

SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CLASS TITLE: INSTRUCTIONAL LAB TECHNICIAN-HORTICULTURE

BASIC FUNCTION:

Under the direction of the Dean of Business and Technical Studies, provide quality maintenance and care of the horticultural field site and its equipment and support the instructional staff by assisting with laboratory experiences.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

Assist students in the technical aspects of lab procedures; prepare, set up, disassemble and maintain lab materials. *E*

Operate a variety of lab instruments and equipment; maintain grounds maintenance equipment and apparatus in a clean, operating and orderly condition, performing minor repairs as necessary, including minor repairs on small engines. *E*

Inventory supplies and equipment; receive, stock and maintain supplies and equipment. *E*

Prepare laboratories for student experiments as directed by faculty. *E*

Encourage the use of safety practices; maintain safety and cleanliness of area of responsibility. *E*

Maintain weed control; mix and apply insecticides, fertilizers, herbicides, fungicides and sprays. *E*

Maintain watering schedule; replace and repair sprinkler heads and install sprinkler/irrigation systems. *E*

Prepare soil mixtures or pots for potting; prepare plant material for transplanting. *E*

Train and supervise student workers as assigned.

Assist instructors in maintaining greenhouse, shade house, hydroponic house and nursery plot.

Administer First Aid as necessary.

Perform related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

KNOWLEDGE OF:

Horticultural course material and subject matter.
Greenhouse and shade house operation.
Landscape construction.
Health and safety regulations.
Fundamentals, terminology, techniques, equipment and materials used in the instruction of horticulture.
Plants, plant propagation, transplanting, growing and maintaining plants.
Proper use of fertilizers, insecticides, soil preparation materials, weed control materials and other materials used in grounds maintenance.
Irrigations systems, installation and maintenance.
Procedures, safety, measurements and equipment applicable to horticulture.
Technical aspects of field of specialty.

ABILITY TO:

Prepare and set up lab materials in an organized and timely manner.
Provide appropriate materials, equipment and supplies for the horticultural instructional program.
Administer first aid.
Recognize tests, diseases, weed species and various plants and shrubs.
Prune and trim plants and shrubs properly.
Operate, repair and service a variety of grounds maintenance equipment and tools.
Understand and follow oral and written directions.
Work independently with little direction.
Establish and maintain effective and cooperative working relationships with others.
Analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action.
Meet schedules and time lines.
Plan and organize work.
Train and provide work direction to others.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Any combination equivalent to: sufficient training and experience to demonstrate the knowledge and abilities listed above and two years of technical training and experience in the area of assignment.

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Pesticide applicators certificate; valid First Aid Certificate issued by an authorized agency.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

ENVIRONMENT:

Laboratory and horticultural field site environment.

PHYSICAL ABILITIES:

Sitting or standing for extended periods of time.

Bending at the waist.

Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate lab instruments.

Lifting heavy objects.

Hearing and speaking to exchange information in person or on the telephone.

HAZARDS:

Fumes from chemicals and hazards involved in the operation of grounds maintenance equipment.