Horticulture Technology-Specialization in Business and Entrepreneurship
Associate of Applied Science

Program Coordinator: Ben Casteel • OTC 214 • 276-739-2441

Length: Four semesters (two years)

Purpose: The Horticulture Industry is one of the fastest growing industries in the VHCC service region. The Horticulture Technology Specialization: Business and Entrepreneurship program is designed to prepare students for employment or ownership in the horticulture industry or a related field. The specialization is designed to provide training for those who are currently working in the field and wish to improve their knowledge and skills. Students will not only develop skills applicable to nursery and garden center management, but they will also develop interpersonal and business management skills.

Occupational Objectives: Graduates of the program are prepared for managerial/supervisory or ownership level positions in the horticulture industry. These areas include greenhouse and nursery management, garden center operation, sales and marketing, and related industries.

Program Requirements: The curriculum is designed to integrate courses in nursery management, greenhouse management, turf management and related areas, general education, and electives. Students are advised to follow the curriculum as outlined in the College catalog and consult with their faculty advisor or counselor in planning their programs and selecting electives. Students planning to transfer should explore opportunities with their faculty advisor or counselor. Upon satisfactory completion of the four-semester curriculum, the student will be awarded an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Horticulture Technology – Specialization in Business and Entrepreneurship.

Course Number | Course Title | Lecture Hours | Lab Hours | Credits
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**First Semester (Fall)**
HRT 100 | Introduction to Horticulture | 2 | 2 | 3
BUS 100 | Introduction to Business | 3 | 0 | 3
HRT 207 | Plant Pest Management* | 2 | 2 | 3
ENG 111 or ENG 115 | College Composition I or Technical Writing | 3 | 0 | 3
EEE | Social Science Elective | 3 | 0 | 3
SDV 101 | Orientation to College Success | 1 | 0 | 1
**Total** | | 14 | 4 | 16

**Second Semester (Spring)**
HRT 225 | Nursery and Garden Center Management | 2 | 2 | 3
BUS EEE | Business/Entrepreneurship Elective | 3 | 0 | 3
HRT 275 | Landscape Construction and Maintenance* | 2 | 2 | 3
HRT 231 | Planting Design I* | 2 | 2 | 3
EEE | Social Science Elective | 3 | 0 | 3
**Total** | | 12 | 6 | 15

**Summer Semester**
HRT 197 or 297 | Cooperative Education | 0 | 3 | 3
PED | Physical Education | 0 | 2 | 1
**Total** | | 0 | 5 | 4

Additional approved humanities and social science electives are listed at [http://www.vhcc.edu/GenEdCore](http://www.vhcc.edu/GenEdCore).

*Denotes a course with an industry-recognized credential. Students are urged to follow the recommended pathway for this degree when choosing electives.

Total Minimum Credits for AAS Degree: 66