Course title	**Gardening and Floriculture**				
Course code	**GALA1203**				
Course type	**Lectures and practical application**				
Level	Higher Diploma				
Year / Semester	1st Year / 2nd Semester				
Teacher's name	Vasilis Litskas				
ECTS	6	**Lectures / week**	2	**Laboratories / week**	1
Course purpose and objectives	This course aims to provide students with practical knowledge and technical skills in the cultivation, maintenance, and aesthetic enhancement of gardens, parks, and urban green spaces. Emphasis is placed on selecting, planting, and maintaining ornamental plants, shrubs, vines, and flowering species suited to Mediterranean climates. Through hands-on practice, students will learn sustainable gardening-floriculture techniques and gain insights into modern floriculture trends.				
Learning outcomes	Upon completion of the course, students will be able to: **Theoretical Learning Outcomes:** 1. **Identify** and **classify** ornamental plants, shrubs, vines, and flowering species commonly used in Mediterranean gardening. 2. **Explain** the appropriate planting and maintenance techniques for various plant categories, including annuals, perennials, bulbous, tuberous, and rhizomatous plants. 3. **Understand** the impact of climate, soil conditions, and water availability on plant selection and growth. **Practical Learning Outcomes:** 4. **Demonstrate** proper planting, transplanting, and maintenance techniques for diverse plant types. 5. **Apply** pruning and training methods for shrubs, vines, and flowering species to enhance aesthetic value and plant health. 6. **Develop** plant care schedules, considering seasonal changes and common plant health challenges.				
Prerequisites	**Introduction to Botany (GALA1105)**	**Required**			
Course content	**Week 1: Introduction to Gardening & Floriculture** **Lecture** • Overview of floriculture and ornamental horticulture • Principles of sustainable gardening • Plant classification and selection for Mediterranean gardens • **Ornamental Plants & Their Uses**				

- Selection of plants for fencing, borders, and design aesthetics
- Characteristics and placement of climbing plants and trees

Week 2: Practical application

- Plant identification walk
- Climbing plant demonstration

Week 3: Planting & Maintenance Techniques

Lecture

- Techniques for planting annuals, perennials, and woody ornamentals
- Fertilization, irrigation, and pest control

Week 4: Practical application

- Field identification of ornamental plants
- On-site identification of annuals
- Hands-on techniques for planting annuals, perennials, and woody ornamentals (soil selection and prep, planting depth)

Week 5: Floriculture Practices

Lecture

- Cultivation techniques for spring and summer annuals
- Propagation, sowing, and transplanting of seasonal plants

Week 6:

Practical Application

- Hands-on sowing and transplanting
- Transplanting of annuals

Week 7: Specialty Plant Categories

Lecture

- Bulbous, tuberous, and rhizomatous plants
- Seasonal planting schedules and maintenance techniques

Week 8: Practical Application

- On-site identification of perennial herbs, bulbs, rhizomes, and tubers
- Sowing, transplanting and maintenance of the above

Week 9: Indoor & Container Gardening

Lecture

- Care and maintenance of indoor plants
- Air-purifying plants and their significance

Native Plants & Drought-Tolerant Gardening (Lecture)

- Identification and use of native Cypriot plants
- Water-efficient landscaping techniques

Week 10: Practical Application

- On-site identification of indoor plants and native Cypriot plants
- Application of planting and maintenance techniques

Week 11: Garden Enhancement Techniques

Lecture

- Pruning, shaping, and aesthetic plant trimming
- Planning for seasonal colour and texture

Week 12: Practical Application

- Pruning demonstration and practice
- Shaping and plant trimming

Course Breakdown

Week	Teaching Content	Teaching Process
Week 1	Introduction to Gardening & Floriculture; Ornamental Plants & Their Uses	Lecture
Week 2	Climbing plant demonstration; Sustainable gardening techniques	Practical Application
Week 3	Planting & Maintenance Techniques	Lecture
Week 4	Hands-on techniques for planting annuals, perennials, and woody ornamentals	Practical Application
Weeks 5	Floriculture Practices	Lecture
Week 6	Hands-on sowing and transplanting	Practical Application
Weeks 7	Specialty Plant Categories	Lecture
Week 8	On-site identification of perennial herbs, bulbs, rhizomes, and tubers; Sowing, transplanting and maintenance	Practical application
Week 9	Care and maintenance of indoor plants Water-efficient landscaping techniques	Lecture
Week 10	On-site identification of indoor plants and native	Practical application

		Cypriot plants; Application of planting and maintenance techniques	
	Week 11	Garden Enhancement Techniques	Lecture
	Week 12	Pruning demonstration and practice; Shaping and plant training	Practical Application

Teaching methodology

Theoretical Instruction:
The lectures are delivered through an interactive, student-centered approach, encouraging active participation. Each session begins with a brief introduction to the theoretical concepts, followed by in-depth discussions of key principles. Visual aids, including slides and videos are used to enhance understanding and stimulate critical thinking. Students will be encouraged to engage with the material through group discussions and problem-solving activities.

Practical Instruction:
The practical sessions are designed to reinforce theoretical knowledge through hands-on learning, observation, and experimentation. Students engage in field work activities that include field identification of ornamental plants, sowing and transplanting, identification of perennial herbs, bulbs, rhizomes, and tubers and more. These sessions aim to build practical skills by directly connecting practice with theoretical content covered in lectures.

Bibliography

Greek Bibliography

- Κορδάτος, Χαράλαμπος (2015), Ανθοκομία – Κηπευτικά: Εγχειρίδιο Κηπουρικής, KES College.
- Καρράς, Γιώργος (2006), Ετήσια, πολυετή και βολβώδη: Η παραγωγή, η φροντίδα και η χρήση τους στην κηποτεχνία, 1η έκδ., Αθήνα, ΑγροΤύπος ΑΕ, ISBN 960-7667-25-5.
- Waite, Ray, (2003), Ανθοκομία: Σε γλάστρες και ζαρντινιέρες, Αθήνα, Ψύχαλος, ISBN 960-7920-15-5.
- Δάρρας, Αναστάσιος (2010), Κήποι, βεράντες, οροφόκηποι: Ανθοκομία - Κηποτεχνία καλλωπιστικών Φυτών στο αστικό περιβάλλον, Έμβρυο, ISBN 978-960-8002-57-9.

English Bibliography

- Mohan Balasaheb Patil (2020). Flower Crop Cultivation and Management. Ashland: Delve Publishing. ISBN: 9781774078532. **EBSCO Host**
- P.K. Yadav, R.P.Singh (2021). Flower Production and Gardening. New Delhi : NIPA. ISBN: 9789390591213. **EBSCO Host.**

Assessment

- Attendance and participation 10%
- Individual practical assignments/reports related to the topic of the field work 40%
- Final written examination 50%

Student performance in this course will be evaluated through a combination of continuous and summative assessments. Attendance and active participation in class will contribute **10%** to the final grade, reflecting the importance of consistent engagement. A **portfolio of individual lab reports** compiled from the various practical sessions will account for **40%**, assessing students' ability to document their work systematically, demonstrate applied skills, and reflect

	on their learning throughout the semester. The **final written examination**, weighted at **50%**, will include both closed-ended questions (e.g., multiple-choice, matching, true/false) and open-ended questions (e.g., short-answer, essay-type, case studies). The examination will have a duration of **two academic periods** and will evaluate students' overall understanding of the course content, their ability to synthesize theoretical and practical knowledge, and their critical thinking skills. Student performance is evaluated on a **scale of 0 to 100**, with a **minimum overall passing grade of 60**. The final grade is calculated as a **weighted average** of the assessment components described above.
Language	Greek or English