When are classes offered?
Most courses are taught afternoons/evenings, but some day, weekend and short-term courses are also available.

How long will it take to earn a certificate?
Certificates of accomplishment can be achieved in three semesters. Certificates of achievement take at least two years if taking classes full time. The number of required units varies per certificate.

How much can I expect to earn once I complete the program?
Salaries vary from one area of interest to another, but are generally attractive for the well-trained individual in the industry. Many students go on to own and operate their own successful businesses.

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PERKINS STATEMENT This project was funded fully or in part by Carl D. Perkins Career Technical Education Act of 2006, awarded to Diablo Valley College and administered by the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office. It is the policy of Diablo Valley College not to discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or disability in all of its educational and employment programs and activities.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT The district shall not discriminate based on ethnic group identification, race, color, age, citizenship, ancestry, religion, marital status, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, medical condition, veteran status, parental status, or because a student is perceived to have one or more of these characteristics.

HORTICULTURE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

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I’m interested. What should I do now?

Horticulture information:
925-969-4231 or visit the college website: www.dvc.edu/programs

Enrollment information:
DVC website: www.dvc.edu
Admissions Office: 925-685-1310
Counseling Office: 925-969-2140

last updated: 5-17
A horticulturist develops sensitivity and awareness of the environment. There are almost limitless career options within the field, including the operation of one’s own business and opportunities in horticultural research.

What is the Horticulture Program?

Horticulturists are individuals who identify, propagate and maintain plants. They also design, install and maintain landscapes and irrigation systems. Diablo Valley College’s Horticulture Program prepares students for all aspects of work in what is often referred to as the “green industry”.

The horticulture department offers 8 certificates:
Certificates of Accomplishment:
• Tree technician
• Horticulture technician
• Nursery technician
• Landscape Design Fundamentals

Certificates of Achievement:
• Horticulture and Plant Science
• Landscape Design
• Arboriculture
• Nursery and Greenhouse

Classes cover basic botany, plant propagation/production, plant identification and use, pruning practices/arboriculture, adaptive horticulture, integrated pest management, landscape design, soil and water management, turf management, terminology, and greenhouse management.

Why study horticulture?

A horticulturist develops sensitivity and awareness of the environment, the art of regenerating healthy soils and all aspects of plant production: breeding, planting, growing and harvesting. There are almost limitless career options within the field, including the operation of one’s own business and opportunities in horticultural research. With the growing interest producing local food and in “green” environments, employment opportunities for horticulturists with expertise in all specialties continuing to expand in both private and public sectors.

What can I do with a horticulture certificate?

The Horticulture Program prepares students for numerous state licenses and industry certificates, including landscape contractor, pest control operator, nursery person, arborist, landscape technician, maintenance technician, and irrigation designer. Career choices in horticulture include: nursery technician, propagator, plant breeder, nursery manager, greenhouse grower, greenhouse manager, garden center manager, arborist/tree worker, landscape architect, landscape designer, grounds manager, landscape contractor, landscape maintenance contractor, golf course manager, pest controller/advisor. Many course credits are transferable to a four-year college or university offering an advanced degree in horticulture.

“The Horticulture Program has prepared me with many choices when I graduate, whether I move onto a four-year school, or start my own business.” - Peter Swenson, horticulture student