

## Who Should Participate

- Avid amateur gardeners and plant enthusiasts
- Aspiring horticulture professionals
- Horticulture, garden design, and landscape architecture professionals

## Program Design

The program requirements include the nine core courses and 24 instructional hours of elective courses. The core courses are offered on a rotating basis over a two-year period. If you are able to take all the courses when offered, you can complete the certificate in just two years. A selection of elective courses is offered throughout the year.

OPC CORE COURSES	*PAGE #	PREREQUISITES
Botany 1	27	None
Hardy Bulbs	Spring 2010	Botany 1
Small Flowering Trees	Spring 2010	Botany 1
Ground Covers and Vines	Spring 2010	Botany 1
Deciduous Trees	19	Botany 1
Deciduous Flowering Shrubs	Spring 2009	Botany 1
Annuals and Biennials	Spring 2009	Botany 1
Herbaceous Perennials	Summer 2009	Botany 1
Conifers and Broad-Leaved Evergreens	Autumn 2009	Botany 1
FALL 2008 OPC ELECTIVES	*PAGE #	NO PREREQUISITES REQUIRED
Improving Plant Health through Organic Soil Care	24	
Pruning for Professionals	23	
Hydrangea and Hibiscus	19	
The Best of Fir, Pine, and Spruce	20	
Ferns for the Chicago Region	20	
Ornamental Grasses	20	
Maples	19	
Evaluating your Garden for Spring	21	
<i>Spiraea</i> for the Upper Midwest	21	

After completing Botany 1, all remaining core courses may be taken in any order. We recommend that you take several core courses before beginning to take electives. For the certificate, a grade of at least 70 percent must be achieved for each core course. All requirements for the certificate must be completed within five years of the start date of your first core course.

You can prove proficiency for up to 20 percent of the coursework by passing proficiency exams or providing college transcripts indicating grades of at least 70 percent for similar courses. There is no separate enrollment for the program. Just take your first course and you are on your way. Please contact Amelia Simmons-Hurt at (847) 835-8293 or [school@chicagobotanic.org](mailto:school@chicagobotanic.org) if you have questions or comments about the program or courses.

*\* Courses without a corresponding page number will be offered at a future date. Courses offered this term include a page number.*