

Horticulture Department Promotional Video



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Published on Oct 29, 2018

College of DuPage offers Associate in Applied Science degrees in Horticulture; Landscape Contracting and Management; and Sustainable Urban Agriculture as well as nine specialized certificates. Approximately 50 classes comprise our core curriculum with additional courses developed as needed covering special topics of interest. Students can take courses at night, during the weekdays, or in a hybrid or online

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Illinois State Board of Education
AY 2016-2018 Illinois Report Card Data for COD Horticulture High School Programs of Study

ADDISON TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL						
SCHOOL YEAR	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
SECONDARY-LEVEL DATA						
Total # of learners served	2,073	2,005	1,958	(% Converted to #)		
Total # of minority (non-white) learners served	69%	70%	72%	1431	1404	1410
Total # of low-income learners served	57%	53%	55%	1182	1063	1077
Total # of learners with disabilities (IEP) served	13%	13%	12%	270	261	235
Total # of English language learners	8%	8%	9%	166	161	177

METEA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL						
SCHOOL YEAR	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
SECONDARY-LEVEL DATA						
Total # of learners served	2,915	2,853	2,887	(% Converted to #)		
Total # of minority (non-white) learners served	52%	54%	57%	1516	1541	1646
Total # of low-income learners served	19%	20%	20%	554	571	578
Total # of learners with disabilities (IEP) served	12%	9%	9%	350	257	260
Total # of English language learners	1%	2%	3%	30	58	87

NAPERVILLE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL						
SCHOOL YEAR	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
SECONDARY-LEVEL DATA						
Total # of learners served	2,908	2,842	2,815	(% Converted to #)		
Total # of minority (non-white) learners served	30%	31%	33%	873	882	929
Total # of low-income learners served	11%	14%	14%	320	398	395
Total # of learners with disabilities (IEP) served	11%	10%	11%	320	285	310
Total # of English language learners	0%	0%	1%	0	0	29

NAPERVILLE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL						
SCHOOL YEAR	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
SECONDARY-LEVEL DATA						
Total # of learners served	2,825	2,738	2,676	(% Converted to #)		
Total # of minority (non-white) learners served	37%	39%	39%	1046	1068	1044
Total # of low-income learners served	15%	17%	16%	424	466	429
Total # of learners with disabilities (IEP) served	10%	9%	9%	283	247	241
Total # of English language learners	3%	3%	3%	85	83	81

NEUQUA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL						
SCHOOL YEAR	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
SECONDARY-LEVEL DATA						
Total # of learners served	3,836	3,698	3,662	(% Converted to #)		
Total # of minority (non-white) learners served	40%	42%	43%	1535	1554	1575
Total # of low-income learners served	5%	7%	8%	192	259	293
Total # of learners with disabilities (IEP) served	9%	7%	9%	346	259	330
Total # of English language learners	1%	1%	1%	39	37	37

WAUBONSIE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL						
SCHOOL YEAR	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
SECONDARY-LEVEL DATA						
Total # of learners served	2,675	2,572	2,642	(% Converted to #)		
Total # of minority (non-white) learners served	51%	53%	54%	1365	1364	1427
Total # of low-income learners served	20%	22%	22%	535	566	582
Total # of learners with disabilities (IEP) served	11%	10%	11%	295	258	291
Total # of English language learners	2%	3%	3%	54	78	80

Illinois State Board of Education
 AY 2016-2018 Illinois Report Card Data for COD Horticulture High School Programs of Study

		WEST CHICAGO COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL					
SCHOOL YEAR	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	
SECONDARY-LEVEL DATA							
Total # of learners served	2,012	2,051	2,101	(% Converted to #)			
Total # of minority (non-white) learners served	68%	70%	73%	1369	1436	1534	
Total # of low-income learners served	48%	48%	30%	966	985	631	
Total # of learners with disabilities (IEP) served	13%	13%	15%	262	267	316	
Total # of English language learners	11%	13%	18%	222	267	379	



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Executive Director

Scott Grams

November 21, 2018

I am writing a letter of support for the College of DuPage Horticulture Department's application for the National Excellence in Action Award. This annual award recognizes and honors superior Career Technical Education (CTE) programs of study from across the nation. I cannot think of a more fitting representative for this award than the College of DuPage.

As the Director of the state's non-profit trade association for landscape professionals, I have a bird's eye view of the state of the industry and college-level horticulture programs. In fact, we organize information-sharing events for all Illinois university and community college level horticulture programs on an annual basis. At these gatherings, College of DuPage rises above in regards to their enrollment, ties to the professional industry, facilities, faculty involvement in the trade, and job placement.

If I were to provide three reasons for the College of DuPage program's success, they are as follows:

1. The program's faculty hustles to engage in meaningful relationships with professionals, high school students, and career changers. COD recruits for their program like their livelihood depends on it and it takes a special breed of faculty to give that extra effort on an annual basis. They are successful because they work hard to gather the best and brightest students who want to work and learn.
2. The program is constantly tweaking its curriculum to fit the needs of its current students and employers. They were one of the first programs in the state to offer certificates in sustainable landscaping and urban agriculture as the conversation around those topics began to deepen in the professional marketplace. This pursuit of new has not taken away from their more traditional bellwether degree and certificate programs.
3. The program is constantly improving its facilities. Horticulture is difficult to fully teach from a textbook. Students must be immersed in the field in this extremely tactile discipline. COD is always on the lookout for new materials, structures, and equipment that will mirror what is being used in the industry. This allows for quicker immersion when the student becomes career-ready.

For these reasons, the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association supports the College of DuPage Horticulture Program's application for the National Excellence in Action Award.

Scott Grams
Executive Director



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College of DuPage
Brian Clement
Program Coordinator/Assistant Professor/Advisor
Horticulture Dept.
425 Fawell Blvd., TEC 1059
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

November 19, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend College of DuPage Horticulture Department for the National Excellence in Action Award, on behalf of Midwest Groundcovers LLC and Midwest Trading Inc. The Midwest Companies have worked closely with the faculty and staff of College of DuPage Department of Horticulture over the years both independently and through our industry associations including the Illinois Landscape Contracting Association, Illinois Green Industry Association and the National Association of Landscape Professionals.

The COD Department of Horticulture received accreditation from the National Association of Landscape Professionals in 2015. Joe Hobson, President of Midwest Trading, participated in the rigorous process, which took place on campus over a three day period and included reviewing existing certification programs and interviewing staff and top administrators including the acting president of the college.

Midwest employees have served on the COD Horticulture Advisory committee, which includes full-time Horticulture faculty and staff and business professionals from many areas of the Horticultural industry. We were able to provide input on the skills needed for success in the industry and provide feedback on Horticulture courses and programs. We felt this was invaluable in helping to maintain the relevance and quality of the Horticulture program offerings.

Midwest Groundcovers is located 10 miles from the College of DuPage campus in Glen Ellyn. This provides opportunities for on-site educational experiences. Most COD certificate and degree candidates have visited the Midwest Groundcovers and Midwest Trading facilities as part of either a plant identification or plant propagation class.

In partnership with Illinois Green Industry Association, COD Department of Horticulture students have participated in a one day program to learn plant production practices at Midwest Groundcovers and soil science at Midwest Trading. Kevin Donnelly, Soil Scientist at Midwest Trading has been a guest lecturer at COD since 2012. In August, 2018, Kevin participated in a one day short course for area growers on Bio-controls hosted by the College of DuPage horticulture department.

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COD has a tradition of collaboration with the green industry through the Horticultural Opportunity & Professional Experience (HOPE) program of the Illinois Green Industry Association. This program began in 1979 with only a brief hiatus after 2011. This year we welcomed seventeen energetic COD students to Midwest to experience hands on nursery work. COD staff are always enthusiastic collaborators with support for students and effective teamwork with industry nurseries.

COD Department of Horticulture aligns program goals with the nursery and landscape trades, and works to make their program relevant to the green industry. Midwest has been an active participant in the COD Career Fair, hiring quality interns and full-time employees. In 2018, our COD alumni employment experiences have ranged from hiring several talented interns to celebrating the retirement of a gifted employee of over twenty years of service at Midwest Groundcovers, whose career began with a horticulture degree from COD.

We highly value our relationship with the department of horticulture and have the utmost respect for COD as an educational institution. The fine COD students who join our industry year after year play an important role in growing future opportunities.

Most Sincerely,

Christa L. Orum-Keller
Chairman
Midwest Groundcovers LLC

Chicago Tribune

From the community:

COD Horticulture Students Receive Statewide Recognition from ILCA



Pictured (left to right): Carolyn Gange (Geneva), Tim Miller (Downers Grove), Nahum Castillo (Lombard) and Tom Eisenhart (Downers Grove). (Posted by mitchell11, Community Contributor)

Community Contributor mitchell11

Four [College of DuPage](#) Horticulture students recently were recognized at the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association Excellence in Landscape Awards Night for their efforts in the annual ILCA 2018 Landscape Design Contest for College and High School Students.

COD had multiple finalists at the competition, including Nahun Castillo (Lombard), Honorable Mention in 3D Landscape Design Computer Generated Presentation; Tom Eisenhart (Downers Grove), First Place in College CAD Landscape Plan; and Carolyn Gange (Geneva) and Tim Miller (Downers Grove), First and Fourth place, respectively, in College Hand-Drawn designs.

Founded in 1959, the mission of the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association is to enhance the professionalism and capabilities of members by providing leadership, education and valued services while promoting environmental awareness within the landscape industry. ILCA employs a wide variety of means to fulfill its mission, including the ILCA Institute, seminars, workshops, publications, trade shows, awards, networking, scholarship grants and social events. A non-profit trade association with more than 800 member companies, ICLA serves as a forum for the free exchange of ideas among landscape contractors, their suppliers and the government, working together for a greener, more beautiful Illinois.

Nationally accredited by the National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP), the Horticulture program at College of DuPage offers Associate in Applied Science degrees in Horticulture, Landscape Contracting and Management, and Sustainable Urban Agriculture, as well as nine specialized certificates, including Landscape Design and Construction, Nursery and Garden Center Management, Sustainable Urban Agriculture and Sustainable Landscapes. For more information about the Horticulture Program at COD, visit cod.edu/programs/horticulture, or contact Brian Clement at clement@cod.edu.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/glen-ellyn/community/chi-ugc-article-cod-horticulture-students-receive-statewide-r-2-2018-03-08-story.html>

COD Students Win 'Come Alive Outside' Horticulture Design Competition

COD News Bureau

Updated **3/13/2017 5:14 PM**



Four students in the College of DuPage Horticulture program recently won first place in the Come Alive Outside Design Challenge hosted by Come Alive Outside in partnership with Belgard, BOSS LM, Christy Webber Landscapes, Greenius, JP Horizons, The Kitchen Community and RYCO Landscaping.

The students, Jomarie Avino (Downers Grove), Jorge Castillo (Wheaton), Robert Fischer (Glen Ellyn) and Zachary Michinick (West Chicago), won for their design of a new outdoor learning environment at Hanson Park Elementary in Chicago.

[Click here to view a video presentation of the student's winning design.](#)

The Come Alive Outside Design Challenge enables teams of college and high school students to work together with landscape professionals to design and build outdoor learning environments at schools and childcare facilities.

Students from College of DuPage, Illinois Central College and Joliet Junior College visited Hanson Park Elementary and worked with the students and teachers there to create initial ideas for the new space. The winning design was chosen by students at Hanson Park and judged by a panel of professionals according to a set of criteria for the space within an initial budget of \$10,000, including encouraging interaction using all five senses, the integration of the creative output of the students and teachers who will use the space, the effective management and utilization of rainwater and the creation of a Certified Wildlife Habitat.

The winning design is scheduled to be built on the school grounds during spring and summer of 2017.

Come Alive Outside is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that works closely with partners in the landscape profession, as well as college horticulture and landscape architecture departments, to inspire collaborative community systems that create the awareness, intention and opportunity for people to live healthier lives outside.

The Horticulture program at College of DuPage offers Associate in Applied Science degrees in Horticulture; Landscape Contracting and Management; and Sustainable Urban Agriculture, as well as certificates in nine specialized areas, including floral shop management, green house management, power equipment and technology, sustainable landscapes and sustainable urban agriculture.

Link to Video: <https://comealiveoutside.com/chicago-2016/>



College of DuPage Places Fifth Among Community Colleges in Prestigious National Landscaping Competition

COD News Bureau

Updated [4/8/2017 7:25 P](#)



(Pictured, from left to right: First row: Saul Garcia (Warrenville); Rafael Zavala (Aurora); Emilija Miskinyte (Woodridge); Jorge Castillo (Wheaton); Gannon Siran (Westmont); Joseph Christian (Hinsdale); Yasmin Pena (Villa Park); Sara VanMeter (Carol Stream). Second row: Steven Kulesza (Hanover Park); Matthew Cunneen (Lombard); Daniel Stantz (Northwoods); Danielle Freeman (Chicago). Third row: Jesus Serna (Westmont); Eric Groh (Oak Brook); Travis Urbanick (Lemont); Christian Garcia (Warrenville); Elijah Millender (Wheaton); Zachary Michnick (West Chicago); Mariusz Bajno (Park Ridge).

A team of nineteen College of DuPage horticulture students recently placed fifth overall among community colleges in the 2017 National Collegiate Landscaping Competition held at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. The students placed 22nd overall out of 672 students representing 61 four-year universities and community colleges.

COD students Saul Garcia (Winfield) and Christian Garcia (Winfield) placed 2nd overall in the Hardscape competition. In recognition of their win, the Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute (ICPI) and the Green Industry & Equipment Expo (GIE+EXPO) 1st and 2nd place hardscape teams will participate in the Hardscape North America (HNA) Installer Championship in Louisville, KY, in Oct.

During the competition, COD students Jorge Castillo (Wheaton) and Rafael Zavala (Aurora) placed 15th overall in Landscape Maintenance Operations; Castillo, Zavala and Danielle Freeman (Chicago) placed 13th overall in Landscape Plant Installation; Freeman placed 23rd overall in Interior Plant Identification; Zavala placed 8th overall in the Tractor Backhoe Operation; Zachary Michnick (West Chicago) placed 13th overall in Computer Aided Landscape Design, 16th overall in 3D Exterior Landscape Design, and 24th overall in Construction Cost Estimating; Eric Groh (Oak Brook) placed 24th overall in Exterior Landscape Design; Groh and Gannon Siran (Westmont) placed 25th overall in Wood Construction; Joseph Christian (Hinsdale) placed 28th overall in Interior Landscape Design; Christian and Daniel Stantz (Northwoods) placed 25th overall in Irrigation Assembly; Sara VanMeter (Carol Stream) placed 29th overall in Woody Ornamental Plant Identification.

The National Collegiate Landscape Competition is an annual three-day competition and networking event for students enrolled in interior and exterior horticulture programs at two-and four-year colleges and universities from across the country. Landscape industry students demonstrate their skills in real-world, competitive events coupled with a Career Fair.

Click [here](#) for more information on the College of DuPage Horticulture program or contact Judy Burgholzer at (630) 942-3095, burghoj



NALP Accredits DuPage Horticulture Only Third Such Endorsement in Illinois



The National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP) has accredited the horticulture program at the College of DuPage near Chicago. This is only the third accreditation the NALP has approved in the state of Illinois.

The National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP) has accredited only three horticulture programs in the state of Illinois. The most recent addition is the College of DuPage, a community college just outside of Chicago.

NALP accreditations are the only endorsements of horticulture-landscape programs that are acknowledged on a nationwide level. As a result, its accreditations carry a certain level of prestige.

"This accreditation provides national recognition that graduates of COD's horticulture program are well-prepared to enter the field with the skills and knowledge they need to not only succeed, but excel in their career," said Brian Clement, horticulture instructor at College of DuPage.

"It (an NALP accreditation) is designed to recognize programs that meet or exceed industry standards, and provide guidance to improve current programs while providing local and national recognition," the College of DuPage said in a news release.

A shortage of qualified employees in the horticulture and landscape industries will ensure that College of DuPage's horticulture graduates will be in high demand, Clement said.

"Companies cannot find enough skilled workers to fill their positions," he said. "According to the National Association of Landscape Professionals Foundation, the industry hires a staggering 300,000 employees each year. We need more talented men and women seeking careers in this industry, and companies know any student from an accredited school has the training and skills to enter the workforce and make an impact right away."

DuPage offers associate degrees in horticulture, as well as certificates in floral shop management, greenhouse management, horticulture, landscape design and construction, landscape and turf management, nursery and garden center management, and sustainable landscapes.

