The Horticultural Therapy Program provides students with unique opportunities to benefit the public through therapeutic horticulture and special populations through horticultural therapy. The program includes three concurrent courses with hands-on learning and two courses in ornamental horticulture. The professors can provide further supervision for students to conduct activities with clients in order to meet the required 480-hour internship towards professional registration with AHTA.

What is Horticultural Therapy?
“The engagement of a person in gardening-related activities, facilitated by a trained therapist, to achieve specific treatment goals.”

Horticultural therapy is a blooming profession offering many career opportunities. Trained horticultural therapists are in demand at hospitals/rehabilitation centers, nursing homes/retirement centers, schools/colleges, public gardens/parks, vocational/occupational training facilities, and even prisons/correctional facilities serving individuals with special needs. The benefits and applications of horticultural therapy can further be extended to general populations. (From the website of the American Horticultural Therapy Association at ahta.org)

The American Horticultural Therapy Association recognizes and registers horticultural therapists through a voluntary professional registration program. This is a peer review system that is intended to promote basic professional competencies based upon academic and professional training, work experience in horticultural therapy and other professional activities and accomplishments. For more information contact AHTA.

Job Opportunities
Hospitals
Nursing homes
Rehabilitation Centers
Halfway houses
Correctional facilities
Vocational training for special populations
Special education schools
Senior centers & assisted living centers

Delaware Valley College Professors

Dr. Mingwang Liu received his Ph.D with a specialization in horticultural therapy from Kansas State University. He teaches courses in identification, landscape use and cultivation of woody and herbaceous plants as well as in horticultural therapy at Delaware Valley College, since 2002.

Nancy A. Minich, HTR, RLA, ASLA, is a registered horticultural therapist and landscape architect. She is the principal of NAM Planning & Design, LLC. She has experience in designing therapeutic horticulture programs, preparing treatment plans for special clients in diverse facilities, providing training, supervising, and consulting in horticultural therapy. Nancy teaches courses in environmental design and co-teaches courses in horticultural therapy at Delaware Valley College.

Dr. John Martin Since 2002, he has taught courses at Delaware Valley College for over 30 years. Dr. Martin is the chairman of the Arboretum Advisory Council. He teaches courses in plant identification, culture and use, interior plantscaping, plant propagation, introduction to floral design, advanced floral design, and ornamental horticulture seminar.

Richard Cowhig, has over 25 years of experience in teaching and applied research in floral commodities. Professor Cowhig offers courses in floral crop production, greenhouse management, plant propagation, and floral techniques.
Courses are offered in the evening to accommodate working schedules.
(Accredited January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2014.)

The Delaware Valley College
Horticultural Therapy Certificate Program

Horticultural Therapy Course Descriptions

OH3237 Introduction to Horticultural Therapy: this course will provide students with educational opportunities on profound interaction of people and plants as well as benefits of horticulture on mind, body and soul. Students will learn the concept, history, principle, practice, basic skills, applied research and recent development of horticultural therapy; familiarize with physically, mentally and emotionally challenged populations in different settings including special schools and correctional facilities; take field trips to local facilities and connect with professionals in the field.

OH3250 Horticultural Therapy Techniques and Practices: this higher level course provides students in horticultural therapy with hands-on opportunities for developing horticultural techniques and skills needed to work with varied populations with special needs. Students will be supervised and trained to practice horticultural therapy techniques and gain experience in diverse settings.

OH3365 Horticultural Therapy Management: this higher level course prepares students in horticultural therapy to develop, manage, supervise and evaluate horticultural therapy programs. Students will also visit local horticultural therapy sites to learn managing and supervising experience from horticultural therapists. This course will study strategies of how to run a horticultural therapy program as a growing business.

Delaware Valley College 2010 Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Number (Credits)</th>
<th>Credit Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Horticultural Therapy</td>
<td>OH3237 (3)</td>
<td>Required for accreditation in the horticultural therapy certificate program by the AHTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horticultural Therapy Techniques &amp; Practices</td>
<td>OH3250 (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horticultural Therapy Management</td>
<td>OH3365 (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbaceous Plant Materials I</td>
<td>OH3117 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introductory Floral Design</td>
<td>OH3232 (3)</td>
<td>5 Combined credits of your choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floriculture Techniques</td>
<td>OH2014 (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14 Total Credits required for the Delaware Valley College Horticultural Therapy Certificate Program

Contact Information

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