

2026 Plant Propagation Syllabus

Course Information

- **Semester & Year:** Spring 2026
- **Course ID & Section #number:** AG-21-E9870
- **Instructor's name:** Shirley Graser (she/her)
- **Day/Time of required meetings:** Fridays 8:40am – 2:00pm
- **Location:** AT-108 and GH100
- **Course units:** 3

Instructor Contact Information

- **Office location:** GH100
- **Office hours:** By appointment
- **Office Phone number:** 707-476-4361
- **Email address:** Shirley-Graser@redwoods.edu

Email or Canvas messages are the best methods to contact me

Required Materials:

The **required** textbook for this course is Hartmann & Kester's Plant Propagation: Principles and Practices (9th edition) – ISBN: 9780134480893

Older editions are okay. Available online, at the bookstore, or as an eBook, which will be the most affordable option. Older editions are acceptable and less pricey - however, page numbers of assigned readings may differ slightly.

Recommended text: The Plant Propagator's Bible by Miranda Smith - ISBN: 9780760369807

This book has great instructions and illustrations on many different types of propagation and is excellent for anyone that is interested in plant propagation. Plus it is under \$20! Highly recommended, but not required.

Catalog Description

Plant propagation and production practices with an emphasis on nursery operations including sexual and asexual reproduction, planting, transplanting, fertilizing, plant pest and disease control; structures and site layout; preparation and use of propagating and planting mediums; use and maintenance of common tools and equipment; regulations pertaining to plant production. Laboratory required.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Describe the principles of plant reproduction, sexual and asexual. (Lec)

- Identify, select, use, and maintain common propagation parent stock, nursery tools, and equipment. (Lec/Lab)
- Demonstrate the ability to grow plants from propagation to saleable size. (Lab)
- Exhibit the personal skills (attitude, work habits, etc.) for successful employment in the wholesale nursery business.

Important Dates

Start/End Date: 01/17/26 – 05/15/26		
Description: Spring 2026 (2026S)		
Calendar		
Description	Full Term Classes	Other Than Full Term Classes
Semester Begins	1/17/2026	↓
Last Day to Register for Classes*	1/16/2026	Day before the first class meeting
Last Day to Add a Class**	1/23/2026	Friday of the 1st week of the class
Last Day to Drop & Receive a Refund (Student Services Fees are NOT Refunded)	1/30/2026	Business day before 20% of class
Last Day to Drop w/out a "W" (No Refund)	2/1/2026	Calendar day before 20% of class
Census Date	2/2/2026	20% of Class
Last Day to Petition to Graduate & Petition for Certificate	3/5/2026	First Thursday in March
Last Day for Student/Faculty Withdrawal (No Refund; "W" grade issued)	4/3/2026	62.5% of Class
Final Examinations	05/09/26 – 05/15/26	
Last Day to File P/NP Option	5/15/2026	Last Day of Class
Semester Ends	5/15/2026	Last Day of Class
Grades Due (Instructor Enters via WebAdvisor)	5/22/2026	One Week after Class Ends
Grades Available for Transcript Release ® (Approximate)	5/29/2026	Viewable on WebAdvisor Day After Instructor Enters Grade
Holidays		
Martin Luther King's Birthday	1/19/2026	(All Campuses Closed)
Lincoln's Birthday	2/13/2026	(All Campuses Closed)
President's Day	2/16/2026	(All Campuses Closed)
Spring Break	03/16/26 – 03/20/26	(No Classes)
Cesar Chavez Day	3/31/2026	(All Campuses Closed)
Memorial Day	5/25/2026	(All Campuses Closed)

Course Calendar

A comprehensive calendar with dates and assignments is available on Canvas.

Prerequisites/corequisites/ recommended preparation

None.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

Evaluation for this course is based on your performance of the following assignments

- **Reading Assignments:** 120 points (12%)
- **Quizzes:** 100 points (10%)
- **Lecture Participation/Activities:** 160 points (17%)
- **Plant Sale (Lab, Survey & Participation):** 70 points
- **Exams:** 180 points (19%)
- **Lab (Assignments + Participation):** 305 points (40% including Plant Sale Project)

Grades will be posted to Canvas promptly after an assignment is completed. Please be sure to check your grades regularly throughout the semester so that you can alert me to any discrepancies that you notice.

Semester grades will be based on the percentage of the total possible points earned over the semester.

Letter grades will be broken down as follows:

90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; 50-59% = F

Canvas

We will be using Canvas a lot! We will use it as an information hub, to take quizzes and exams, post grades, and communicate. You will be able to find Grades, the Syllabus, the Course Outline, Extra Credit Assignments, and Weekly Content, including lecture slides and associated documents. You can also communicate with each other and with me via Canvas.

Homework

Your weekly homework will consist of reading from the textbook and a corresponding assignment and quiz.

Reading assignments and quizzes are due each Sunday, on Canvas, by 11:59pm. Assignments and quizzes are directly related to the weekly reading and what we will be discussing in lecture. There are no reading assignments or quizzes on holidays. Assignments and quizzes will be available at least 1 week before the due date.

You can find a summary of Homework that is due each week and links to submit assignments/quizzes on Canvas using links from the homepage or the Pages section.

While assignments and quizzes are not worth tons of points individually, missing a lot of them can significantly impact your grade. I recommend setting an alarm on your phone or calendar so that you don't miss submitting your homework. See the Course Calendar/Outline for specific reading assignments, quizzes, and due dates.

Tips for Success

Students enrolled in 3 unit courses can expect to spend **~4 hours outside of class time** working on course material. To stay on track and succeed in this course, I suggest this weekly routine:

- **Plan Your Week:** Refer to the course outline to identify the assigned reading for the week.
- **Engage and Prepare:** Complete the assigned reading and work on the reading assignment.
- **Participate Actively:** Attend lecture and lab sessions, engage in activities, and ask questions to deepen your understanding.
- **Wrap Up the Week by Sunday:** Review your notes, complete the weekly quiz, and submit the reading assignment by Sunday night.