The NALP has accredited DuPage's program for three years, but the school plans to beef up its course offerings and degree programs in order to receive the maximum accreditation of seven years.

<http://landscapeonline.com/articles/nalp-accredits-dupage-horticulture/27978>



College of DuPage launches NALP-accredited Landscape Contracting and Management degree

December 12, 2016 - By [Dillon Stewart](#)



Est. reading time: 1:30

College of DuPage, a community college in Glen Ellyn, Ill., is launching a new [Landscape Contracting and Management degree](#) that will prepare graduates to design, implement and maintain landscape projects in horticulture-related careers, Yahoo! Finance [reported](#).

The program, which is accredited by the [National Association of Landscape Professionals](#), will teach students to design and construct landscapes, estimate and bid projects, understand plant health care and manage ground maintenance, according to the report.

“College of DuPage is only one of 30 colleges and universities in the country accredited by the National Association of Landscape Professionals,” Brian Clement, an instructor in the Horticulture program, told Yahoo!. “The NALP accreditation team wanted the college to have a specific landscape degree, so we started with our current courses, added new ones and then spelled out all of the requirements as identified by NALP accreditation standards.”

The program, which was recently approved by the Illinois Community College Board and is now accepting applications, requires 71 credit hours and 225 internship hours. The program’s three main courses, which are created specifically for the new degree, are “OSHA 10-hour landscape safety,” “Irrigation and water management” and “Landscape Bidding and Estimating.”

The program will be designed to prepare students to enter the workforce directly out of school with jobs as landscape designers, grounds maintenance managers, landscape sales and marketing supervisors, golf course maintenance supervisors or entrepreneurs.

Glen Ellyn is about 40 minutes from Chicago, which has a higher employment level of landscaping and grounds workers than any other metropolitan area in the U.S., according to Department of Labor statistics cited in the report. This makes DuPage's program highly attractive, Clement told Yahoo!.

"The need is definitely there," he said. "In DuPage County alone, the job market just for grounds maintenance workers is projected to grow more than 13 percent during the next eight years and more than 18 percent nationally. The Landscape Contracting and Management degree is perfectly designed to meet this growing demand for skilled employees."

Read the full report at [Yahoo! Finance](#). To learn more about the Landscape Contracting and Management degree, visit College of Dupage's [website](#) or email clement@cod.edu.

This article is tagged with [College of DuPage](#), [green industry education](#), [Landscape Contracting and Management degree](#), [landscape degree](#), [National Association of Landscape Professionals](#) and posted in [Today's Green Industry News](#)

<https://www.landscapemanagement.net/college-of-dupage-launches-nalp-accredited-landscape-contracting-and-management-degree/>

Decent: Congregation Beth Shalom garden harvests much more than food

Hilary Decent

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/naperville-sun/opinion/ct-nvs-decent-column-st-0916-story.html>



Passing down gardening skills from one generation to another, Erica Scott and her mother Paula Fraser keep a watchful eye as Emery Scott shares tomatoes with her brother Felix. (Hilary Decent/Naperville Sun)

A Naperville community garden is helping to grow more than just flowers and vegetables. It's creating a new way for members of a synagogue to connect.

Land surrounding Congregation Beth Shalom on Fifth Avenue, which used to mainly serve as a playground and green space, is now flourishing as garden plots and a soon-to-be natural playscape.

It's come at just the right time, according to congregants Paula Fraser and her

daughter, Erica Scott.

“With membership at synagogues and churches down all over the country, we want to start to use ours more as a community center,” Scott said. “We’re looking at ways to evolve. The garden engages members who may not have a reason to come in otherwise. They like learning about how to grow produce and bring some of it home.”

Fraser has been a member of the synagogue for 16 years. She’s a former landscaper with a degree in horticulture and is using her gardening skills to teach others.

“I’m really just acting on tikkun olam, Jewish teachings that tell us to do random acts to improve the world,” she said. “This is a multi-generational project, from grandparents down to grandchildren. Handing down of knowledge from one generation to the next, L’dor Va’dor as we call it, is an important part of our religion.”

The project, now in its third year, was Fraser’s brainchild.

“We’re basically teaching people how to garden on a budget,” she said. “It will be a fully sustainable garden in every sense of the word. The best thing about it for me is seeing people getting out of their cars to work on a Sunday morning, ready to get down and dirty whatever the weather. It’s heartwarming in an era when volunteers can be hard to come by.”

Scott agreed. “People do it for free with their whole family to make the community a better place,” she said. “It’s super gratifying and so selfless of them.”

For Sheryl Geltner, becoming part of the garden project was a natural progression after going along regularly to pull weeds.

“I love home-grown produce and I learned so much about different varieties of veggies and best gardening practices,” she said. “It’s a wonderful way to

meet other congregants. Members of all age groups come out to help with the planting, cultivating and workshops. It gives us something in common besides religion and services.”

Don McCalla sees getting involved with the garden as a good way to meet new people. He has used his skills to help lay brick edging and construct a dry river bed.

“I think it definitely helps bring the community together because we work in teams, so we get to know each other better,” he said. “Another bonus is the positive reaction the project is receiving from other members of the congregation not involved.”

Working outside and meeting people of all ages are what Rosanne Kearney enjoys most about the project.

“I enjoy gardening when it isn’t my own, and I wanted to be part of this project to enhance the synagogue,” she said. “I enjoy getting my hands dirty, seeing the garden grow and all the delicious veggies that came from it. Everyone was happy working in the garden, and the fun part was meeting their kids who were so excited to be involved.”

The garden has thrived not only because of the hard work of volunteers, but also because of fundraisers and donations. Over \$1,000 was raised from a pre-school Track-a-Thon.

The community’s harvest includes sweet golden tomatoes, red peppers, sweet corn, carrots, kale and lettuce. Pre-schoolers have their own patch, which includes Indian red spinach, okra and Asian long beans, because all are not Jewish and they have been encouraged to bring seeds from their own cultures.

Produce is available to congregants, with some used for cookery workshops on salsa making and pickling and some donated to Loaves and Fishes

Community Food Pantry.

In addition to crops, there are also meditation and butterfly gardens, thanks to a garden design donated by Carolyn Gange and Cheryl McGarrity of the College of DuPage.

The next phase of the project is to complete a natural playscape. Recycled stone lawn edging and free mulch from Naperville Township means the 2,500 square feet area is already taking shape.

“A nature playscape takes natural elements and turns them into imaginative play opportunities,” said Scott, mom to Emery, 3, and Felix, 1.

Erica Scott, left, and her mother Paula Fraser teach 1-year-old Felix how to harvest tomatoes in the Congregation Beth Shalom community garden in Naperville. (Hilary Decent/Naperville Sun)

“That means children can play in the corn or stack logs in different ways. It’s a three-year plan and we’re hoping to include an A-frame planter, chalk boards, a flagstone for water paint and a mud kitchen made of pallets.”

Beth Shalom pre-school director Sarah Ferrao says the garden is a big hit with her 2- to 5-year-olds.

“They love walking around and seeing everything. Looking at caterpillars and watching how they change into butterflies ties into our curriculum in the spring,” she said. “Some of the children love to pick the tomatoes and eat them, but others who aren’t used to them and tried them just spat them straight out!”

Congregation Beth Shalom’s rabbi, Marc Rudolph, says the garden is enriching not only the lives of the volunteers, but anyone who enjoys its produce.

“The sages say that there are 70 facets of the Torah,” he said. “By this they

mean that there are many valid ways to understand each part of the Torah. In the same way, there are many doors through which each of us can enter to connect to God, the Torah and the Jewish people.

“Some find connection through study, others through worship; some through ritual, others through ‘Tikkun Olam,’ some through serving on our board of directors and others through working in our garden. Once a person enters one of those doors, there is no telling what other doors they may discover. Our garden helps us to build community, it helps us to feed the needy, and it provides a portal to the riches of Jewish life.”

Hilary Decent moved to Naperville from England in 2007.

hilarydecent@gmail.com

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COD Horticulture Students Receive Statewide Recognition from ILCA

COD Horticulture Students Receive Statewide Recognition from ILCA

By [COD Newsroom](#), Patch Contributor | Feb 24, 2017 4:13 pm ET

This post was contributed by a community member.



Pictured (left to right): Andrea Sorensen Hamler (Wheaton), Bridget Smith (Westmont), Shirlee Berman (Chicago) and Eric Groh (Oak Brook).

The following College of DuPage Horticulture students were recently recognized at the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association Excellence in Landscape Awards Night for their efforts in the annual ILCA 2017 Landscape Design Contest for College and High School Students sponsored by the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association and College of DuPage.

Winners in the 3D Landscape Design Computer Generated Presentation from College of DuPage include **Eric Groh**, First Place, Oak Brook, ([link to video presentation](#)); **Joe Christian**, Second Place, Hinsdale, ([link to video presentation](#)); and **Linda Slepicka**, Third Place, Westmont ([link to video presentation](#)).

College CAD Landscape Plan winners from College of DuPage include **Zachary Michnick**, First Place, West Chicago; **Jomarie Avino**, Second Place, Downers Grove.

College Hand-Drawn winners from College of DuPage include Shirlee Berman, First Place, Chicago; Andrea Sorensen Hamler, Fourth Place, Wheaton; and Bridget Smith, Sixth Place, Westmont.

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For more information about the Horticulture Program at College of DuPage, visit www.cod.edu/programs/horticulture, or contact Brian Clement at clement@cod.edu or call (630) 942-2526. The program is a nationally accredited program by the National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP).

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Winners in the 3D Landscape Design Computer Generated Presentation from College of DuPage include **Eric Groh**, First Place ,Oak Brook, ([link to video presentation](#)); **Joe Christian**, Second Place, Hinsdale, ([link to video presentation](#)); and **Linda Slepicka**, Third Place, Westmont ([link to video presentation](#)).

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<https://patch.com/illinois/glenellyn/cod-horticulture-students-receive-statewide-recognition-ilca-0>

<https://globenewswire.com/news-release/2018/11/12/1649965/0/en/McAninch-Arts-Center-Announces-Exclusive-Exhibition-of-Frida-Kahlo-Works.html>

McAninch Arts Center Announces Exclusive Exhibition of Frida Kahlo Works

Coming Summer 2020, Largest Private Collection Includes Works Not Seen in Chicago for 40 Years

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November 12, 2018 14:44 ET | **Source:** College of DuPage photo-release



Glen Ellyn, Ill., Nov. 12, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) --

College of DuPage, in partnership with the McAninch Arts Center and Cleve Carney Art Gallery, is pleased to announce an exhibition of the largest private collection of works by Frida Kahlo coming to the Glen Ellyn campus in summer 2020.

The 26-piece collection, on loan from the Museo Dolores Olmedo, features an array of sketches and paintings spanning the career of Kahlo, who is considered one of Mexico's greatest artists. Best known for self-portraits highlighting themes of identity, politics, sexuality and death, Kahlo channeled her childhood and personal struggles into her art and became an icon of feminism, activism and Mexican heritage.

"This unique collection of works is deeply tied to Kahlo's personal narrative. It covers an arc of her life and career," said Justin Witte, Cleve Carney Art Gallery Director and exhibition

curator. "It's a full arc tied into her person and covers her accident, which is when she started to create self-portraits."

After surviving polio at age 6, Kahlo suffered life-threatening injuries in a streetcar accident as a teenager. The accident left her with a broken spinal column and a pelvis impaled by a steel handrail, among a myriad of other injuries. Bedridden for months, Kahlo initially painted the plaster corsets which held her in place as she recovered. Later, with the aid of a special easel that allowed her to paint lying down, Kahlo began investigating self-portraiture as she gazed in a mirror attached to the ceiling.

The last area showing of Kahlo's works was in 1978 at Chicago's Museum of Contemporary Art in an exhibit that included pieces from the Museo Dolores Olmedo. The new immersive Frida Kahlo exhibit, featuring a more diverse collection of works, will transform the Cleve Carney Art Gallery, as well as the McAninch Arts Center Lobby and Belushi Performance Hall spaces. This will allow guests to experience more fully Kahlo and her continued worldwide influence.

"Frida was very much a person of the people and this intimate, educational showcase brings works never before seen in the Chicago area to DuPage County," said McAninch Arts Center Director Diana Martinez.

Frida Kahlo – Works from the Dolores Olmedo Collection includes numerous opportunities for educational and interpersonal engagement through activities and events in the areas of Fine Arts, Culinary Arts, Humanities and History to complement viewing of her art. In this spirit, the Nov. 10 announcement included floral arrangements created by COD Horticulture students and inspired by Kahlo's garden; a replica of one of Kahlo's most iconic dresses, which appeared on the cover of Vogue, created by the COD Fashion Studies program; and a cake specially designed for the occasion by COD Culinary Arts students. Additionally, Ballet Folkloric Quetzacoatl of Aurora closed the event with a performance highlighting the rich culture of Mexico.

"Our goal through this exhibition is obviously to bring the art to the people, but we want to build a community atmosphere around the works," Martinez said. "We've taken a good first step incorporating so many components in this official announcement, and we will build on that through partnerships with various College academic programs, local artists and community organizations in the months to come."

Upcoming events include:

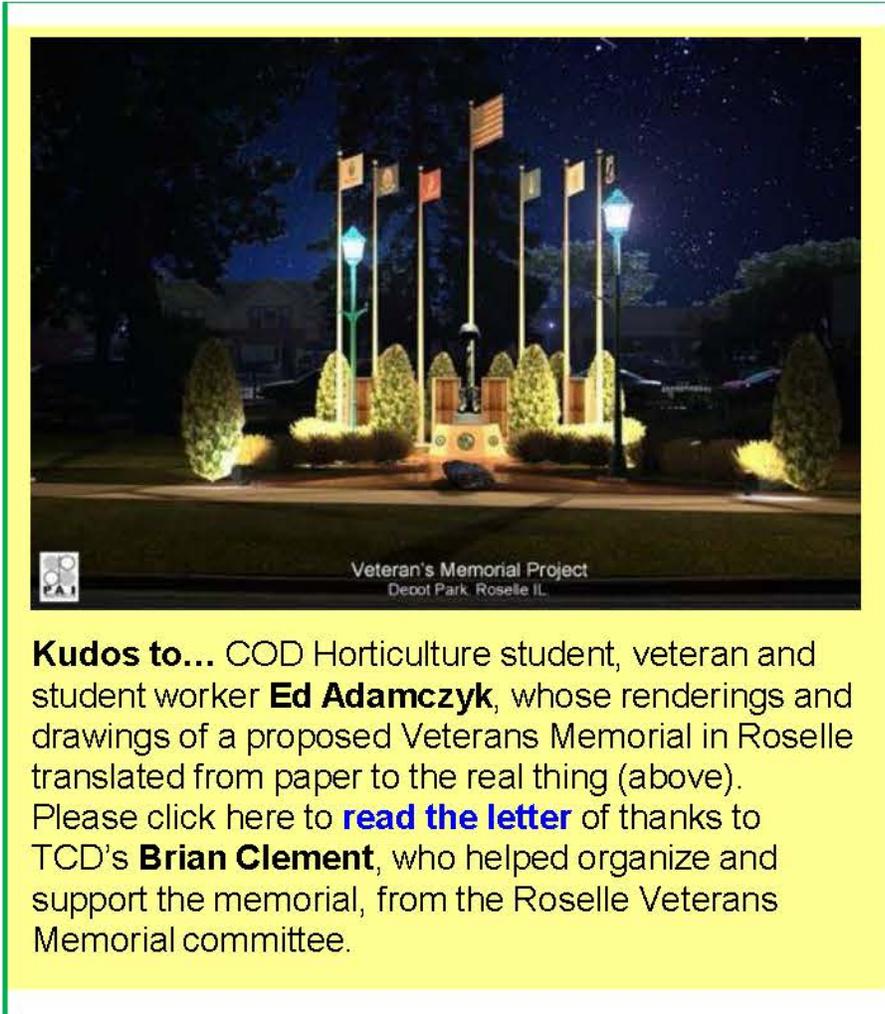
- Frida Fest, presented by the McAninch Arts Center, Saturday, Sept. 14, 2019
- Gala coming in 2019
- Various lectures, workshops and other events during the Spring 2020 semester
- First look for sponsors May 2020
- Official exhibition opening June 2020
- Closing event August 2020

Additional plans include a children's area at the exhibit and collaborations with various College of DuPage academic programs, which give people an opportunity to dive deeper into Frida Kahlo's story, Martinez said.

