

# Syllabus: PSS 124

## Vegetable Crop Production

*Spring 2005~2 credits*



**Instructor:** Buddy Tignor, Ph.D. (Office: Hills Room 201)

Lecture: M,W 11:15 am – 12:05 pm~Hills 017

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.

**Required Text:** Maynard, D.N. and G.J. Hochmuth. 1997. Knott's Handbook for Vegetable Growers (4<sup>th</sup> edition). John Wiley & Sons, Inc.: New York. ISBN 0471131512 (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 <http://www.uvm.edu/cit/computers/> for details.

### Instructor's Course Concept:

This course will introduce students to many of the basic principles utilized in the production vegetable crops. Commercial vegetable production requires a command 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. This is an upper-division PSS course and a high level of student performance is expected.

### Student Objectives

Be Present

Be a Participant

Communicate with the Instructor  
Read, Write, and Think

### WebCT Modular Assignments:

During the course of the semester there will be 3 modular assignments available on WebCT. These include readings and exercises based on the textbook, outside sources, and lecture discussions. These modules must be completed thoughtfully in order for you to participate in class discussions. 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 2 exams given during this course. There will be exam reviews held outside of class time if students request it. All exams will be held in Hills 017. The first two will take place on Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Your final exam (cumulative) will be approximately two hours in length and will be conducted on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm.

### Grading:

Mid-Term Exam II: 200 points

Final Exam: 400 points

Course Modules: 300 points

Participation: 100 points

**TOTAL 1000 points**

**Extra Credit:** Additional points may occasionally be earned by attending certain select seminars and events around campus. You will receive e-mail 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.

**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.*

## COURSE SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	TOPIC	READING ASSIGNMENT
W	01/19	Welcome and Introduction; Review of Syllabus	none
M	01/24	Vegetables and the Vegetable Industry	Read Part I
W	01/26	Vegetables and the Vegetable Industry Part II	none
M	01/31	Plant Growing and Greenhouse Vegetable Production	Read pg 45-63
W	02/02	Plant Growing and Greenhouse Vegetable Production Part II	Read pg 64-85
M	02/07	Introduction to Module 1	none
W	02/09	Field Planting	Read pg 87-101
M	02/14	Field Planting Part II	Read pg 102-115
W	02/16	Field Planting Part III	Read pg 116-123
<b>M</b>	<b>02/21</b>	<b>PRESIDENT'S DAY</b>	
<b>W</b>	<b>02/23</b>	Video: Farmers and their Ecological Sweet Corn Production Practices (questions on this video in module 9)	
M	02/28	<b>MODULE 1 Due by 5 pm (On-Line) NO CLASS</b>	
W	03/02	Soils and Fertilizers	Read pg 125-156
M	03/07	Soils and Fertilizers	Read pg 157-203
W	03/09	Soils and Fertilizers and Introduction to MODULE 2	Read pg 203-218
M	03/14	Exam Review and Film "H2A Labor in Vermont"	none
W	03/16	<b>MIDTERM EXAM I</b>	
<b>M</b>	<b>03/21</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
<b>W</b>	<b>03/23</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
M	03/28	Water and Irrigation	Read pg 220-266
W	03/30	Weed Control; Film "Vegetable Farmers and Their Weed Control Machines"	Read pg 267-316
M	04/04	Vegetable Pests and Problems	Read pg 316-357
W	04/06	Vegetable Pests and Problems Part II	Read pg 359-375
M	04/11	Vegetable Harvesting	Read pg 378-384
W	04/13	<b>MODULE 2 Due by 5 pm (On-Line) NO CLASS</b>	
M	04/18	Vegetable Cooling and Introduction to MODULE 3	Read pg 385-392
W	04/20	Postharvest Storage	Read pg 393-419
M	04/25	Vegetable Quality and Shipping	Read pg 420-450
W	04/27	Seed Production and Storage	Read pg 452-475
M	05/02	Lecture Loose Ends and Film "Farmers and Their Diversified Horticulture Marketing Strategies"	none
W	05/04	Review for Final Exam and <b>MODULE 3 Due by 5 pm (On-Line)</b>	
<b>F</b>	<b>05/13</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM (4:00 pm)</b>	