



ALAMO  
COLLEGES

PALO ALTO COLLEGE

**Program Student Learning Assessment Plan/Report**

**Academic Year 2010-11**

**Program/Award: AAS Landscape and Horticultural Science**

**Program Lead Faculty: Kirk Williams**

**Department Chair:**

Outcome #1	Apply the basic principles of plant function and development emphasizing Horticultural applications.
Measures	Plant Structure and Function Lab Practical
Targets	70% of assessed students satisfactorily apply the basic principles on the lab practical in HALT 1301
Findings	<u>Spring 2011</u> Course not taught in evaluation period <u>Fall 2010</u> (Evening Lab Only) – 11 of 13 student s satisfactorily completed the plant structure and function lab practical = 85% success rate.
Assessment of Previous Cycle's Action Plan	Develop scoring guide to better measure outcome <b>(found to be irrelevant)</b>
New Action Plans	Use LMS to administer a pre-test.
Outcome #2	Perform industry standard horticultural maintenance practices such as fertilizing, pruning, mulch application, mowing and irrigation of South Central Texas landscapes and turf areas.
Measures	HALT 2318 – Fertilizer Calculations Lab Final HALT 2301 – Informal Observations of Student Performance
Targets	70% of assessed students satisfactorily apply the basic principles in selected exercises
Findings	Spring 2011 HALT 2318 – Spring 2011 - 14 of 22 students successfully completed final exam calculations for a successful completion rate of 64% HALT 2301 – All Students successfully completed these maintenance tasks under instructor observation. HALT 2318 – Fall 2009 – 6 of 7 students satisfactorily completed the fertilizer calculations lab final HALT 2301 – None can be assessed
Assessment of Previous Cycle's Action Plan	HALT 2318 – Develop scoring guide to better measure outcome (found to be irrelevant) HALT 2301 - Develop competency scoring guide for pruning and mulching operations (in process)
New Action Plans	HALT 2318 – refer students to the Math Tutoring lab for additional help HALT 2301 - Develop competency scoring guide for pruning and mulching
Outcome #3	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.



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Measures	HALT 1303 Written Lab Seed to Finish Project Report HALT 1331 Written Summary Report on Woody Plant Species
Targets	70% of assessed students satisfactorily complete written assignments.
Findings	HALT 1303-Spring 2011 13 of 16 students satisfactorily completed the written lab project report = 81% success rate. HALT 1331-was not taught in the evaluation period. HALT 1303-Spring 2010-11 of 15 students satisfactorily completed the written lab project report = 73% success rate HALT 1331-Fall 2010-13 of 14 students satisfactorily completed the written assignment = 93% Success rate
Assessment of Previous Cycle's Action Plan	Create rubric to assess each report (in process)
New Action Plans	Create rubric to assess each report
Outcome #4	Identify and manage common horticultural biotic and abiotic problems.
Measures	Responses on Test Questions in HALT 2318 and HALT 2323.
Targets	70% of assessed students satisfactorily answer selected questions
Findings	HALT 2318 – Spring 2011 – Responses to 5 questions were assessed on the final exam. 8 of 22 students satisfactorily answered the questions = 36% success rate HALT 2323 – Spring 2011 –Responses to 7 questions were assessed on the final exam. 6 of 8 students satisfactorily answered these questions = 75% Success Rate. HALT 2318 – Fall 2009 – Responses to 5 questions were assessed on the final exam. 3 of 7 students satisfactorily answered the questions = 42% success rate HALT 2323 – Summer 2010 –Responses to 7 questions were assessed on the final exam. 7 of 8 students satisfactorily answered these questions = 88% Success Rate
Assessment of Previous Cycle's Action Plan	Incorporate additional audio visual resources to ensure that students can satisfactorily complete the outcome. (completed)
New Action Plans	Change the questions on the test to reflect the visual nature of the problems.
Outcome #5	Demonstrate the design process for landscape projects.
Measures	HALT 1322 - Final Landscape Design Project



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Targets	70% of assessed students satisfactorily complete the landscape design project
Findings	Spring 2011- 16 of 18 student s satisfactorily completed the final design project = 89% success rate Spring 2010-19 Students with 16 students satisfactorily completing the final design project = 84%
Assessment of Previous Cycle's Action Plan	Refine scoring guide for final project. (Complete)
New Action Plans	Continue to monitor the success rate of students in the course. Explore possible ways to improve teaching this material.