"We want patrons of the arts, students, faculty and community members to walk away from this one-of-a-kind experience with a clearer understanding not only of Frida's work, but also her life and the time in which she lived," she said.

The upcoming exhibition is made possible through the generous spirit of Milly and Alan Peterson, founding community members of College of DuPage and lifetime patrons of the McAninch Arts Center. Through their longtime friendship with the Carlos and Lupe Phillips family, the Petersons successfully cultivated bringing this unique experience to DuPage County and the greater Chicagoland area.

COD Horticulture Student and Veteran Ed Adamczyk, created Design Renderings and 3D Video for Proposed Veterans Memorial in Roselle, Illinois



Kudos to... COD Horticulture student, veteran and student worker **Ed Adamczyk**, whose renderings and drawings of a proposed Veterans Memorial in Roselle translated from paper to the real thing (above). Please click here to [read the letter](#) of thanks to TCD's **Brian Clement**, who helped organize and support the memorial, from the Roselle Veterans Memorial committee.



3D Rendered Video: <https://www.facebook.com/post1084.net/videos/650436921706899/>



Horticulture Hosts Gardening Study School

The COD Greenhouse Manager Amy Hull, Greenhouse Grower Marty Bartz and Horticulture students provided a day- long gardening gathering last month for members of the Garden Clubs of Illinois.

The program included an hour-long tour of the College's greenhouse and landscape lab, as well as a presentation by Professor Judy Burgholzer on Plant Propagation. Participants also enjoyed a hands-on activity (pictured) that included propagation practices through cuttings, special structures, division, layering and seeding. Burgholzer also presented a session on Houseplant Basics, which included a display of insect pests put together by College of DuPage students. The event culminated with an exam for Garden Club members seeking certification.

Additional News Articles with COD Horticulture Students:

Illinois Women working to break cannabis industry's so called 'grass ceiling' - Yasmin Pena, College of DuPage Horticulture Student

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/business/illinois-women-cannabis-pot-thc-weed-marijuana-industry-medical-marijuana-drugs-dina-rollman-wendy-berger-shapiro/>

Total Landscape Care News – Tim Follin Horticulture Student NCLC Landscape Competition

<https://www.totallandscapecare.com/landscaping/students-in-it-to-win-it-on-nclc-competition-day/>

Glen Ellyn Woman's Garden Works helps needy Families grow Produce -Founder Tina Koral (COD Horticulture Alumni and Former Horticulture Advisory Board Member)

<https://www.dailyherald.com/article/20130619/news/706199999/>

Growing Up Green – Raymond E. "Ray" Greenstreet II (Horticulture Alumni College of DuPage)

<https://alexandrialivingmagazine.com/home-and-garden/growing-up-green/>

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COD Students Earn Statewide Landscape Design Awards



By Robyn Johnson

The following students were recently recognized at the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association Excellence in Landscape Awards Night for their efforts in the annual ILCA Landscape

Design Contest for College and High School Students.

Winners in the 3D Landscape Design Computer Generated Presentation include **David Gum**, First Place, Downers Grove ([link to video presentation](#)); **Edward Adamczyk**, Second Place, North Lake ([link to video presentation](#)); and **Patricia White Hansen**, Third Place, Naperville ([link to video presentation](#)).

College CAD Landscape Plan winners include **Lisa Peterson**, First Place, Lombard; **Sandy Remijas**, Second Place, Lemont; and **Doris Strom**, Third Place, Schaumburg.

In addition, **Lisa Peterson** of Lombard received Second Place in the College Hand-Drawn Landscape Plan category.

[Click here](#) for photos of the student winners.

"The ILCA's annual awards showcase the best student landscape designs in Illinois," said Brian Clement, COD adjunct Horticulture instructor and Chairperson of the competition. "Our students performed extremely well at this prestigious competition and we are very proud of their accomplishments."

The objectives of the ILCA State Landscape Design contest are to provide an educational and career development competitive exercise for students interested in landscape architecture or design; to provide an opportunity for high school and college students to become involved in a horticulture career development activity; and to further stimulate interest in landscape architecture, maintenance and construction, nursery production, and to push overall the "green industry."

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Student Spotlight: Dan Micholson



Dan Micholson
Major: Horticulture

Dan Micholson became interested in horticulture while working as a horticultural laborer for his local park district.

“Ever since I was young, I love working outside cutting lawns and working in the garden,” he said. “Horticulture has allowed me to be creative in these areas and I enjoy seeing the finished products of my efforts.”

A student at another college, he began looking for other schools because his college didn’t offer a degree program in Horticulture.

“While doing research of colleges in the area, I came across College of DuPage,” he said. “My research as well as the reviews of the College’s education showed me that the Horticulture program at COD was the right choice for me.”

The knowledge he gained at COD prepared Micholson well for his internship as a groundskeeper at Wrigley Field. During the summer of 2015, he maintained the playing area of the field, which required a variety of tasks such as trimming the ivy, watering the field or grass, painting foul lines, replacing the field’s surface, rolling out the tarp during rain and repairing the pitcher’s mound.

“The things I learned in my classes helped me to understand what I was doing and communicate knowledgeably with others,” Micholson said. “For example, when dealing with trouble areas around the field, I could tell what the problem was and what could be done to fix it. My position with the Cubs allowed me to do what I love while gaining valuable experience for the future.”

Micholson said that the hands-on work really helped him to clarify and reinforce what he has learned in the classroom. He said he would recommend internships to other students because they can provide a new perspective – a perspective that may lead them into new directions.

“You never know what a career involves until you actually experience it first-hand,” he said. “This internship has made me rethink what I want to pursue. Initially, I was aiming for arboriculture work but after my experience at Wrigley, I am considering taking more turf management classes.”

In fact, his goal is to earn a bachelor’s degree in Turf Management and then find a position that will utilize his skills, knowledge and experience. He is hoping to pursue a second horticulture degree at COD and is still at Wrigley Field, enjoying the World Series win in 2016.

Micholson is thankful that his education at College of DuPage has provided an opportunity to pursue a career path he enjoys.

“The variety of classes allows you to try different areas to find what you like to do the best,” he said. “Don't give up on your dream. I worked a full-time position days, did night classes at COD and did my internship nights and weekends. Hard work does pay off!”

[More about the Horticulture program](#)

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Student Spotlight: Edward Adamczyk



Edward Adamczyk

Major: Horticulture

Edward Adamczyk joined the U.S. Army because he was tired of school.

“Toward the end of my junior year, a buddy of mine joined the Army and, after talking with him, I agreed to talk to a recruiter. I officially joined on the second day of classes in my senior year,” he said. “I wanted to try something different and I wanted to get out and experience new things.”

Adamczyk finished high school and entered active duty as a combat

engineer. His career in the military spanned 20 years and included Cold War defense operations in Germany; combat operations and subsequent defense operations in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq, including participation in Operation Desert Shield, Desert Storm and Desert Strike; and peacekeeping, bridge construction and demining operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia. His impressive achievements include a Meritorious Service Medal, four Army commendation medals, four Army Achievement medals, a Valorous Unit Award and an Army Superior Unit Award.

“I’m proud to have been part of something that was greater than just me,” he said. “I am very proud of the many places I have been and the things I have done, especially the defense and peacekeeping operations.”

His career concluded with an honorable retirement from active duty in 2006. After several years at a desk job in Chicago, he and his wife decided to open their own greenhouse.

“I had no background in horticulture. To me, a shrub was good concealment and a tree was good cover and concealment, so I figured I had better start learning about it,” he said. “I live in Cook County but I had heard very good things about the College of DuPage’s Horticulture curriculum, so I decided to use my military education benefits to attend college at COD.”

Adamczyk obtained everything possible that the Horticulture program offered: an Associate in Applied Science in Horticulture, the Horticulture Certificate, Greenhouse Management Certificate, Landscape and Turf Management Certificate, the Nursery and Garden Center Management Certificate, and the Landscape Design and Construction Certificate.

He has since moved to the Raleigh, North Carolina, area with his wife. They opened Firefly Gardens LLC, and currently grow one small spring/summer crop and produce hanging baskets and pots, which they sell at a local farmers market. Business is good and they hope to obtain

a second greenhouse, which will allow them to expand the number and type of seasonal crops in the future.

While attending College of DuPage, Adamczyk landed a position as a student worker in the school's greenhouse. It is just one of the many reasons he is grateful that he chose COD to continue his education.

"The people working for College of DuPage have put forth outstanding effort in supporting me and my educational goals. From the personnel in the Veterans Services office and their leader, Shelly Mencacci, who assisted me with all of the necessary documentation for my VA education benefits, to the staff and students who work for various college departments, everyone was nice, friendly and especially helpful," he said. "As for the faculty of the Horticulture program – Julia Fitzpatrick-Cooper, Judy Burgholzer, Amy Hull, Brian Clement and others – they not only taught me a lot about horticulture but they all had an influence in making me more confident in my newly chosen profession and a more personable individual."

More about the Horticulture program

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Student Spotlight: Jim Wengerd



Jim Wengerd
Major: Horticulture

Jim Wengerd really enjoys getting his hands dirty.

“My interest in gardening started with the landscape of our home,” he said. “My wife, Anne, was really into it so I got involved, first our back yard and later our front yard. Got rid of about half of the lawn and planted perennials and grasses. Over time, the gardens kept changing as we found different plants we wanted to incorporate. It is relaxing and gratifying to see the results of your

efforts.”

Wengerd had worked in the insurance and financial business for 25 years but was stressed out and needed a change. At the suggestion of one of his children, he enrolled at College of DuPage in “Introduction to Horticulture.” He was 56.

“I really fell in love with it,” he said. “I think a lot of it had to do with the other students and faculty.”

The next year, at the age of 57, Wengerd quit his job and took a new one within the garden center/nursery/landscaping industry. He also continued taking classes, and after several years he earned an Associate in Applied Science degree in Ornamental Horticulture.

Wengerd continued working in the horticulture industry for more than 20 years until he retired. During this time, he and his wife became avid supporters of the McAninch Arts Center and averaged seeing eight to 10 shows a year.

Overall, Wengerd considers his time spent at College of DuPage as a wonderful experience.

“Anyone interested in garden/landscaping/nursery business, or even learning more for their own pleasure, should look into COD,” he said. “The programs are comprehensive and the instruction great. Some of the happiest times of my life were those spent with the instructors and students at COD.

“For families looking at college costs, COD is a good deal. Living at home for a couple of years and attending COD instead of college campuses away from home is certainly a lot more economical. Two of my children got their early college years completed at COD and went on to finish their teaching and master degrees elsewhere.

“College of DuPage is a wonderful asset to our community and most people don’t even realize its education, entertainment and cultural value.”

ACCREDITATION PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT



To stay compliant with your accreditation and to receive the NCLC registration discount, this report is due by December 15, 2017.

Report for Academic Year 2017

Add more lines or attach additional sheets if needed

School Name College of DuPage

Department Name Horticulture Department

School Address 425 Fawell Blvd.

City Glen Ellyn **State** Illinois **Zip** 60137

Faculty Contact Brian Clement

Phone Number (630) 942-2526 **Fax** (630) 942-3923

E-Mail clement@cod.edu

Website <http://www.cod.edu> <http://www.cod.edu/programs/horticulture/>

Accreditation status (Full or Provisional) Full Accreditation

If Provisional, describe progress made toward completing requirements for Full status:

Please describe any substantial changes in the program since the last site team visit

- In Fall 2016, a new 71 credit hour Landscape Contracting and Management Degree was created and approved through the College and Illinois Community College Board. The degree includes a majority of required classes to ensure each student meets NALP standards. Students have 3 elective hours to choose from. This new degree also included 3 new courses for the program: HORT 1109 OSHA 10-Hour Landscape Safety, HORT 1114 Irrigation and Water Management, and HORT 2235 Landscape Bidding and Estimating.
- In Fall 2016, the Horticulture Department Mission, Objectives and Values document was revised to include a strong statement about safety: "Demonstrate the safe use of equipment, chemicals and tools used in the industry." Documentation is attached to this report. This is reviewed by the Advisory Council on a yearly basis. The mission statement is prominently displayed in each classroom/lab area on 24"x36" framed posters so students are now aware of our mission.
- All program marketing and correspondence material including the department website feature the NALP accreditation logo.
- Fall 2016, the Horticulture Program experienced a 27% enrollment increase from the previous year. This was the highest program enrollment increase college-wide. In Fall 2017, the Horticulture Program experienced an 8% enrollment increase over Fall 2016.
- Stronger collaboration is being developed between the grounds department and the program. We hosted the 2017 Illinois Landscape Contractor Association (ILCA) Summer Field Days here on campus with the help of the grounds

department. The event is the ILCA's oldest event dating back to the early 1960's and features exhibitor booths, education, food, equipment demonstrations, games and fun for green industry attendees.

- Funding avenues were explored to help cover Student Career Days expenses and support other department activities. Nine-teen students and two advisors attended the 2017 NALP Student Career Days. The 19 students competed in all 28 events at Student Career Days. We were awarded \$15,516.00 through the FY2017 Perkins Grant to help fund this activity along with sponsorships from local companies. Twelve students are planning on attending the 2018 NALP Student Career Days in March 2018 and \$12,500.00 was awarded through the FY2018 Perkins Grant to help fund this activity. Additional funds are being raised through sponsorships from local companies.
- Program marketing has increased through new promotional material created by the marketing department, website updates and emails. We have marketed our online classes to high school students across the state.
- Fifteen new classes, 2 new degree tracks and 2 new certificates were added to the program in Fall 2016. This included the hiring of 5 new adjunct instructors. We also completed construction of a new \$300,000 Sustainable Urban Agriculture Lab that includes an 18'x20" storage shed with a green roof for department equipment. Program improvements have continued in 2017.
 - Landscape Contracting and Management Degree – 3 new classes
 - Sustainable Urban Agriculture Degree and Certificate – 8 new classes
 - Power Equipment and Technology Certificate – 4 new classes
- The Horticulture Department plans to seek accreditation from the Engine and Equipment Training Council (EETC) in Fall 2018. We are currently offering all six classes in the new Power Equipment Technology Certificate. A letter describing the program was sent to area park districts, fire departments and municipalities in hopes of reaching the correct population to fill the classes.
- The Horticulture Department received \$93,000 in FY17 capital equipment and \$30,800 in FY17 Perkins Funding to purchase new equipment and supplies for training students. Equipment purchased includes: dump trailer, ride-on mower, sod cutter, Dingo compact utility loader, aerator, a Triumph spreader/sprayer and hydraulic training equipment for our Power Equipment and Technology Certificate. The department received \$14,998.00 in FY18 capital equipment and \$62,660.00 in FY18 Perkins Funding to purchase new equipment and supplies for training students. Equipment purchased includes: a reversible compactor, rammer compactor, a 2018 2500 Chevy Silverado Crew Cab Truck, 36" Stand on Mower, Toro 20" Slit Seeder, complete line of the new Stihl Lithium Ion Battery Powered Equipment, Stihl Chainsaws, Stihl Earth Auger and 2 new HP Desktop Z4440 computer workstations for the Horticulture study room.
- We are continuing to develop and expand our online course offerings. In summer 2017, Hort 2301 Principles of Agroecology and Hort 2303 Urban Agriculture Issues were offered in an online format. Plans are to develop two additional online courses for Spring 2019 (Hort 1130 Horticulture Business and Hort 2213 3D Landscape Design). Forty-five percent of the student's surveyed in the department requested additional online classes.
- More students are applying for the ILCA, NALP and other department and industry scholarships. Students are informed on a regular basis through department emails about scholarship opportunities and are encouraged to apply. Hort 1100 Introduction to Horticulture students complete a sample scholarship application and essay assignment to help them with this process.
- As a department, we are tracking student data more consistently and are in the process of creating a horticulture alumni database to better track students after graduation. We received \$1,600.00 in FY18 Perkins Funding to help create and develop a COD Horticulture Alumni Group and database. The primary focus of this group will be to offer mentorship opportunities to current Horticulture students. A webpage is being developed for the group. Former alumni are able to login: <https://alumni.cod.edu/alumni-groups> to register as an alumni in the database. To date, we have over 300 alumni registered in the data base. Additional promotional materials are being developed including an Alumni banner for recruiting events etc. and the purchase of two iPads to help register alumni members at events.
- The Horticulture Club has gained membership this past year and has been more active. They have participated in

various campus activities including a College Wide Day of Service in the community, creating floral and holiday decorations that were donated to local nursing homes. The group has also worked on becoming more visible on campus to help increase membership and let other students know about horticulture.