Sticking to this routine will help you effectively manage the workload and get the most out of the course.

Attendance, Participation, & Excessive Absences

Attending class and actively engaging is **critical** to your success in the course. You receive points just for showing up! Life happens and emergencies come up. Please let me know as soon as possible if you will not be attending a class. I do not need to know why you are missing class.

Our class meets only once per week and we cover a lot of material each meeting. You can potentially earn ~50 points each week on average. If you're absent more than 3 times, it will be very difficult to make up the points. Excessive absences without communication will result in being dropped from the class.

Participation points can be deducted for: being late, leaving early, missing class entirely, and of course, for not actively participating in activities.

Labs

Labs and lab participation account for the largest chunk of your grade. This is a hands-on class! There will be 9 labs, 3 of which are longer-term and include making observations over several weeks.

It is your responsibility to keep track of your lab paperwork and to bring your materials to class each week. You receive 15 points for participation during each lab. To earn full credit, you must stay the entire lab, participate, and help clean up.

Labs take a lot of preparation and include real-time observations. This makes them difficult to recreate, and for that reason, I generally do not allow lab makeups...

Late Policy & Extra Credit

I do accept: Late reading assignments and in-class assignments on a case-by-case basis. Late reading assignments can be turned in by the by the Sunday before the final. Late assignments will automatically have points deducted.

I do not accept: Late lab assignments, projects, or Unit Exams.

All said...Communicate! If you miss class and a corresponding assignment/lab, ask for help. I cannot help you if you don't reach out and let me know.

Technical malfunctions are not a valid excuse for missing assignments or deadlines. Please account for the unknown and give yourself adequate time to complete work. I'm familiar with life's lemons, so please communicate with me as soon as possible in the event of an unforeseen circumstance/emergency.

There will be several opportunities for extra credit throughout the semester to make up points.

Exams

Course material is divided into 3 units. You will have 3 Unit Exams over the semester. Each exam is worth 60 points. Unit 1 and Unit 2 Exams will be online, on Canvas, and due on the assigned Sunday by 11:59pm. Exams will be a similar style to the quizzes and have a variety of questions. Exams are timed. You will not have a quiz due on Exam weeks. The Final Exam will be in person.

The Plant Sale

Plant Sale Participation

This year, our class will help host CR's 36th Annual Spring Plant Sale. In lab, we will be growing a variety of annuals, perennials, houseplants, succulents, herbs, and veggie starts for the plant sale. Participation on the day of the event is worth 25 points.

There is also an opportunity to earn extra credit by volunteering extra hours in the greenhouse and at the plant sale (each hour volunteered will earn 5 points). More details about the plant sale will be provided in class.

Plant Sale Project

You will have an additional long-term lab related to the Plant Sale. For this project, you will grow a species of plant from seed and observe their growth from beginning to end (sale). More information on the project will be provided in class.

Plant Sale Evaluation

In addition to your project and participating in the plant sale, you will be provided with an

evaluation form to assess the quality of this year's plant sale. Your feedback will help us improve future plant sales. This assignment is worth 20 points. There's a total of 70 points related to the Plant Sale!

Classroom Conduct

1. Kindness, mindfulness in communication & RESPECT

I expect all people in the classroom to conduct themselves first and foremost with these 3 things in mind

2. Community Mindset

Our classroom is a safe and supportive learning environment. We will work hard while having fun and support each other to achieve our learning goals. Community = inclusivity

3. Patience

Give each other grace. Each of us enters the classroom with different lived experiences, skillsets and areas where we need growth. Exercise patience and ease with others.

Disruptive Behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [2025-2026 College Catalog](#) and [CR Board and Administrative Policies](#).

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

AI Use Class Policy

Recent advancements in generative artificial intelligence (AI) have made large language models such as ChatGPT and Google's Bard widely available. However, overuse of these tools in this class can undermine your learning and curtail the development of your critical and creative thinking skills. In addition, AI outputs are often unreliable and frequently subject to bias. For these reasons, the policy of this class is that AI cannot be used at any point in the completion of class assignments, including discussion posts. Any or all of your assignment submissions and discussion posts may be screened by AI detection software, but the real penalty for AI misuse is

that you will miss out on an opportunity to learn.

Educational Accessibility and Support

College of the Redwoods is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified students who could benefit from additional educational support and services. You may qualify if you have a physical, mental, sensory, or intellectual condition which causes you to struggle academically, including but not limited to:

- Mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, or bipolar disorder
- Common ailments such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, and diseases
- Temporary impairments such as a broken bone, recovery from significant surgery, or a pregnancy-related disability
- Neurodevelopmental disorders such as a learning disability, intellectual disability, autism, acquired brain injury, or ADHD
- Vision, hearing, or mobility conditions

Available services include extended test time, quiet testing environments, academic assistance and tutoring through the [LIGHT Center](#), counseling and advising, alternate formats of course materials (e.g., audio books, braille, E-texts), assistive technology, learning disability assessments, approval for personal attendants, interpreters, priority registration, on-campus transportation, adaptive physical education and living skills courses, and more. If you believe you might benefit from disability- or health-related services and accommodations, please contact [Student Accessibility Support Services \(SASS\)](#). If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact Student Accessibility Support Services (SASS) for a consultation: sass@redwoods.edu.

SASS office locations and phone numbers

Eureka campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280
- Location: Learning Resource Center (Library)

Del Norte campus

- Phone: 707-465-2353
- Location: main building, near the Library

Klamath-Trinity campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280