# Syllabus: PSS 127 Greenhouse Operations and Management

Spring 2005



Instructor: Buddy Tignor, Ph.D. (Office: Hills Room 201) Lecture: T,Th; 9:30-10:45 am; Kalkin 003

Office Hours: Tuesday 2:00 – 5:00 pm or by appointment; to request an appointment please send me three times that fit your schedule via e-mail and I will choose one and reply. **Students enrolled in this course must enroll in PSS 196** Greenhouse Calculations 12609 (1 credit hour).

Required Text: Nelson, P.V. 2002. Greenhouse Operations and Management (6th edition). Prentice Hall. ISBN 0130105775 (Available @ UVM Bookstore and amazon.com)

**Computer Access:** All course materials except the textbook will be available on WebCT. You will need to plan on spending several hours a week on-line for the course. I realize not all people have Internet Access at home. Fortunately, there are many labs on campus with extended hours of operation. See <u>http://www.uvm.edu/cit/computers/</u> for details.

Course Concept: This course will introduce students to many of the basic principles utilized in greenhouse operations and management. Operating and managing a greenhouse requires a basic understanding of horticulture, plant physiology, and other applied plant sciences. Thus, completion of PSS 011 is a prerequisite for this course. Lecture material will be covered in class by a variety of means. Extensive reading outside of class will provide the necessary background for active student participation in classroom discussions. Further practice in the application of principles and concepts covered in class will be provided by weekly problem sets. This is an upper-division PSS course and a high level of student performance is expected.

## **Student Responsibilities**

1. Be Professional

 Seek Help From Instructor When Needed
Turn In All Work On Time (NO

LATE WORK is ACCEPTED) 4. Follow All University Policies

#### Instructor Responsibilities

- 1. Be Professional
- 2. Be Fair
- 3. Provide Time for Student Help Outside of Class
- 4. Follow all University Policies

"Building a good functional understanding requires active intellectual engagement. Hands on activities are not enough. They have to be brains on as well" – Edward Redish (1999)

WebCT Modular Assignments: During the course of the semester there will be 6 modular assignments available on WebCT. These include readings and exercises, videos, and problem sets based on the textbook, outside sources, and lecture discussions. These modules must be completed thoughtfully in order to perform well on the exams. I will usually open discussion by asking for volunteers, but once I learn student names I will also call on people at random to participate. These class discussions are not about being right or wrong, but rather about actively and thoughtfully participating. If you have a concept down incorrectly it is likely that someone else does as well. In the process of discussion all students can learn. We will be expounding on chapter readings in class NOT reiterating them.

**Exams:** There will be two exams given during the semester. A midterm and cumulative final. The final exam will be given Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am. Reviews for exams will be held outside of normal class hours if requested by students.

Extra Credit: Additional points may occasionally be earned by attending certain select seminars and events around campus. You will receive email notification of acceptable seminars and events through the WebCT course website. Do not ask me for special extra credit assignments; they will not be given.

## Grading

TOTAL	1000 points
Final Exam	200 points
Midterm Exam	100 points
Course Modules	600 points
Participation	100 points

Evaluating the Instructor: So when will you get your chance? At the end of the semester you will have an opportunity to extensively evaluate the course and the instructor. However, you may also send me an e-mail with constructive criticism at anytime. Surveys are confidential and suggestions and constructive criticism is welcomed by your instructor.

**Meeting the Instructor:** I expect that every student in the course will either stop by during my office hours or make an appointment to meet with me once during the semester. This time can be used to discuss anything. It would probably be most advantageous to the student if the discussions are relative to the class, but other topics are also welcomed. If you do not make these appointments it will be noticed.

Academic Behavior (using the example from UVM's School of Business Administration): Faculty and students will at all times conduct themselves in a manner that serves to maintain, promote, and enhance the high quality academic environment befitting the University of Vermont. To this end, it is expected that all members of the learning community will adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Faculty and students will attend all regularly scheduled classes, except for those occasions warranting an excused absence under the policy detailed in the catalogue (e.g., religious, athletic and medical).

2. Students and faculty will arrive prepared for class and on time, and they will remain in class until the class is dismissed.

**3.** Faculty and students will treat all members of the learning community with respect. Toward this end, they will promote academic discourse and the free exchange of ideas by listening with civil attention to comments made by all individuals.

4. Students and faculty will maintain an appropriate academic climate by refraining from all actions which disrupt the learning environment (e.g. making noise, ostentatiously not paying attention, and leaving and reentering the classroom inappropriately).

Additional Resources and Support Services: ALANA Student Services • Academic Calendars, • Academic Support Services, • Bookstore, UVM , · Career Services, · Catalogues, University, • Cat's Tale Student Handbook, • Center for Health & Wellbeing, • Counseling Services , • Honors Program, College of Arts and Sciences (John Dewey), • Honors Program, School of Natural Resources (Undergraduate Honors Program and Lola Aiken Scholars Program), • International Student Advising, . Learning Cooperative, . Libraries, University, • Registrar's Office, • Residential Life, • Study

Aboard, •Undergraduate Majors See Student HELP on your website for active link list.

#### One final note

The instructor reserves the right to adjust final grades based on factors related to course performance and participation. If an adjustment is made the student will be informed of the exact cause and nature of the grade change.

Evaluating the Instructor At the end of the semester you will have an opportunity to extensively evaluate the course and the instructor. However, you may also send me an e-mail with constructive criticism at anytime.

# COURSE SCHEDULE

D	ATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT DUE
T	01/18	Global Greenhouse Industry	Read Chap 1
Th	01/20	Greenhouse Construction	Read Chap 2
Т	01/25	Greenhouse Construction Part II	
Th	01/27	Greenhouse Heating	Read Chap 3 MOD 1
Т	02/01	Greenhouse Heating Part II	
Th	02/03	Greenhouse Cooling	Read Chap 4
Т	02/08	Greenhouse Cooling Part II	
Th	02/10	Environmental Control Systems	Read Chap 5
Т	02/15	Root Substrate	Read Chap 6 MOD 2
Th	02/17	Root Substrate Pasteurization (Exam Review)	Read Chap 7
Т	02/22	EXAM I	
Th	02/24	EXAM RECOVERY DAY	
Т	03/01	Town Meeting Day	
Th	03/03	Watering	Read Chap 8
Т	03/08	Fertilization	Read Chap 9
Th	03/10	Alternative Cropping Systems	Read Chap 10 MOD 3
Т	03/15	Carbon Dioxide Fertilization	Read Chap 11
Th	03/17	Light and Temperature	Read Chap 12
T Th	03/22 03/24	SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK	
Т	03/29	Chemical Growth Regulation	Read Chap 13
Th	03/31	Insect Control (Guest Lecture)	Read Chap 14
Т	04/05	Disease Control	Read Chap 15
Th	04/07	Integrated Pest Management	
Т	04/12	Postproduction Quality	Read Chap 16 MOD 4
Th	04/14	Marketing	Read Chap 17
Т	04/19	Business Management	Read Chap 18
Th	04/21	Introduction to Module 6	TAT IN
Т	04/26	Question Period for Module 6	MOD 5
Th	04/28	Review for Final Exam	
Т	05/03	Question Period for Module 6	MOD 6
Т	05/10	FINAL EXAM (8:00 am)	1 AN INC