- The department advisory board has been expanded to include additional representation in landscape design, construction and maintenance as well as sustainable urban agriculture. Scott Grams, director of the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association, is co-chairman of the committee along with Judy Burgholzer, Horticulture Department coordinator.

Name of Major(s): Horticulture A.A.S. Degree, Landscape Contracting and Management A.A.S. Degree and Sustainable Urban Agriculture A.A.S. Degree.

We also offer 9 certificates that include: Horticulture certificate, Floral Shop Management certificate, Nursery and Garden Center certificate, Greenhouse Management certificate, Landscape Design and Construction certificate, Sustainable Landscapes certificate, Landscape and Turf Maintenance certificate, Sustainable Urban Agriculture certificate and Power Equipment and Technology Certificate.

I. Student Enrollment by:

FTE Head Count in Horticulture Program (with Dual Credit):

Information from STR044 V002 Report

Spring Semester 2016	<u>341</u>	Spring Semester 2017	<u>282</u>
Summer Semester 2016	<u>33</u>	Summer Semester 2017	<u>50</u>
Fall Semester 2016	<u>183</u>	Fall Semester 2017	<u>201</u>

Term	(Sum 15, Fa15, Sp16, Sum16, Fa16, Sp17, Sum 17, Fa17)		
	Seats	Cr Hrs.	FTEs
Summer 2015	55	144	9.6
Fall 2015	276	781.0	52.1
Spring 2016	444	1,164.0	77.6
Summer 2016	33	96.0	6.4
Fall 2016	324	907	60.5
Spring 2017	411	1,116.0	74.4
Summer 2017	62	169	
Fall 2017	353	979	65.3

Chart: Enrollment Program AY2006 to Current Report based on ENR525 Course Universe

Dual Credit Student Enrollment:

	2010FA	2011SP	2011FA	2012SP	2012FA	2013SP	2013FA	2014SP	2014FA	2015SP	2015FA	2016SP	2016FA	2017SP
HORT-1100	6	26	5	48		58	10	94	2	87		105		87
HORT-1105							15	49	37	31	16	43	7	14
HORT-1112			1			1		2		1				
HORT-1115								16		16		5		1
HORT-1821	4	1	1	2	1	1	2	1		2				
HORT-1824		3	1				1	1		3				
HORT-2211			1					3						
HORT-2212			1							1				
Grand Total	10	30	10	50	1	60	28	166	39	141	16	153	7	102

Chart: Business Objects ENR_-_512_-_Class_Roster_Multiple_Terms_Dual_Credit_Seats

II. Advisory Committee (Provide Names, Company, City, State & E-mail address)

Co-Chairman's: Scott Grams, Executive Director of the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association and Judy Burgholzer, Horticulture Department Coordinator

First Name	Last Name	Company Name	Title	Address	City	State	Zip Code	Work Phone	Cell Phone	Email
Judy	Burgholzer	College of DuPage	Coordinator & Professor, Horticulture	425 Fawell Blvd.	Glen Ellyn	IL	60137	(630) 942-3095		burghoi@cod.edu
Brian	Clement	College of DuPage	Associate Professor, Horticulture	425 Fawell Blvd.	Glen Ellyn	IL	60137	(630) 942-2526		clement@cod.edu
Scott	Grams	Illinois Landscape Contractors Association	Executive Director	2625 Butterfield Road, Ste 204W	Oak Brook	IL	60523	(630) 472-2851		sograms@ilca.net
Eric	Gundersen	The Growing Place	Nursery Manager	25W471 Plank Rd.	Naperville	IL	60563	(630) 355-4000	(630) 851-1095	eric_g@thegrowingplace.com
Amy	Hull	College of DuPage	Greenhouse Supervisor	425 Fawell Blvd.	Glen Ellyn	IL	60137	(630) 942-3806		hullamy@cod.edu
Jeanne	Kempiak	College of DuPage	Counselor	425 Fawell Blvd.	Glen Ellyn	IL	60137	(630) 942-4084		kempiak@cod.edu
Marty	Bartz	College of DuPage	Hort Lab Assistant	425 Fawell Blvd.	Glen Ellyn	IL	60137	(630) 942-3807		bartzm@cod.edu
Mike	Rizzi	Mayneland Farms		1345 Briarwood Drive	Naperville	IL	60540		(630) 453-7792	mrizzi@wowway.com
Denise	Walden	Walden Floral Design Company	Owner	1701 Ogden Avenue	Downers Grove	IL	60515	(630) 353-0570	(630) 915-2931	info@waldenfloral.com
Kevin	Goss	Sugar Creek Golf Course	Golf Course Superintendent	500 E. Van Buren	Villa Park	IL	60181	(630) 834-4456	(630) 204-0423	kgoss@epd.org
Richard	Hentschel	University of Illinois Extension	Horticulture Extension Educator	535 Randall Road	St. Charles	IL	60174	(630) 584-4610		hentsche@illinois.edu
Colby	Gregg	Naperville Central High School	Agriculture Teacher/FFA Advisor	440 West Aurora Avenue	Naperville	IL	60540	(630) 369-5214		coregg@naperville203.org
Jorge	Castillo	Horticulture Department Student	Student Representative	157 Vista Ave	Addison	IL	60101	(847) 354-9446		castillolandscapes@yahoo.com
Dino	Castino	Russo Power Equipment	Sales Manager	9525 W. Irving Park Rd	Schiller Park	IL	60176	(847) 678-9525	(847) 815-6679	dcastino@russopower.com
Tom	Lupfer	Lupfer Landscaping	President	8737 Ogden Avenue	Lyons	IL	60534	(708) 442-2554	(708) 774-4447	tom@lupferlandscaping.com
Steve	Clutter	Central Turf and Irrigation Supply	Account Manager	960 N. Ridge Ave	Lombard	IL	60148	(630) 495-5500	(630) 222-5697	sclutter@centraltis.com
Tina	Koral	The Garden Works Project	Executive Director	4N907 Knoll Creek Dr.	St. Charles	IL	60175	(630) 730-6996	(630) 730-6996	tina@gardenworksproject.org
Joe	Pizzuto	Landworks, LTD	Owner/Landscape Architect	751 North Bolingbrook Dr, Link 17	Bolingbrook	IL	60440	(630) 759-8200	(630) 878-3836	Joseph@landworkslimited.com

III. Student Internships Since Last Report

Student Name

Employer

City, State

Semester

- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 1. Peter Rundo | Twin Oaks Landscaping | Oswego, IL | Spring 2017 |
| 2. Jesus Serna | Up Farms | West Chicago, IL | Spring 2017 |
| 3. Carla Schoger | Elmhurst Park District | Elmhurst, IL | Spring 2017 |
| 4. Rose Benedict | Schwartz Nursery | Addison, IL | Spring 2017 |
| 5. Jonas Pelter | Planter's Palette | Winfield, IL | Spring 2017 |
| 6. Amanda Moss | Chicago Park District | Chicago, IL | Summer 2017 |
| 7. Bridget Smith | Superior Ground Services, Inc. | Downers Grove, IL | Summer 2017 |
| 8. Gannon Siran | Coventry Gardeners | Westmont, IL | Summer 2017 |
| 9. Travis Urbanick | Green Thumb Lawn Sprinklers | Woodridge, IL | Summer 2017 |
| 10. Kristine Swander | P.A. Likes Landscape Company | Plainfield, IL | Summer 2017 |
| 11. Joseph Christian | Premier Landscape Company | Lemont, IL | Summer 2017 |
| 12. Yasmin Pena | Cresco Labs | Joliet, IL | Summer 2017 |

IV. Professional Practice – All Green Industry Meetings Attended by Students (indicate the number of that attended each event) or Faculty since Last Report

iLandscape

Schaumburg, IL

February 1-3, 2017

Check All That Apply:

- Attendee (125 students, 4 faculty/staff)
- Presenter
- Coordinator
- Other

National Seed Open House	Lisle, IL	March 10, 2017	<p>Check All That Apply:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attendee (15 students, 1 faculty/staff)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Presenter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Department Booth Setup)</p>
National Collegiate Landscape Competition	Provo, Utah	March 15-18, 2017	<p>Check All That Apply:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attendee (19 students, 2 faculty/staff)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Presenter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>
Darwin Perennial Days	West Chicago, IL	June 21, 2017	<p>Check All That Apply:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attendee (4 students)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Presenter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>
Ball Summer Field Days	West Chicago, IL	July 28, 2017	<p>Check All That Apply:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attendee (12 students)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Presenter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>
ILCA Summer Field Days	Glen Ellyn, IL	August 10, 2017	<p>Check All That Apply:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attendee (75 students, 4 faculty/staff)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presenter (department tours)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (hosted, coordinated event)</p>
ILCA 9 th Annual Turf Education Day	Glencoe, IL	September 21, 2017	<p>Check All That Apply:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attendee (2 Students, 1 faculty/staff)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presenter (Larry Cammarata)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>
ILCA Impact Conference Building Sustainable Landscapes	Glencoe, IL	October 17, 2017	<p>Check All That Apply:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attendee (4 students)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Presenter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>
NALP LANDSCAPES 2017	Louisville, KY	October 18-21, 2016	<p>Check All That Apply:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attendee (3 students, 2 faculty/staff)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Presenter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (3 students participated in National Hardscape Competition)</p>

V. Creative Works Authored, Co-Authored or Researched by Faculty Since Last Site Visit

- Wells, T., Matthews, J., Caudle, L., Lunceford, C., **Clement, B.**, & Anderson, R. (2015). The Infusion of Inquiry-based Learning into School-based Agricultural Education: A Review of Literature. *Journal of Agricultural Education*, 56(4), 169 - 181. doi: 10.5032/jae.2015.04170
- Adjunct Faculty Member, **Roy Diblik** has written and published articles in magazines such as the *At the Lake Magazine*, *Midwest Living Magazine*, and *Martha Stewart Living* and has published a book, “*The Know Maintenance Perennial Garden*”.
- Adjunct Faculty Member, **Donna Danielson** has co-authored with Dr. Fredrick Miller, the article called Relative Susceptibility Among Arborvitae Cultivars to Arborvitae Leafminer, *Argyresthia thuilla* (Lepidoptera: Argyresthiidae) in the November 2017 issue of *Arboriculture and Urban Forestry*.
- Adjunct Faculty **Larry Cammarata** has produced various technical “How to” Writing and Training Documents for the National Irrigation Association and serves on the Board of Certification, part of a national team that develops the certification processes within the irrigation industry nationwide and beyond.

VI. NALP – National Collegiate Landscape Competition (NCLC)

Attended NCLC event (March 2017, Brigham Young University, 19 students)

Attended affiliated Career Fair event (NALP National Collegiate Landscape Competition Career Fair, Brigham Young University, sponsor, 19 students)

Did not attend (explain)

Success stories/ testimonials from NCLC The 19 students who attended NCLC from College of DuPage competed in all 28 events, placed 5th overall among community colleges and 22nd overall out of 61 four-year universities and community colleges. Saul Garcia and Christian Garcia placed 2nd overall in the Hardscape Competition. Many Chicagoland sponsors assisted in funding this year’s trip to the competition, including Illinois Landscape Contractors Association, James Martin Associates, Inc., Hunter Irrigation, Russo Power Equipment, Unilock, Elmhurst Dental, P.A. Likes Landscape Company, STIHL, Ball Horticulture, The Growing Place, Acres Group, Coventry Gardens, Landscape Design Association, Midwest Ground Covers, Midwest Trading, Walden Floral, Platt Hill Nursery, Villa Park Ace Hardware, and Streamline Landscaping, Inc.. Students raised over \$5,000 from local sponsors.

Travis Urbanic, Horticulture Student “*I was able to attend the NCLC Landscape competition to Provo, Utah. That was an experience of a lifetime, because it opened my eyes to how much work there is available out there, as well as different fields of work for the horticulture industry. As someone who isn’t aware how big and great this industry is, NCLC really showed me that and how many endless opportunities there are for me out there in the industry.*”

VII. Scholarships/Awards List all scholarships and awards students received.

- Kristine Swander – Batavia Gardeners Club Scholarship \$1,000
- Mathew Cunneen – Floral Design Memorial Scholarship \$500
- Kristine Swander – Hawthorn Garden Club Scholarship \$500
- Bridget Smith – Hawthorn Garden Club Scholarship \$500
- Susan Walser – Hawthorn Garden Club Scholarship \$500
- Shirlee Berman – NALP Foundation ILT Vignocchi Scholarship \$1,000
- Amanda Moss – Elmhurst Garden Club Scholarship \$1,000
- Amanda Moss – Garden Club of Downers Grove Scholarship \$1,000
- Amanda Moss – Wheaton Garden Club Scholarship \$750
- Ronalyn Irle – Cress Creek Garden Club Scholarship \$600
- Ronalyn Irle – Illinois Landscape Contractors Association Foundation Scholarship \$5,000
- Lisa Erwin-Mertz – Lombard Garden Club Scholarship \$1,000
- Julie Miller – Cress Creek Garden Club Scholarship \$600
- Nathaniel Thomas – Floral Design Scholarship \$500

VIII. NALP Student Chapter List major activities of your Student Chapter.

1. Plant propagation for Spring House Plant Sale
2. Created and distributed out holiday arrangements to faculty, staff and students on campus
3. Holiday Arrangement Workshop
4. NALP Student Competition Company Sponsorship Drive
5. Participated in various volunteer opportunities on campus and in the community
6. Chapter membership drive activities on campus
7. Fundraisers to stock the campus food pantry
8. Welcome Back cook-out
9. Guest Speakers/Field Trips
10. Planning a Community Service Project with a local landscape company for Spring 2018

IX. Intern Hourly Wage Information How Many Students in Each Range?

\$1 - \$9	<u>2</u>
\$10- \$19	<u>10</u>
\$20 - \$29	<u>0</u>
\$30 - \$39	<u>0</u>
\$40 - \$49	<u>0</u>
\$50 and Above	<u>0</u>

X. Graduate Annual Wage Information How Many Students in Each Range and What is Their Title?

\$1 - \$9,999	<u> </u>	\$90,000 - \$99,999	<u> </u>
\$10,000 - \$19,999	<u> </u>	\$100,000 and Above	<u> </u>
\$20,000 - \$29,999	<u> </u>		
\$30,000 - \$39,999	<u> </u>		
\$40,000 - \$49,999	<u> </u>		
\$50,000 - \$59,999	<u> </u>		
\$60,000 - \$69,999	<u> </u>		
\$70,000 - \$79,999	<u> </u>		
\$80,000 - \$89,999	<u> </u>		

Note: Latest Graduate Survey Data listed is from spring 2015. Graduates are surveyed 1 year after graduation. The Illinois Community College Board recognized that this was a burden on Colleges, so effective 2016, they are no longer going to be surveying graduates of the College. Of the 12 students that graduated, there were only 3 responses to the graduate survey. All three reported that they are working in the field. Two work in the field full time, one works in the field part time. Salary is \$10.00 per hour; \$20,800 per year. The respondent who works part-time returned to COD. One of the full time respondents is going to a four-year program. The College does not have a good method for data collection for any program. Many graduates do not complete the survey. As a department, we are in the process of creating a Horticulture Alumni Group with a goal of a higher response to future data collection from our graduates and alumni. We plan to start collecting graduate data this coming year.

XI. Graduation Percentage/Certificates Granted Students that Enrolled in the Program and Graduated/Completed All Course Requirements see below %

We are unable to come up with a Graduation Percentage/Certificates Granted Percentage due to a wide range of factors that affect how this is calculated. Our program is unique in demographics. We have some students working towards a degree and/or certificate, some students taking courses for training for their jobs, and some students taking 1 or 2 classes to learn about an interest or hobby. Additionally, some students do not declare a program and/or certificate. It would be very difficult and misleading to calculate a percentage based on these factors. The college does not produce a percentage for each program. Below is a chart that provides numbers for the Associate Degrees in Applied Science and Certificates Awarded in the Academic Year (fall, spring, and summer) for the Horticulture Department. Degree numbers are updated periodically for prior years. Source: STR013-Commencement Report.

