aesthetically pleasing part of our environment. An undergraduate major in Horticulture is offered as preparation for either graduate study or a career in any area of the Horticulture industry.

Goal 1

To provide the students with a broad knowledge representative of the current state of principles and practices in Horticulture.

A. Expected Outcome

Students completing the baccalaureate program in Horticulture will compare favorably in their knowledge of horticulture with those students and professionals graduating from similar institutions and subjected to the Louisiana Horticulture Commission requirements for professional licensing.

Assessment

Southeastern graduating horticulture majors will have an average total score on the Louisiana Horticulture Commission Horticulture Service Examination which meets or exceeds the passing requirement of the State of Louisiana for licensing purposes. Students will take Horticulture 450 (Horticulture Seminar) in their final year of study which will require them to pass the Horticulture Services Examination.

Goal 2

To provide the student with the best advising and teaching procedures from the start of the program to graduation.

A. Expected Outcome

Students coming into the program are assigned specific advisors who will follow their progress throughout the year. Advising will be done each semester for all horticulture majors.

Assessment

Ninety percent of Horticulture graduates will be satisfied with their advising based on the Southeastern Exit Survey.

Goal 3

Students graduating with a bachelor's degree in Horticulture will be qualified for graduate study in Horticulture or other plant based agricultural science.

A. Expected Outcome

Horticulture majors will feel that they are prepared to attend graduate school.

Assessment

On the Undergraduate Alumni survey, 80% of horticulture majors who are attending graduate school will be satisfied with the instruction they received at Southeastern.

Goal 4

Students completing the baccalaureate program in Horticulture will be prepared for job interviews and job placement.

A. Expected Outcome

Horticulture majors will have complete resume' prepared prior to graduating and will be ready for job interviews in the horticultural field.

Assessment

Students will take Horticulture 450 (Horticulture Seminar) in which they will be required to prepare a professional resume' and prepare for job interviews.

Horticulture graduates will feel very comfortable in requesting a letter of recommendation from Horticulture faculty.

Ninety percent of Horticulture alumni will indicate on the Alumni Survey that they had obtained full-time employment within 6 months of graduation.

Goal 5

Students majoring in Horticulture are exposed to the cultural differences and global impact of Horticulture.

A. Expected Outcome

Global horticulture will be introduced through discussions of past, present and future trends in horticulture in Horticulture 232, international contributions of new plant cultivars in Horticulture 328, exotic cultural productions of fruit and nut crops in Horticulture 410, the impact of different soil regiments throughout the world on their sustainability on production in Horticulture 301, and the discussion of plant origins and development in the commercial market in Horticulture 315 and 320.

Assessment

All Horticulture graduates will have global horticulture awareness.