

CERTIFICATE
Native plant
STUDIES

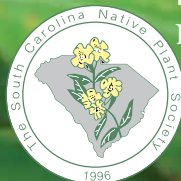
Native Plant Certificate Program
South Carolina Botanical Garden
150 Discovery Lane
Clemson, SC 29634-0174

To see current course schedule
and to enroll, visit
www.clemson.edu/scbg/certificate/



 **SOUTH CAROLINA**
BOTANICAL GARDEN
where nature and culture meet
&
South Carolina Native Plant Society

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The South Carolina Botanical Garden (SCBG), in partnership with the South Carolina Native Plant Society (SCNPS), is excited to offer a Certificate in Native Plant Studies based on South Carolina's rich botanical heritage.

Through hands-on field-based classes, students learn about native plants and their vast diversity, plant communities and the habitats that define South Carolina from the mountains to the sea. Participants will learn about the significant benefits of native plants in ensuring biodiversity, and improved soil, water and air quality.

In addition, participants will discover the importance of sustainable and appropriate development, become aware of conservation issues facing native plants and plant communities, and become educated environmental stewards.

In elective classes, students are able to travel outside of the Upstate to explore the ecology of other areas in South Carolina. Classes are taught by qualified professionals in the field of botany and native plants, including university professors or experts in a particular field.



Basic Botany

(8 hours)

This introductory course develops a foundation of knowledge and a working vocabulary for all other courses by exploring the basics of plants — their classification, structure, functions, lifecycles, reproduction strategies, and communities through classroom lectures and hands-on activities.

This course is a prerequisite for all other courses.

Natural Communities

(8 hours)

In this class you build your knowledge base with an introduction to major conceptual issues and areas of current research in plant ecology. Explore the biotic and abiotic factors that affect the distribution and abundance of plant species in South Carolina. Explore the SCBG's Natural Heritage Trail to discover the basic ecology of diverse South Carolina habitats.

Prerequisite: Basic Botany



Herbaceous Plant Identification I & II

(Spring/Fall) (8 hours each)

In this field identification course you learn about the foliage and flowers of primarily herbaceous plants, although some shrubs will surely sneak in. Discover how to use a key to aid plant identification.

For certification, both spring and fall classes are required.

Prerequisite: Basic Botany

Tree

Identification

(8 hours)

Enter the forest to explore the giants of the plant world. Become familiar with our native trees by learning to recognize their bark, leaves, twigs, fruit and form. Deepen your knowledge through the use of a dichotomous key and by learning to recognize plant communities.

Prerequisite: Basic Botany

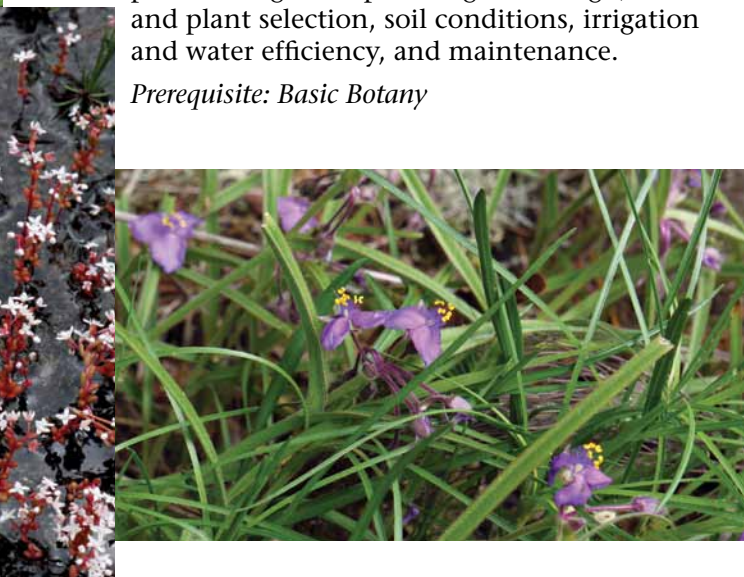


Principles of Sustainable Landscaping

(8 hours)

Native plants are the key to developing a sustainable landscape, and an important way to conserve natural resources. A sustainable landscape is in balance with the local climate, soil, plants and wildlife. Native plants enable you to potentially minimize the resource inputs into your garden, such as fertilizer, pesticides, gasoline, time and water. In this class we put it all together: planning and design, site and plant selection, soil conditions, irrigation and water efficiency, and maintenance.

Prerequisite: Basic Botany



Basic Horticulture (8 hours)

Discover why and how native plants have the potential to transform traditional horticultural practices. Subjects include what is native, the importance of soil, basics of plant health, methods of planting and maintaining with native plants, and eco-friendly horticulture practices. Learn how to attract beneficial wildlife like birds, bees, and butterflies while balancing elements of design.

Prerequisite: Basic Botany



ELECTIVE courses

On-site Electives

(8 hours each) *Prerequisite: Basic Botany*

Mountain Ecology

Piedmont Ecology

Pests & Disease

Invasives & Exotics

Propagation of Native Plants

Native Grasses

Rain Gardens

Soil Basics

Native Plant Container Gardens

Shoreline Buffers

Ferns and Fern Allies

Off-site Electives (field trips!)

(hours & costs vary) *Prerequisite: Basic Botany*

Coastal Plain Ecology

Sandhills Ecology



Class size is limited! To see the current course schedule and to enroll, visit www.clemson.edu/scbg/certificate/

Course structure

Courses are open to any interested parties who would like to participate and learn more about native plants and are not limited to those pursuing a Certificate.

The Certificate in Native Plant Studies program is composed of 88 (56 + 32) hours of coursework. Upon the completion of all core and elective components, participants receive a Certificate endorsed by the South Carolina Botanical Garden and the South Carolina Native Plant Society.

Requirements

7 core courses of 8 hours each

4 electives* of 8 hours each

= 88 hours Total

** Costs and hours of off-site electives (field trips) are variable.*