Program Name	AY 2012	AY 2013	AY 2014	AY 2015	AY 2016	AY 2017
Horticulture						
Horticulture, A.A.S.	10	11	8	8	9	8
Landscape Contracting & Management, A.A.S.	(new degree Fall 16)					0
Sustainable Urban Agriculture, A.A.S.	(new degree Fall 16)					0
Floral Shop Management Certificate	0	1	4	0	2	1
Greenhouse Management Certificate	1	4	1	1	7	1
Horticulture Certificate	6	25	14	4	14	20
Landscape & Turf Maintenance Certificate	2	3	0	0	1	0
Landscape Design & Construction Certificate	8	5	4	3	3	0
Nursery & Garden Center Management Certificate	1	1	2	0	0	0
Sustainable Landscapes Certificate	5	10	8	8	0	1
Sustainable Urban Agriculture Certificate	(new certificate Fall 16)					0
Power Equipment & Technology Certificate	(new certificate Fall 16)					0

XII. Program Completion Numbers

Graduated from the Program	<u>12</u>	(8 Associate degrees, 4 Certificates)
Staying in the Industry	<u>12</u>	
Leaving the Industry	<u>0</u>	
Going to a Graduate Program	<u>0</u>	
Going to a Four Year Program	<u>1</u>	

Please note, this information is from AY2015. The only graduate data the College collected was for the Horticulture AAS and the Horticulture Certificate. The college no longer collects graduate data per Illinois Community College Board Guidelines. The department is in the process of putting together a system to collect graduate data this coming year.

XIII. Testimonials Related to Foundation and How Accreditation Has Helped Your Program.

Scott Grams, Advisory Board Member Chair/ Executive Director Illinois Landscape Contractors Association *“NALP’s analysis of the College of DuPage’s Horticulture Program reinforced what we already knew: that COD has one of the best programs in the nation. This voluntary step offers the program up for scrutiny to a panel of experts from across the country. Their conclusions help students and parents rest assured that their tuition dollars are well spent and will be recouped after graduation by applying the students’ skills and knowledge to a variety of excellent green industry jobs.”*

Dino Castino, Advisory Board Member *“The NALP accreditation will have significant meaning for the local landscape industry. It will help landscape companies and other businesses like ours identify talented, recognized individuals with a passion to develop and grow our industry. We believe that it will also give more recognition and credibility to the landscape industry much like an auto mechanic has ASE certifications or a business is in good standing with the Better Business Bureau knowing that an NALP accredited member is a part of a particular staff will give consumers and potential clients confidence in the organization that hired them.”*

Richard Hentschel, Advisory Board Member *“As potential students compare College of DuPage to other area Junior and Community Colleges offering horticulture certificate and degree programs, learning that COD has a NALP accreditation will, I believe make a difference in the student’s decision to enroll at COD.”*

Steve Clutter, Advisory Board Member *“The NALP accreditation for the Horticulture Program at College of DuPage has enabled the school to offer more certificates and degrees for those students interested, and then provide capable, knowledgeable, and passionate individuals to grow our industry. Large and small landscape companies are always looking for individuals with the accreditation to provide that knowledge and skills in the field as the next generation of landscape professionals.”*

Brian Clement, Associate Professor Horticulture *“This accreditation provides national recognition that graduates of COD’s Horticulture program are well-prepared to enter the field with the skills and knowledge they need to not only succeed, but excel in their career in the landscape industry. The program is aligned to meet the standards of the National Association of Landscape Professionals and allows us to make continuous improvements to the program.”*

Zachary Michnick, Horticulture Alumni Member *“The NALP Accreditation has helped the horticulture program at College of DuPage by allowing more people to choose a career that best fits them. Now they offer more degrees and classes to help students prepare themselves to get out in the work field.”*

Carla Ann Schogen, Horticulture Student *“The horticulture department at the College of DuPage is exceptional – from their knowledge and diverse full and part-time instructors, to the wide range of courses, certificates and degrees they offer, to the exceptional technical learning facilities they provide. I have experienced nothing less than a tremendous education during my time as a student in the Horticulture Program. I feel well equipped, confident, and more technically skilled as I continue on my career as a Horticulturalist.”*

Amanda Moss, Horticulture Student *“The accredited program was recognized by others in the Park District. COD has a good reputation for their horticulture offerings.”*

Gannon Siran, Horticulture Student *“I’ve noticed with the NALP Accreditation, the Horticulture department has improved a lot since I started taking classes here a year ago. Many more classes have been added to our curriculum and more degrees have also been added including the Landscape Contracting and Management A.A.S. Degree I am seeking.”*

Travis Urbanick, Horticulture Student *“Giving me the opportunity to learn from others and network with local individuals and companies. It allows the students to expand their knowledge to become aware of how the opportunities and how many different fields of work there are in the Horticulture Industry.”*

XIV. Success Stories – Please Share All Stories Relating to Students and Faculty in Your Program.

- In Fall 2016, the Horticulture Program experienced a 27% enrollment increase from the previous year, the highest program enrollment increase college-wide. In Fall 2017, the Horticulture Program experienced an 8% enrollment increase from Fall 2016. Enrollment in the horticulture program at College of DuPage continues to increase, despite a decline in many Horticulture Programs across the United States. Currently, the department has approximately 280 students in the program including dual credit. The State of Illinois Occupational Employment Projections from 2012-2022 for Horticulture Related Occupations shows over 2,000 annual industry openings and continued growth in the Chicagoland area.
- The Horticulture Department provided tours and presentations for over 22 various groups from the community and reached over 975 people over the past year. Groups included: Hawthorne Elementary School, TCD 7th Grade Career Fair, O’Neill Middle School, Arden Court Seniors, Elmhurst Garden Club, McArthur Middle School, Women in STEM, TEC Career Exploration Day, DuPage County Farm Bureau Teacher Institute Day, Section 8 Floral CDE, Glenbard West Transition Students, COD Biology Class, COD Early Childhood, Park Place in Elmhurst Senior Citizens, Glen Ellyn YMCA, Lemont High School Vocational Skills, COD Continuing Education, COD High School Summer Stem Camp, Crestview Garden Club, Addison Trail High School Career Fair, TCD College and Career Day and the COD Continuing Education Senior Group.
- Seven High School Programs of study/pathways have been developed with local schools in our district that offer Agriculture/Horticulture courses utilizing Perkins Grant Funding. A program of study (POS) is a comprehensive, structured approach for delivering academic and career and technical education for postsecondary education and career success. A POS provides successful student transitions between secondary and postsecondary education. Programs of study have been developed with Addison Trail High School, Metea Valley High School, Naperville Central High School, Naperville North High School, Neuqua Valley High School, Waubensee Valley High School and West Chicago High School. Each school was given banners and promotional guides/materials to hand out to students and parents. The POS guides are also posted on our website: <http://www.cod.edu/programs/horticulture/horticulture-pathways.aspx>
- The program continues to gain support from local businesses and the community through donations, guest speakers, tours, internship sites etc. Our Advisory Committee has been expanded to include more industry representation and are very supportive of the program and provide great feedback for improvement. We will continue to monitor the skills needed in our industry via the Advisory Committee feedback and participation in industry trade shows and conferences, as well as through feedback from our internship employers. If certain additional skill sets appear on our list regularly, we can investigate new course offerings or new ways to teach those skills in existing classes. We need to continue our strong advising efforts to make sure students get the classes they need when they are offered.
- The Horticulture Department was just approved this fall to offer dual credit to High Schools in four of our surrounding community college districts (Harper, Oakton, Elgin and Waubensee) that do not offer Horticulture. We have a good number of students that feed into our program from these districts. We will be working with approximately 13 high schools in those community college districts on the possibility of expanding dual credit into those schools.
- We have partnered with Facilitating Coordination in Agriculture Education (FCAE) in offering our online Horticulture Courses statewide to high school students who may not be able to take an agriculture course due to class conflicts or if the high school does not offer agriculture courses. Students would apply for early college admission and earn college credit. <http://www.cod.edu/horticulture-online>

- The Horticulture Department hosted the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association (ILCA) Summer Field days on August 10, 2017 at College of DuPage. This 57-year-old annual event brings together people from all over the landscape industry for a day of food, networking and a little business. Over 80 landscape supplier's booths were on site featuring nursery stock, equipment, materials, new products and more. There were also free education sessions with continuing education credits for LA's, as well as landscape equipment demonstrations and department tours. Approximately 1200 people attended this event on campus.
- Five students participated in the 2016 Come Alive Outside Chicago Design Challenge with Hanson Park Elementary and Prosser Career Academy in Chicago. <https://comealiveoutside.com/chicago-2016/>. The Come Alive Outside Design Challenge creates the opportunity for teams of college and high school students to work together with landscape professionals to design and build engaging outdoor learning environments at schools and childcare facilities. In partnership with Come Alive Outside and The Kitchen Community, Christy Webber Landscapes and RYCO hosted a Design Challenge in 2016 and brought top college Landscape Architecture and Landscape Management students to Chicago to participate in the program. On October 13th-15th, students from College of DuPage, Illinois Central College and Joliet Junior College visited Hanson Park Elementary and worked with the students and teachers there to create initial ideas for the new space. In March 2017, College of DuPage received word that they had won the Design Challenge 2016 for Chicago, Illinois.
- During the period from Spring 2017 to Summer 2017, 87.5% of students achieved a superior (A/B) grade or adequate (C) on their internship portfolio. This indicates that students are prepared for the workplace. Various students completing internships as part of program requirements were offered full time jobs at their perspective internship sites. The horticulture program is successful in preparing students for the workplace. Students identified some skills that were weak or lacking. In some cases, the students had not taken advantage of our recently added courses (hydroponics, irrigation); in other cases, the additional skills are those that are truly obtained once in the workplace (crew leadership, business skills, economic losses associated with perishable product, etc.). We are better prepared to demonstrate power equipment operations since we have acquired much new equipment as required by our NALP accreditation and funded through Perkins and Capital Equipment through the College. We are continuing to strengthen those opportunities for students.
- Thirty-eight local companies participated in the 2017 Annual COD Horticulture Department Career and Job Fair held in February on campus with more than 80 students in attendance.
- The COD Horticulture Department received over \$75,000.00 in donations from local companies in 2016 that included items such as compact diesel engines, 2-cycle tools and equipment, hardscape materials, plant material, green roof materials, etc. In 2017, the department received over \$12,000 in donations from local companies that included items such as hardscape materials and plant materials.
- The COD Horticulture Department has approximately 25 adjunct faculty members who work in industry and share their expertise in the courses they teach. Many of those adjuncts are industry leaders in their field of expertise, hold industry certifications, speak at various industry events, serve on national industry boards and travel the world bringing back new ideas and experiences to the students.
- The Horticulture Department staff and faculty were nominated for 2016 I AM COD Group/Team Award for Fall 2016.
- Judy Burgholzer (Full Time Faculty), Brian Clement (Full Time Faculty) and Craig Kruckenberg (former Adjunct Faculty) were selected by the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association's magazine committee for "The List" – People with Impact in 2015 and were featured in the December 2015 magazine issue of The Landscape Contractor. "The List" is ILCA's annual magazine feature that showcases the movers-and-shakers in the Illinois green industry. The feature highlights individuals who have made an impact in the green industry that the rest of the ILCA membership should be made aware of. http://issuu.com/rick_r/docs/dec.15_tlc_digital_edition/19

- Three COD Horticulture students competed in the Hardscape North American Installer Championship in October 2017 at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, Kentucky. The contest tests and recognizes the skill, dedication and passion of hardscape contractors from Canada, the United States and Mexico. Only 24 teams compete in this national event. Teams that compete in the championship have the understanding of industry best practices and guidelines (safety, quality, and craftsmanship) and race against the clock of other top installers to determine the best of the best. College of DuPage qualified for this event after placing second in the Hardscape Competition at the National Collegiate Landscape Competition last March at Brigham Young University. The students received a package valued at up to \$4,000 which included travel expenses, individual accommodations, complimentary trade show admission to Hardscape North America and complimentary registration fee for the HNA Installer Championship.
 - The Horticulture Department hosts an invitational State and Section 8 FFA Floral CDE each March on campus. Forty-one students from six schools participated in the event in March 2017.
 - Eight College of DuPage Horticulture students earned awards in 2017 for their landscape designs at the Excellence in Landscapes Awards Banquet hosted by the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association (ILCA) in Schaumburg, IL in February.
-
- Shirlee Berman – 2017 ILCA State Landscape Design Contest 1st place Hand Drawn Division Winner
 - Zachary Michnick - 2017 ILCA State Landscape Design Contest 1st place CAD Division Winner
 - Eric Groh - 2017 ILCA State Landscape Design Contest 1st place 3D Movie Division Winner
 - Joe Christian – 2017 ILCA State Landscape Design Contest 2nd place 3D Movie Winner
 - Jomarie Avino - 2017 ILCA State Landscape Design Contest 2nd place CAD Division Winner
 - Linda Slepicka – 2017 ILCA State Landscape Design Contest 3rd place 3D Movie Winner
 - Andrea Sorensen – 2017 ILCA State Landscape Design Contest 4th place Hand Drawn Division Winner
 - Bridget Smith – 2017 ILCA State Landscape Design Contest 6th place Hand Drawn Division Winner
-

Information contained in annual reports from accredited schools is used to track changes in enrollment and placement, as well as to market and strengthen accreditation. Statistics generated by annual reports are the only data we have related to entry-level salaries, and placement in full time positions and internships. Additionally, many accredited programs use the information obtained in this report to favorably impress administrators and recruit students to their institutions.

As a reminder, benefits associated with accreditation (including reduced registration for NCLC and free NALP membership to students) are available only to schools that have submitted their annual report for the preceding year.

Completed form due by December 15, 2017

PLEASE return electronically to:

accreditation@landscapeprofessionals.org If returned by mail: NALP Accreditation

Attn: Jennifer Myers | 12500 Fair Lakes Circle Suite 200 | Fairfax, VA 22033

Any questions? 800-395-2522



HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Mission, Objectives and Values

Mission

The Mission of the College of DuPage Horticulture Department is to prepare students to enter the green industry as well as provide additional professional development opportunities for those already in the industry.

Objectives

Introduce students to occupations within the green industry.

Prepare students for successful employment through classroom and practical experiences while encouraging them to take pride in their work and establish a high standard of professionalism.

Encourage students to be responsible stewards of the environment by demonstrating and valuing sustainable practices.

Demonstrate the safe use of equipment, chemicals and tools used in the industry.

Identify and explain benefits of professional organizations in the green industry.

Maintain strong industry contacts and link classroom knowledge with the industry through field trips and guest speakers.

Values

INTEGRITY—We expect the highest standard of moral character and ethical behavior.

HONESTY—We expect truthfulness and trustworthiness.

RESPECT—We expect courtesy and dignity in all interpersonal interactions.

RESPONSIBILITY—We expect fulfillment of obligations and accountability.



Horticulture

Mission, Objectives and Values

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Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the A.A.S Horticulture Degree, students will be able to:

- Identify and research career opportunities in the horticulture industry as well as emerging trends
- Identify and practice safe use of tools, equipment and supplies used in horticulture careers
- Demonstrate an understanding of the composition, fertility and biology of soil and how they relate to good plant growth
- Propagate, grow, and maintain plants in horticulture production systems
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of plant identification, selection, use and maintenance of plant material best suited for conventional and sustainable landscapes
- Identify and prescribe sustainable options in horticulture which benefit the environment while maintaining productivity and economic viability
- Identify common biotic and abiotic plant pests and disorders and develop strategies to manage them in an environmentally safe and sustainable manner

- Apply horticultural skills and knowledge to operate various business entities found in the horticultural industry
- Apply relevant mathematical principles and calculations inherent in all aspects of the Horticultural Industry
- Successfully complete a three credit hour internship in the industry

Upon completion of the A.A.S Landscape Contracting and Management Degree, students will be able to:

- Identify and research career opportunities in the horticulture industry as well as emerging trends
- Identify and practice safe use of tools, equipment and supplies used in landscape careers
- Demonstrate an understanding of the composition, fertility and biology of soil and how they relate to good plant growth
- Demonstrate fundamental skills in landscape design elements, process and techniques.
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of landscape construction and maintenance principles and practices
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of hydraulics and irrigation design, installation and water management principles and practices
- Apply horticultural skills and knowledge to operate various business entities found in the landscape industry
- Utilize computer software program applications relevant to the field for communication skills, production decisions, business management and bidding and estimating
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of plant identification, selection, use and maintenance of plant material best suited for conventional and sustainable landscapes
- Demonstrate proficiency at implementing the principles and practices of sustainable landscape maintenance, turf management, and integrated pest management to care for and maintain landscapes and green spaces
- Identify common biotic and abiotic plant pests and disorders and develop strategies to manage them in an environmentally safe and sustainable manner
- Apply relevant mathematical principles and calculations inherent in all aspects of the Green Industry
- Successfully complete a three credit hour internship in the industry

Upon completion of the A.A.S Sustainable Urban Agriculture Degree, students will be able to:

- Identify and research career opportunities in the Sustainable Urban Agriculture industry as well as emerging trends
- Identify and practice safe use of tools, equipment and supplies used in sustainable urban agriculture careers
- Demonstrate an understanding of the composition, fertility and biology of soil and how they relate to good plant growth
- Describe basic green roof design, construction and maintenance techniques
- Apply an understanding of sustainable horticultural aspects to the development of landscape design to promote green living environments.

