



ALAMO
COLLEGES

PALO ALTO COLLEGE

Program Assessment Report

Program/Award: Small & Organic Farming Certificate
Academic Year Assessed: 2012-2013
Program Lead Faculty: Kirk Williams
Department Chair: Dean Shelman

Program Learning Outcome #1	Identify, use and care for a wide variety of plants in the landscape and greenhouse, emphasizing the importance of plant selection, planting practices and proper cultural activities.
Courses in the degree plan	HALT 1303, HALT 1331
Assessment Method	HALT 1303 Written Lab Seed to Finish Project Report and HALT 1331 Written Summary Report on
Targets for Achievement	70% of assessed students satisfactorily complete written assignments.
Results	HALT 1303 - Spring 2013 - 11 of 12 students satisfactorily completed the written lab seed to finish project report = 92 % success rate. HATT 1331 - Fall 2012 - 12 of 14 students satisfactorily completed the written summary report on a Woody Plant Species = 86% success rate.
Target Met or Not Met	Met
New action plan for improvement of student learning	Ensure full access to information used to complete the written reports by utilizing LMS as a storehouse of information.
Evaluation of previous cycle's action plans	Rubric to assess each report was developed and utilized.
Program Learning Outcome #2	Use organic vegetable and fruit production practices including soil fertility management, planting, pest control, irrigation and harvesting.
Courses in the degree plan that address this outcome	HALT 1371
Assessment Method	The lab practical in HALT 1371 Organic Gardening and Farming
Targets for Achievement	70% of assessed pass the HALT 1371 Organic Gardening and Farming lab practical.
Results	2012-2013: Course was not taught in this time frame.
Target Met or Not Met	Not Met



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New action plan for improvement of student learning	Ensure full access to information used to complete the lab practical by utilizing LMS
Evaluation of previous cycle's action plans	Course not offered so it can not be evaluated.
Program Learning Outcome #3	Demonstrate management techniques of a small farm including sustainability, marketing, and maintenance of machinery.
Courses in the degree plan that address this outcome	HALT 2321, AGME 1349
Assessment Method	Final examinations in HALT 2321 Small Farming and AGME 1349 Farm and Ranch Equipment.
Targets for Achievement	Pass the HALT 2321 Small Farming and AGME 1349 Farm and Ranch Equipment finals with a grade of C or better .
Results	2012-13: Courses not offered during this time frame.
Target Met or Not Met	Not Met
New action plan for improvement of student	Develop a blue print for the final exam.
Evaluation of previous cycle's action plans	Offer classes as demand indicates. Not assessable.