- Apply an understanding of modern technology and its application to growing plants, with emphasis being placed on hydroponic production of commercially valuable crops
- Identify the relationships between soil, water, insects, diseases and weeds in agricultural systems
- Apply agricultural practices that are environmentally sound and productive, and provide a positive social impact on individuals and the community
- Identify the major food producing plant families commonly found in the Midwest and niche market opportunities for urban agriculture
- Integrate diverse perspectives to understand today's complex food systems and understand the role urban agriculture plays in the food system
- Demonstrates an understanding of the food and environmental movements and contribute to various efforts taking place in the urban setting
- Identify common biotic and abiotic plant pests and disorders and develop strategies to manage them in an environmentally safe and sustainable manner
- Apply relevant mathematical principles and calculations inherent in all aspects of the Sustainable Urban Agriculture Industry
- Successfully complete a three credit hour internship in the industry

Upon completion of the Horticulture Certificate, students will be able to:

- Identify and research career opportunities in the horticulture industry as well as emerging trends
- Demonstrate a working knowledge and appreciation of the diversity of plants, their culture and utilization
- Demonstrate an understanding of the composition, fertility and biology of soil and how they relate to good plant growth
- Describe the basic principles of plant taxonomy, anatomy, morphology and physiology.
- Demonstrate an understanding of functional business knowledge in the horticultural industry
- Propagate, grow, and maintain plants in horticulture production systems
- Successfully complete a three credit hour internship in the industry

Upon completion of the Sustainable Landscapes Certificate, students will be able to:

- Describe residential and commercial water management as it relates to an understanding of the intersection of the Plant-Soil-Water continuum
- Identify and recall components of an environmentally and ecologically sound landscape system
- Describe basic green roof design, construction and maintenance techniques
- Identify and choose plant materials for designs that will have a desired impact on naturalized landscapes
- Apply an understanding of the effective use of practical and applied design strategies to determine meaningful solutions to landscape design problems pertinent to naturalized environments
- Formulate creative new strategies that will effectively develop and manage sustainable landscapes
- Successfully complete a one credit hour internship in the industry

Upon completion of the Floral Shop Management Certificate, students will be able to:

- Identify and research career opportunities in the horticulture industry as well as emerging trends
- Demonstrate a working knowledge and appreciation of the diversity of plants, their culture and utilization
- Create an arrangement illustrating the elements and principles of color theory and floral design
- Distinguish floral industry standards for application to commercial venues
- Identify and categorize varieties of flowers and foliage by genus and species
- Illustrate and produce industry standard floral designs used in wedding décor, sympathy tributes, window display, permanent botanicals and event design
- Identify business principles and practices of flower shop operation
- Successfully complete a three credit hour internship in the industry

Upon completion of the Landscape Design and Construction Certificate, students will be able to:

- Identify and research career opportunities in the horticulture industry as well as emerging trends
- Identify and practice safe use of tools, equipment and supplies used in landscape design and construction management careers
- Describe the components and effects of environment and soils on plant growth and development.
- Demonstrate fundamental skills in landscape design elements, process and techniques.
- Describe the techniques required for proper selection, installation and maintenance of softscape and hardscape materials
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of landscape construction and maintenance principles and practices
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of hydraulics and irrigation design, installation and water management principles and practices
- Use a variety of computer applications relevant to landscape design, construction, and ornamental horticulture.
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of plant identification, selection, use and maintenance of plant material best suited for conventional and sustainable landscapes
- Identify and manage common landscape pests and disorders in an environmentally safe and sustainable manner.
- Apply relevant mathematical principles and calculations inherent in all aspects of the Horticulture Industry
- Successfully complete a three credit hour internship in the industry

Upon completion of the Greenhouse Management Certificate, students will be able to:

- Identify and research career opportunities in the horticulture industry as well as emerging trends
- Identify and practice safe use of tools, equipment and supplies used in greenhouse management careers
- Demonstrate an understanding of the composition, fertility and biology of soil and how they relate to good plant growth
- Demonstrate an understanding of functional business knowledge in the greenhouse industry
- Propagate, grow, and maintain plants in horticulture production systems
- Demonstrate understanding of sustainable production techniques commonly used in the greenhouse industry
- Describe common greenhouse design features and the materials used to build them

- Distinguish the various types of environmental control systems used in closed environments
- Apply fertilizing techniques in a closed environment system
- Apply horticultural principles to the successful growth and production of common greenhouse crops
- Identify the most important greenhouse pests and diseases and be able to apply biological remediation techniques
- Successfully complete a three credit hour internship in the industry

Upon completion of the Landscape and Turf Maintenance Certificate, students will be able to:

- Identify and research career opportunities in the horticulture industry as well as emerging trends
- Identify and practice safe use of tools, equipment and supplies used in landscape and turf maintenance careers
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of landscape construction and maintenance principles and practices
- Describe identification, care, and maintenance procedures of turf and ornamental plants used in the landscape
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of hydraulics and irrigation design, installation and water management principles and practices
- Identify plant nutrient deficiencies and describe corrective measures.
- Identify major plant pests, including weeds, insects, and diseases and describe corrective measures.
- Apply relevant mathematical principles and calculations inherent in all aspects of the Green Industry
- Demonstrate basic troubleshooting and maintenance skills for small gas engines.
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of plant identification, selection, use and maintenance of plant material best suited for conventional and sustainable landscapes
- Successfully complete a three credit hour internship in the industry

Upon completion of the Nursery and Garden Center Certificate, students will be able to:

- Identify and research career opportunities in the horticulture industry as well as emerging trends
- Identify and practice safe use of tools, equipment and supplies used in nursery and garden center management careers
- Demonstrate an understanding of the composition, fertility and biology of soil and how they relate to good plant growth
- Demonstrate an understanding of functional business knowledge in the nursery and greenhouse management industry
- Propagate, grow, and maintain plants in horticulture production systems
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of plant identification, selection, use and maintenance of plant material best suited for conventional and sustainable landscapes
- Identify major plant pests, including weeds, insects, and diseases and describe corrective measures

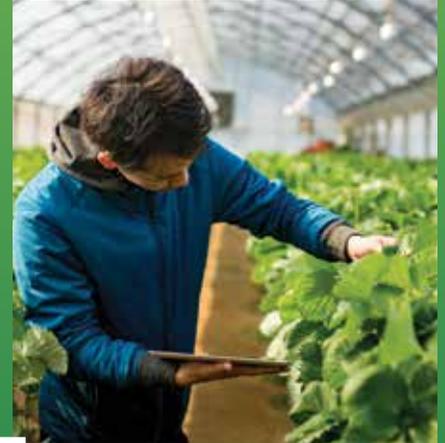
- Apply relevant mathematical principles and calculations inherent in all aspects of the Horticulture Industry
- Successfully complete a three credit hour internship in the industry

Upon completion of the Power Equipment and Technology Certificate, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate a foundation in theory, technology, equipment, safety, and industry standards
- Understand the role of a small engine technician and the career opportunities in the outdoor power equipment field
- Describe the basic operation of small engines and their systems and identify the parts of a typical 2-cycle, 4-cycle and compact diesel engine
- Describe how to disassemble, rebuild, and reassemble a typical two-stroke, four-stroke, and compact diesel engine
- Understand and apply basic principles of testing, diagnosis, troubleshooting and servicing of small engines, outdoor power equipment and power generators
- Identify, test and diagnose charging systems in generators
- Describe the fundamentals, construction features and principles of operation of hydraulic and hydrostatic drive systems and components and maintenance procedures
- Identify the types of drive trains found in outdoor power equipment and summarize how to service lawn and riding mowers as well as garden tractors
- Apply theoretical knowledge and skills, and complete repair and maintenance tasks in accordance with the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) and the outdoor Power Equipment and Engine Service Association (OPEESA)
- Successfully complete a two credit hour internship in the industry

Upon completion of the Sustainable Urban Agriculture Certificate, students will be able to:

- Identify and research career opportunities in the sustainable urban agriculture industry as well as emerging trends
- Identify and practice safe use of tools, equipment and supplies used in sustainable urban agriculture management careers
- Demonstrate an understanding of the composition, fertility and biology of soil and how they relate to good plant growth
- Identify the relationships between soil, water, insects, diseases and weeds in agricultural systems
- Apply agricultural practices that are environmentally sound and productive, and provide a positive social impact on individuals and the community
- Identify the major food producing plant families commonly found in the Midwest and niche market opportunities for urban agriculture
- Integrate diverse perspectives to understand today's complex food systems and understand the role urban agriculture plays in the food system
- Demonstrates an understanding of the food and environmental movements and contribute to various efforts taking place in the urban setting
- Demonstrate an understanding of functional business knowledge in the sustainable urban agriculture industry
- Successfully complete a three credit hour internship in the industry



HORTICULTURE

Programs of Study

College of DuPage Horticulture
and Metea Valley High School

What is a Program of Study?

A program of study (POS) is a comprehensive, structured approach for delivering academic and career and technical education to prepare students for postsecondary education and career success. A POS provides successful student transitions between secondary and postsecondary education.

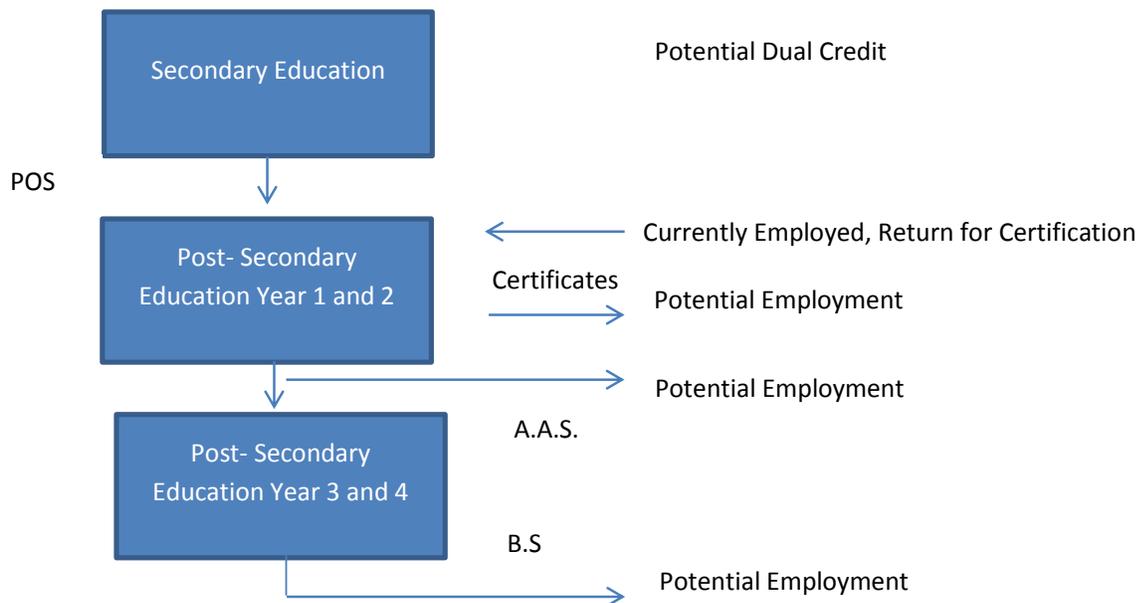
At minimum, the POS must:

- Incorporate and align secondary and postsecondary education elements
- Include academic and CTE content in a coordinated, non-duplicative progression of courses
- Offer the opportunity, where appropriate, for secondary students to acquire postsecondary credits
- Lead to an industry-recognized credential or certificate at the postsecondary level, or an associate or baccalaureate degree
- Support the tenants of the POS 10 Component Framework

<http://cte.ed.gov/docs/POSLocalImplementationTool-9-14-10.pdf>

Program of Study Pathways

A Program of Study Pathway describes the courses, sequences, certificates and degrees that a student can obtain at the secondary and post-secondary education level in pursuit of various career paths.



What is Horticulture?

Horticulture is part of the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources cluster of the Illinois Career Cluster Model. Specifically, this pathway applies to the Plant Systems section. The career plan of study can serve as a guide, along with other career planning materials, as learners continue on a career path. Courses listed in the plans are only recommended coursework and should be individualized to meet the learner's educational and career goals. The plans of study are customized with course titles and appropriate high school graduation requirements as well as college entrance requirements.

The objective of the Horticulture Program is to provide students with the necessary skills necessary for entry-level positions such as:

- Landscape Professionals (Designer, Contractor and/or Estimator)
- Greenhouse and Nursery Growers
- Arborists, Tree Trimmers and Pruners
- Grounds Management Professionals
- Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, & Applicators
- Sustainable and Organic Farmers
- Hydroponic Growers
- Agricultural and Food Inspectors
- Parks and Recreation
- Floral Designer

The program, individual course objectives, and measurable learning outcomes have been aligned to national accreditation standards set forth by the National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP). In addition, input from the College of DuPage Horticulture advisory committee and industry experts has been utilized to guide the delivery of education.

The Horticulture Program objectives include:

- Introduce students to occupations within the green industry
- Prepare students for successful employment through classroom and practical experiences while encouraging them to take pride in their work and establish a high standard of professionalism
- Encourage students to be responsible stewards of the environment by demonstrating and valuing sustainable practices
- Demonstrate the safe use of equipment, chemicals, and tools used in the industry
- Identify and explain benefits of professional organizations in the green industry
- Maintain strong industry contacts and link classroom knowledge with the industry through field trips and guest speakers

The Horticulture program consist of three A.A.S. Degrees and nine certificates.

Horticulture Degree Options:

Horticulture

Landscape Contracting & Management

Sustainable Urban Agriculture

Horticulture A.A.S Degree

The Horticulture program meets the needs of students entering the horticulture industry as well as those presently employed who wish to continue their professional growth. Besides providing horticultural knowledge and skills, the program emphasizes the business and management proficiency necessary to compete successfully in the horticulture industry. The Horticulture degree program requires a minimum of 64 credits in program requirements, program electives, and general education coursework.

Landscape Contracting & Management A.A.S. Degree

The Landscape Contracting & Management program develops a student's ability to design, implement, and maintain landscape projects. Students build professional skills in plant healthcare, design, estimating, installation, and project management while earning an Associate in Applied Science degree. Landscape contracting graduates are well-placed to work in the growing field of sustainable landscaping, or enter a Bachelor degree program in Horticulture or related field. The Landscape Contracting and Management degree program requires a minimum of 71 credits in program requirements, program electives and general education coursework.

Sustainable Urban Agriculture A.A.S. Degree

The Sustainable Urban Agriculture program offers a hands-on approach to becoming a professional in the field of urban farming and sustainable urban agriculture. The goal of the program is to help society improve the health of its environment, food, and communities, give students practical experiences working alongside professional urban farmers and faculty and teach students how to critically analyze historical and current food systems to offer more sustainable solutions. Includes management and marketing techniques for urban agriculture food production systems. The Sustainable Urban Agriculture degree program requires a minimum of 66 credits in program requirements and general education coursework.

Horticulture Certificate Options:

** For students who do not wish to pursue an A.A.S. degree, certificate programs are offered that do not include general education courses. The following certificates are available:

Horticulture Certificate
15 credits

Floral Shop Management Certificate
24 credits

Nursery and Garden Center Management Certificate
35 credits

Greenhouse Management Certificate
24 credits

**Landscape Design
and Construction
Certificate**
41 credits

**Sustainable
Landscapes
Certificate**
7 credits

**Landscape and
Turf Maintenance
Certificate**
39 credits

**Sustainable Urban
Agriculture
Certificate**
28 credits

**Power Equipment
and Technology
Certificate**
16 credits

Labor Market Supply/Demand Information

Horticulture and Landscape Contracting & Management Degree Tracks:

According to the Department of Labor Statistics (DSL), College of DuPage is situated in a Chicago metropolitan area with the highest employment level of landscaping and grounds workers in the United States employing over 20,030 people with one of the highest annual mean wages in this occupation.

Employment in the Landscape Industry is projected to grow as fast as or faster than most occupations in DuPage County:

- Grounds Maintenance Workers is projected to grow 13.20 percent from 2012 to 2022 with 238 annual job openings in DuPage County. Nationally, employment is projected to grow 18.2%.
- Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers is projected to grow 13.05 percent from 2012 to 2022 with 213 annual job openings in DuPage County. Nationally, employment is projected to grow 18 percent.
- Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers & Applicators is projected to grow 2 percent from 2012 to 2022 with 6 annual job openings in DuPage County. Nationally, employment is projected to grow 17.7%.
- Tree Trimmers & Pruners is projected to grow 5 percent from 2012 to 2022 with 11 annual job openings in DuPage County. Nationally, employment is projected to grow 26.3%.
- Grounds Maintenance Workers, All Others is projected to grow 3 percent from 2012 to 2022 with 9 annual job openings in DuPage County. Nationally, employment is projected to grow 11.8%.

Employment projections for surrounding DuPage Counties are also very high, enforcing the need for qualified workers. See attached supporting detail for employment projects in surrounding counties.

Sustainable Urban Agriculture Degree Track:

The labor market indicates job growth for individuals with degrees and extensive work experience in food, renewable energy and environmental specialties.

Purdue University along with the United States Department of Agriculture published the Employment Opportunities for College Graduates in Food, Renewable Energy, and the Environment. It was projected that the agricultural, food and renewable natural resources sectors of the US economy will generate an estimated 54,400 annual openings for individuals with baccalaureate or higher degrees in food, renewable energy, and environmental specialties between 2010 and 2015.

According to the USDA, certified organic acreage in the United States that includes cropland, pastureland, and rangeland quadrupled between 1992 and 2008 and the number of organic operations nearly tripled. Organic foods are now available in nearly all retail food stores and most consumers buy organic food at least occasionally. Growth in the industry seems likely to continue, and continued growth in demand will create new career opportunities.

There has been an increased interest in buying local foods. According to “Trends in U.S. Local and Regional Food Systems,” a report to Congress, farmers markets have seen a 200% growth since 2007, regional food hubs a 300% increase and school districts with farm to school programs a 450% increase. In the nationally representative U.S. Grocery Shopper Trends Survey, conducted by a supermarket industry association, over 80 percent of surveyed grocery store shoppers reported purchasing local foods occasionally, while 9 percent reported purchasing local foods whenever possible (Food Marketing Institute, 2011). The survey also asked consumers’ top reasons for buying locally grown foods in grocery stores. Freshness was the most frequent reason (with 83 percent) cited, support for the local economy was the second reason (with 79%) cited, and taste was the number three reason (with 56 percent) cited for buying local food (Food Marketing Institute, 2011). An earlier national survey, conducted in 2003, found an interest in healthy, safe, and fresh foods increased the likelihood of buying locally (Zepeda and Nie, 2012).

Many state legislators have also targeted support to local and regional food systems through statutes and programs focusing on urban agriculture and community gardens. Since 2007, several states and the District of Columbia have passed legislation that improves land access for urban agriculture (NCSL, 2014b). Programs provide tax incentives for urban land conversion to agricultural use and urban farming and gardening. Many more states have established committees to develop recommendations for expanding local food production. Farmer’s markets are continually growing and becoming more popular. Today more than 30 states have passed laws in an effort to expand the presence of farmers’ markets nationwide. Many of these laws not only support and grow local food systems, but they also work towards increasing access to healthy foods. This has brought an increase in local jobs in this industry.

A recent U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) report to Congress indicates that local and regional food sales in the U.S. totaled \$6.1 billion in 2012— an increase from the reported \$4.8 billion in 2008. This increase is a result of the selling of food from local farms, “for human consumption through both direct-to-consumer (e.g., farmers’ markets) and intermediated marketing channels (e.g., sales to institutions or regional distributors).” The report findings provide an updated assessment of the growing trend in both the production and consumption of local food in the U.S.

Growing interest in the local foods movement and sustainability efforts across the nation is increasing the number of people working in the food system and related occupations. As the demand continues to rise for locally grown and produced foods, more jobs will be generated in this field of study. While job data for this type of work is difficult to measure across the 50 states, it is clear that food system jobs are gaining momentum across the country.

Additionally, according to IDES, the statewide annual compound growth rate in areas related to Agri-Hort Technology is up an average of 0.13%. The 2010-2020 projected outlook for additional jobs in the Agri-Hort specializations that includes Urban Agriculture indicates there will be an additional 44,503 jobs available by 2020.

State of Illinois

Occupational Employment Projections (Long-term) 2012-2022

Horticulture Related Occupations

Chicago Area

Code	Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Title	Base Year Employment 2012	Year Employment 2022	Employment Change 2012-2022		Average Annual Job Openings due to:			Annual Compound Growth
				Number	Percent	Growth	Replacements	Total	
DuPage County									
37-3000	Grounds Maintenance Workers	6,199	7,017	818	13.20	82	156	238	1.25
37-3011	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	5,570	6,297	727	13.05	73	140	213	1.23
37-3012	Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers & Applicators	137	152	15	10.95	2	4	6	1.04
37-3013	Tree Trimmers & Pruners	235	285	50	21.28	5	6	11	1.95
37-3019	Grounds Maintenance Workers, All Other	257	283	26	10.12	3	6	9	0.97
Cook County									
37-3000	Grounds Maintenance Workers	22,174	23,526	1,352	6.10	135	559	694	0.59
37-3011	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	19,740	20,948	1,208	6.12	121	498	619	0.60
37-3012	Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers & Applicators	414	423	9	2.17	1	10	11	0.22
37-3013	Tree Trimmers & Pruners	688	768	80	11.63	8	17	25	1.11
37-3019	Grounds Maintenance Workers, All Other	1,332	1,387	55	4.13	6	34	40	0.41
Kane County, Dekalb and Kendall Counties									
37-3000	Grounds Maintenance Workers	2,370	2,902	532	22.45	53	60	113	2.05
37-3011	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	2,129	2,608	479	22.50	48	54	102	2.05
37-3012	Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers & Applicators	48	54	6	12.50	1	1	2	1.18
37-3013	Tree Trimmers & Pruners	71	94	23	32.39	2	2	4	2.85
37-3019	Grounds Maintenance Workers, All Other	122	146	24	19.67	2	3	5	1.81
Will County									
37-3000	Grounds Maintenance Workers	1,891	1,965	74	3.91	8	48	56	0.38
37-3011	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	1,679	1,743	64	3.81	6	42	48	0.37
37-3012	Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers & Applicators	44	43	-1	-2.27	0	1	1	-0.23
37-3013	Tree Trimmers & Pruners	71	78	7	9.86	1	2	3	0.94
37-3019	Grounds Maintenance Workers, All Other	97	101	4	4.12	0	2	2	0.40
Totals						557	1,645	2,229	

Advisory and Oversight

Changes to the Plan of Study will be made by visiting the high schools, working with Career to Education advisors at the College of DuPage and high schools, and also the Horticulture Advisory Board at the College of DuPage. The Horticulture Advisory Board meets once in the fall semester and once in the spring semester to help Horticulture faculty determine the direction of its curriculum, provide feedback on the content of our courses and certificates, and also discuss trends in the industry. Membership on this advisory board includes high school faculty who teach courses in Horticulture and industry specific experts. The Program of Study is a regular agenda item at these meetings. Annual meetings with High School Career Technical Education Chairs will be held to review progress and adjustment.

Data Reporting and Analysis

Annually, the Horticulture department conducts surveys of its graduates. The Horticulture program is implementing a survey to gain additional information to guide the actions of this plan.

**Memorandum for Understanding
for
Program of Study in Horticulture
Between Metea Valley High School and College of DuPage**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) entered into this 4th day of May, 2017 is between Metea Valley High School and College of DuPage (COD).

INITIATIVE

Metea Valley High School and College of DuPage form a cooperative relationship to develop and implement a Program of Study (POS) in order to ensure that all students have access to rigorous and relevant educational opportunities that prepare them for success in college and careers. This Program of Study in Horticulture, along with related career planning materials, will serve as a guide for students as they continue with their educational and career goals.

COLLABORATION

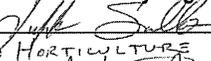
Through this Memorandum of Understanding, both institutions agree to work collectively and collaboratively to create an aligned educational structure through the Program of Study in Horticulture with the goal of improving student learning.

TERMINATION

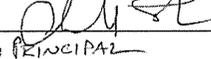
Either party may dissolve this agreement by giving 180 days advance written notice to the cooperating institution's president or chief academic officer.

In WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned parties, by and through their duly authorized officers, have executed this agreement between the High School and College of DuPage.

For – **Metea Valley High School**


Title HORTICULTURE TEACHER

5/4/17
Date


Title PRINCIPAL

5/4/17
Date

For – **College of DuPage**


Title Coordinator/Professor

5/11/17
Date


Title

5/15/17
Date

Community College: College of DuPage

High School: Metea Valley High School

Program of Study: Horticulture A.A.S. Degree

CIP Code: 01.1103

Cluster: Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

Pathway: Plant Systems

This Career Cluster Plan of Study (based on the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Career Cluster) can serve as a guide, along with other career planning materials, as learners continue on a career path. Courses listed within this plan are only recommended coursework and should be individualized to meet each learner's educational and career goals. *This Plan of Study, used for learners at an educational institution, should be customized with course titles and appropriate high school graduation requirements as well as college entrance requirements.

Education Level	Grade	CTE/Degree Major Courses	English	Mathematics	Science	Social Science	Other Required Courses / Recommended Electives	Work-Based Learning Opportunities
SECONDARY	9		English I	Algebra I	Biology	World Geography	PE 1.5 Credits Electives	
	10		English II	Geometry	Chemistry	History	Health (.5) PE (.5) 2 Credits Electives	
	11	<i>See Science Requirements</i>	English III	Algebra II	Introduction to Horticulture (Dual Credit available)	U.S. History	PE Consumer Ed (.5) 2 Credits Electives	
	12	<i>See Science Requirements</i>	English IV		Greenhouse (recommended) or APES (optional)	U.S. Government (.5)	PE 2.5 Credits Electives	
POSTSECONDARY	First Semester (15 credits)	Hort 1100 (3) Hort 1101 (3) Hort 1110 (3) Busin 1100 or Hort 1130 (3)	English 101 (3)					
	Second Semester (11 to 17 credits)	Program Elective (1 to 6)	Speech 1100 (3)	Math 1104 (3)	Biology 1110 or 1151 or Chemistry 1211 (4 to 5)			
	Summer Term (1 to 6 credits)	Program Elective (1 to 6)						
	Third Semester (6 to 9 credits)	Program Elective (3 to 9)				Social and Behavioral Sciences (3)		
	Fourth Semester (12 to 15 credits)	Hort 2221 (3) Program Elective (3 to 6)					Humanities and Fine Arts (3)	HORT 2863 (3) Internship

Community College: College of DuPage

High School: Metea Valley High School

Program of Study: Landscape Contracting & Management A.A.S Degree

CIP Code: 01.0605

Cluster: Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

Pathway: Plant Systems

This Career Cluster Plan of Study (based on the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Career Cluster) can serve as a guide, along with other career planning materials, as learners continue on a career path. Courses listed within this plan are only recommended coursework and should be individualized to meet each learner's educational and career goals. *This Plan of Study, used for learners at an educational institution, should be customized with course titles and appropriate high school graduation requirements as well as college entrance requirements.

Education Level	Grade	CTE/Degree Major Courses	English	Mathematics	Science	Social Science	Other Required Courses / Recommended Electives	Work-Based Learning Opportunities
SECONDARY	9		English I	Algebra I	Biology	World Geography/History	PE 1.5 Credits Electives	
	10		English II	Geometry	Chemistry	History	Health (.5) PE (.5) 2 Credits Electives	
	11	<i>See Science Requirements</i>	English III	Algebra II	Introduction to Horticulture (Dual Credit available)	U.S. History	PE Consumer Ed(.5) 2 Credits Electives	
	12	<i>See Science Requirements</i>	English IV		Greenhouse (recommended) or APES (optional)	U.S. Government (.5)	PE 2.5 Credits Electives	
POSTSECONDARY	First Semester (16 credits)	Hort 1100 (3) Hort 1101 (3) Hort 1109 (1) Hort 1111 (3) Hort 1130 (3)	English 1101 (3)					
	Second Semester (16 to 17 credits)	Hort 1113 (3) Hort 2211 (3)	Speech 1100 (3)	Math 1104 (3)	Biology 1110 or 1151 or Chemistry 1211 (4 to 5)			
	Summer Term (9 credits)	Hort 1114 (3) Hort 2231 (3) Program Elective (3)						
	Third Semester (15 credits)	Hort 1112 (3) Hort 2213 (3) Hort 2241 (3) Hort 2251 (3)				Econo 2201 or 2202 (3)		
	Fourth Semester (15 credits)	Hort 2235 (3) Hort 2242 (3) Hort 2261 (3)					Humanities and Fine Arts (3)	HORT 2863 (3) Internship

Community College: College of DuPage

High School: Metea Valley High School

Program of Study: Sustainable Urban Agriculture A.A.S Degree

CIP Code: 01.0308

Cluster: Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

Pathway: Plant Systems

This Career Cluster Plan of Study (based on the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Career Cluster) can serve as a guide, along with other career planning materials, as learners continue on a career path. Courses listed within this plan are only recommended coursework and should be individualized to meet each learner's educational and career goals. *This Plan of Study, used for learners at an educational institution, should be customized with course titles and appropriate high school graduation requirements as well as college entrance requirements.

Education Level	Grade	CTE/Degree Major Courses	English	Mathematics	Science	Social Science	Other Required Courses / Recommended Electives	Work-Based Learning Opportunities
SECONDARY	9		English I	Algebra I	Biology	World Geography/History	PE 1.5 Credits Electives	
	10		English II	Geometry	Chemistry	History	Health (.5) PE (.5) 2 Credits Electives	
	11	<i>See Science Requirements</i>	English III	Algebra II	Introduction to Horticulture (Dual Credit available)	U.S. History	PE Consumer Ed (.5) 2 Credits Electives	
	12	<i>See Science Requirements</i>	English IV	Statistics	Greenhouse (recommended) or Earth Environment Science, or AP Environmental Science	U.S. Government (.5)	PE 1.5 Credits Electives	
POSTSECONDARY	First Semester (14 to 15 credits)	Hort 1100 (3) Hort 1101 (3) Hort 2308 (3)	English 1101 (3)		Biology 1110 or 1151 or Chemistry 1211 (4 to 5)			
	Second Semester (16 credits)	Hort 1141 (1) Hort 2300 (3) Hort 2305 (2)	Speech 1100 (3)	Math 1428 (3)	Biology 2150 (4)			
	Summer Term (1 to 6 credits)	Hort 1109 (1)			Earth 1135 (4)			
	Third Semester (14 credits)	Hort 1125 (1) Hort 1135 (1) Hort 2301 (3) Hort 2302 (3) Hort 2303 (2)		Math 1635 (4)				
	Fourth Semester (14 credits)	Hort 2253 (3) Hort 2304 (3) Hort 2307 (2)					Humanities and Fine Arts (3)	Hort 2383 (3) Internship

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Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006.



Survey Report

Horticulture Program

Summer 2014 - Spring 2017 Graduate Survey

September 2018

Executive Summary

The College of DuPage Horticulture Program worked with COD Research & Analytics to administer an online survey to graduates of the program who had received a degree or certificate between summer 2014 and spring 2017 (methods described in Appendix). Graduates were asked about their experiences at COD, their satisfaction with the program, and their current educational / employment status. Invitations with links to the online survey form were emailed by Research & Analytics to 67 graduates. A total of 29 graduates responded between August 2nd and 30th 2018 (43% response rate).

Overall ratings

Overall, almost all respondents were satisfied with COD. Most offered praise or positive feedback on their COD experience. Five respondents provided suggestions or observations that focused on internship requirements, program and transfer planning, and program changes.

- Overall, respondents indicated they had achieved their educational objectives at COD, with 45% reporting they fully achieved their objectives and another 38% indicating they achieved most of their objectives.
- Two respondents who only achieved some of their objectives indicated issues with course availability and course transfer.
- Most respondents indicated COD prepared them very well for their continued education (78%) or current work (68%).

Ratings of Horticulture Program

Most respondents were very satisfied with the program's equipment and facilities (86%) and instructor availability (79%). Respondents also tended to be very satisfied with course content (76%), information provided on employment trends (72%), and faculty expertise (72%).

Reason for attending COD

About 60% of graduates indicated their main reason for attending COD was to build job skills. Another 18% were taking classes for personal interest.

Current employment

Half of respondents (48%) were currently employed full time, with another 17% employed part time. Four respondents were unemployed and seeking employment. Most respondents (89%) reported their current job was somewhat or completely related to Horticulture.

- Respondents with positions related to Horticulture reported employment in landscaping (33%), park districts / forest preserves / municipalities (33%), nurseries (13%), self-employment (7%), and other business (33% - Wrigley Field, arboretum, conservation, outreach, floral design).
- Two respondents indicated they did not work in Horticulture.
- A majority of respondents (79%) reported they were very satisfied with their current job, and another 16% were somewhat satisfied.
- Just over half of respondents (58%) began their current jobs after they left the COD program.
- Most respondents reported working between 30 and 40 hours each week (67%) and being paid an hourly rate (72%). The most common income range for graduates was \$20,000 to \$39,999 (44%).

Ratings of general COD courses and services

Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with COD services beyond the Horticulture program.

- Respondents were most likely to report using the admissions and registration offices, library, records office, and information desk.
- For services they used, respondents were most satisfied with WRSA, the records office, and the library.

Detailed Summary of Responses

About 60% of Horticulture graduates indicated their main reason for attending COD was to build job skills. Another 18% were taking classes for personal interest. Seven respondents continued on at COD after receiving a Horticulture degree/certificate and two transferred to four year colleges, one continuing in Horticulture and one studying management. Most (78%) indicated COD prepared them "very well" for continued education.

What was your main objective in attending College of DuPage?

	# graduates	% graduates	
Obtain skills needed for entry into new or different job	17	61%	
Personal interest or self-development	5	18%	
Improve skills needed in current job	3	11%	
Explore courses to decide on a career	2	7%	
Take courses for transfer to another college	1	4%	
Total responding graduates	28		

What is your current educational status?

	# graduates	% graduates	
I have not been enrolled in college or university since leaving COD	19	68%	
I am currently enrolled in college*	9	32%	
I was enrolled at another college, but I am not currently enrolled	-	-	
Total responding graduates	28		

* College of DuPage (7-Associates, Horticulture, Management, Criminal Justice), Colorado State University (1-Horticulture), Devry (1-Management)

Are you attending college full-time or part-time?

	# graduates	% graduates	
Part time	7	78%	
Full time	2	22%	
Total responding graduates	9		

If you are enrolled at another college, is your field of study related to Horticulture?

	# graduates	% graduates	
Yes, related to Horticulture	5	56%	
No, not related to Horticulture	4	44%	
Total responding graduates	9		

How well would you say COD prepared you for your continued education?

	# graduates	% graduates	
Very well	7	78%	
Ok	1	11%	
Not very well	1	11%	
Total responding graduates	9		

Half of respondents (48%) were currently employed full time, with another 17% employed part time. Four respondents were unemployed and seeking employment. Most respondents (89%) reported their current job was somewhat or completely related to Horticulture.

What is your present employment status?

	# graduates	% graduates	
Employed full-time (30 hours or more per week)	14	48%	
Employed part-time (less than 30 hours per week)	5	17%	
Employed part-time but want full-time	-	-	
Full-time military service	-	-	
Unemployed, seeking employment	4	14%	
Unemployed, not seeking employment*	6	21%	
Total responding graduates	29		

*Family responsibilities (2), retired (2), moving (1), volunteer landscape expertise to community (1)

How closely is your current job related to Horticulture?

	# graduates	% graduates	
Completely related	13	68%	
Somewhat related	4	21%	
Not related*	2	11%	
Total responding graduates	19		

*Changing interests, started own business

(If related to Horticulture) In what type of company/business are you currently employed?

	# graduates	% graduates	
Landscape Company	5	33%	
Park District/Forest Preserve/Municipality	5	33%	
Other (Wrigley Field, arboretum, wedding florals, conservation, outreach)	5	33%	
Greenhouse/Nursery	2	13%	
Self Employed	1	7%	
Total responding graduates (three indicated two types of business)	15		

A majority of respondents (79%) reported they were very satisfied with their current job, and another 16% were somewhat satisfied. Just over half of respondents (58%) began their current jobs after they left the COD program.

In general, how satisfied are you with your current job?

	# graduates	% graduates	
Very satisfied	15	79%	
Somewhat satisfied	3	16%	
Somewhat dissatisfied	1	5%	
Very dissatisfied	-	-	
Total responding graduates	19		

When did you begin working in your current job?

	# graduates	% graduates	
After leaving the COD program	11	58%	
While enrolled in the COD program	6	32%	
Before entering the COD program	2	11%	
Total responding graduates	19		

Most respondents (68%) indicated that COD prepared them very well for their current work. About half (53%) indicated their COD training helped them get or advance in a job. Another 37% reported that COD training helped them improve the skills they needed for a current job.

How well would you say COD prepared you for your current work?

	# graduates	% graduates	
Very well	13	68%	
Ok	4	21%	
Not very well	2	11%	
Total responding graduates	19		

Would you say that your training at COD:

	# graduates	% graduates	
Helped you get a job or advance in a job	10	53%	
Helped improve the skills you needed for your current job	7	37%	
Was not job related	2	11%	
Total responding graduates	19		

Eighteen respondents shared their job and employer information, sixteen whose work related to Horticulture and two in other industries.

	Primary Job Title	Employer Name	Employer Location
Horticulture	NE Regional Supply Manager	Ball	West Chicago, IL
	Landscape Designer, Horticulture Consult, Owner	Botanic Designs, Inc.	Lombard, IL (60148)
	Project Manager	Conservation Land Stewardship	Elmhurst, IL
	Parks Specialist 1	Darien Park District	Darien, IL (60561)
	Designer	Jim Melka Landscaping	Mokenna, IL
	Park specialist	Naperville park district	Naperville, IL
	Public Relations, Education and Media Manager	Non-Profit: ISCCW	Watersmeet, MI (49969)
	Hinsdale Branch Enhancement Manager	Premier Services	Lemont, IL
	Annual/Perennial Grower	Schaefer Greenhouses Inc	Aurora , IL
	Administrative Assistant and Environmental Educator	The Conservation Fdn.	Naperville, IL
	Forest Therapy Guide	The Morton Arboretum	Lisle, IL
	Grower	The Morton Arboretum	Lisle, IL
	Grower	The Morton Arboretum	Lisle, IL
	Maintenance Worker	Village of Elk Grove	Elk Grove Village, IL
	Floral Designer	Walden Floral Design	Downers Grove, IL
Landscape Designer	-	-	
Non-Horticulture	Flight attendant	American Airlines	Dallas, TX
	RN	DuPage County Health Dept.	Wheaton, IL

Most respondents reported working between 30 and 40 hours each week (67%) and being paid at an hourly rate (72%). The most common income category for the recent graduates was \$20,000 to \$39,999 (44%).

On the average, how many hours do you work each week? (Do not include overtime.)

	# graduates	% graduates	
Part time (12, 20 hours)	4	22%	
Full time (30-40 hours)	12	67%	
40 hours average (March - October)	1	6%	
60 hours	1	6%	
Total responding graduates	18		

Are you paid an hourly rate or an annual salary?

	# graduates	% graduates	
Hourly rate	13	72%	
Annual Salary	3	17%	
Other	2	11%	
Total responding graduates	18		

Please select the category that best describes your annual income.

	# graduates	% graduates	
\$1 - \$9,999	1	6%	
\$10,000 - \$19,999	2	13%	
\$20,000 - \$29,999	3	19%	
\$30,000 - \$39,999	4	25%	
\$40,000 - \$49,999	2	13%	
\$50,000 - \$59,999	2	13%	
\$60,000 - \$69,999	1	6%	
\$70,000 - \$79,999	1	6%	
Total responding graduates	16		

Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with the courses and resources in their major program of study. Most respondents were very satisfied with the program's equipment and facilities (86%) and instructor availability (79%). Respondents also tended to be satisfied with course content (76% very satisfied), information provided on employment trends (72%), and faculty expertise (72%).

Please rate your satisfaction with the following items as they pertain to skills courses in your major program of study.

(Sorted by percent "very satisfied")	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Total respondents
Equipment, facilities, materials	86%	14%	-	-	29
Instructor availability	79%	21%	-	-	29
Content of courses	76%	24%	-	-	29
Information on employment trends	72%	28%	-	-	29
Job prep - faculty expertise	72%	24%	3%	-	29
Job prep - equipment available	69%	28%	3%	-	29
Preparation for further education	66%	21%	14%	-	29

Some respondents were slightly less satisfied with courses and resources outside of their major program, but a majority were still "very satisfied."

Please rate your satisfaction with the following items as they pertain to general education / other courses outside your major program of study.

(Sorted by percent "very satisfied")	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Total respondents
Equipment, facilities, and materials	77%	24%	-	-	17
Job preparation	67%	27%	7%	-	15
Content of courses	65%	35%	-	-	17
Preparation for further education	56%	31%	6%	6%	16

Overall, respondents indicated they had achieved their educational objectives at COD, with 45% reporting they fully achieved their objectives and another 38% indicating they achieved most of their objectives. The five respondents who only achieved some or few of their objectives indicated issues with course transfers and course availability.

Do you feel you achieved your educational objectives at College of DuPage?

	# graduates	% graduates	
I fully achieved my objectives	13	45%	
I achieved most of my objectives	11	38%	
I achieved some of my objectives	4	14%	
I achieved few of my objectives	1	3%	
I did not achieve any of my objectives	-	-	
Total responding graduates	29		

How could COD have done more to help you meet your objectives?

- COD could have told me that the Horticulture program classes would not transfer to a four year program. I did contact Judy Burgholzer about this when I discovered it. That said, I loved my courses at COD and thought the instructors were excellent. I enjoyed the time I spent at COD very much and learned a lot. I still do occasional landscape projects and answer horticultural questions from contacts. I so wanted to get my BA degree because I never had the chance. First generation of immigrant parents and had to go to work. No one in my family attended college.
- I am still in the program. I am satisfied with the class offerings.
- Omit any lag semesters where required courses are not offered. Include photography of design work in the courses of Floral Design, or perhaps make a practical photography course as a requirement. As a designer, you are asked to present a portfolio or even scan a digital portfolio when applying for a job. No preparation for this in three years of classes.

With regard to other COD services, respondents were most likely to report using the admissions and registration offices, library, records office, and information desk. Respondents were least likely to report interactions with Student Leadership Council and Learning Commons (Peer Tutoring, Writing, Reading & Speech Assistance). For services they used, respondents were most satisfied with WRSA, the records office, and the library.

Your assessment of COD offices and services is very important to us. Please rate each of the aspects of your COD educational experience.

(Sorted by percent "very satisfied")	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Total Respondents
WRSA	100%	-	-	-	4
Graduation department (records)	86%	10%	5%	-	21
Transcript requests (records)	82%	9%	9%	-	22
Libraries - facilities and resources	82%	14%	5%	-	22
Libraries - services and assistance	81%	14%	5%	-	21
Math Assistance Area	78%	22%	-	-	9
Peer tutoring services	75%	-	-	25%	4
Admissions office	73%	23%	4%	-	26
Registration office	69%	27%	4%	-	26
Career services center	67%	25%	8%	-	12
Student Leadership Council	67%	33%	-	-	3
Information desk	65%	30%	5%	-	20
Financial aid services	56%	33%	11%	-	9
Assessment and testing office	55%	46%	-	-	11
Student activities	44%	33%	22%	-	9
College transfer planning	44%	22%	22%	11%	9

When asked about Counseling & Advising, most respondents reported interactions with faculty advisors and receipt of general advising assistance. Most respondents (71%) were "very satisfied" with the availability of faculty advisors and half were "very satisfied" with help on program planning (57%), general advising (53%), and personal issues (50%). Respondents reported the least satisfaction with help choosing a career or major.

Your assessment of COD services is very important to us. Please rate the counseling and advising services at COD.

Total respondents = 29 (Sorted by percent "very satisfied")	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Total Respondents
Availability of faculty advisor	71%	24%	5%	-	21
Help in program planning	57%	33%	5%	5%	21
General advising assistance	53%	47%	-	-	15
Accessibility of counseling service	50%	33%	17%	-	12
Help on personal issues	50%	25%	25%	-	4
Help in choosing a career or major	38%	50%	-	13%	8

Almost all respondents indicated they were "very" (71%) or "somewhat" (21%) satisfied with COD overall. The two respondents who were "somewhat" dissatisfied shared comments about not being able to go on for a bachelor degree because class credits would not transfer and not being able to complete an associate degree due to inability to complete an internship. Most (75%) were unaware of the alumni group they could join online.

How would you rate your overall satisfaction with COD?

	# graduates	% graduates	
Very satisfied	20	71%	
Somewhat satisfied	6	21%	
Somewhat dissatisfied	2	7%	
Very dissatisfied	-	-	
Total responding graduates	28		

Did you know you can join a COD Horticulture alumni group through the COD web site?

	# graduates	% graduates	
No, I did not know	21	75%	
Yes, but I have not joined	5	18%	
Yes, and I have joined	2	7%	
Total responding graduates	28		

Please share any additional comments about your experience at College of DuPage.

11 respondents provided a comment (38%)

Full text of comments start on page 11.

	# of graduates	% of graduates
Positive Comments	6	55%
Suggestions / Observations	5	45%
Internships	2	
Program Planning / Transfer Planning	2	
Other	1	

Appendix A: Full text of comments

Please share any additional comments about your experience at College of DuPage.

Positive

- Excellent experience. Brian clement was always a huge help while attending COD.
- I was a career changer when I started taking classes at COD, and I continued to take classes while working in my industry which helped a lot in the first couple years. After getting a couple certificates and working hard at my full time job I found myself qualified to get better paying jobs in the industry. I never finished my horticulture degree but was able to get the skills I needed to advance my career. Overall, I feel I got a lot out of the horticulture department without being in school for a really long time and without spending a lot of money.
- It was through a class, Landscaping for Wildlife, that I figured out exactly in which direction I wanted to go. It was through my internship at The Conservation Fdn that I got the job I now have. The internships and job postings that are available at COD are very helpful for students seeking jobs.
- Keep your eyes and ears open. There are opportunities out there in our field.
- The campus is so beautiful and welcoming. The Horticulture Dept. made me feel at home and supported from day one! The faculty is top notch!
- While I was at COD, the hort program had just started taking off. While in the program, my personality meshed well with most of the teachers and faculty in the Horticulture program. I always knew that someone was there to help me, push me, and grow with me. Now that I am done at COD, I feel much more prepared than I thought. Brian Clement was an excellent leader and friend, and thoroughly enjoyed my stay.

Suggestion - Internships

- Be prepared, if your physically or incapable /unable to do an internship, you will not be able to go further then certificates. There's no other available option or substitution to be able to get an Associates degree without it...
- It would be nice if more horticulture certificates did not require an internship. In the alternative, a rejuvenation of the HOPE program would be nice.

Suggestion - Program Planning / Transfer Planning

- Even though I am not happy that the Hort classes weren't transferrable, I enjoyed studying plants and the friends made during that time. It was a very happy and fulfilling time spent!! This was an avocation, something I've always loved. A very positive experience and I recommend COD to everyone.
- Plan very carefully or get assistance in planning your classes to reach your educational objective. Since I was a part-time student, some of the classes that I needed to complete my horticulture degree were not offered as often as I would in order to reach my objective in a more timely manner.

Suggestion - other

- I realize that the program has changed since I graduated w/ my Hort degree. Julia was the best instructor, and Judy was great too in her more difficult classes. Sorry that neither are still there, esp. Julia and her teaching styles.

Appendix B: Methods

In August 2018, College of DuPage Horticulture program staff worked with Research & Analytics to collect feedback from graduates on their experiences at COD, their satisfaction with the program, and their current educational / employment status.

- Research & Analytics downloaded a list of 67 individuals who had received a degree or certificate from the program between summer 2014-spring 2017.
- Research & Analytics used Qualtrics to send each graduate an email invitation with a confidential link to an online survey form.
- The form included questions about reasons for attending COD, current educational status and employment, and satisfaction with COD and its resources.
- A total of 29 graduates responded to the online survey form (43% response rate) between August 2nd and 30th, 2018.