

## **Art of Horticulture, Hort 2010**

### **Final Project Guidelines**

The final project will be a piece(s) of original work, demonstrating your evolving experience in class, as well as your perspective of what is compelling within this arena. You will have the opportunity to express yourself, and to work through the challenges of producing art in which plants are used, or are the subject. Although this is an individual project, we welcome public works and the engagement of others, with approval from the instructor.

#### **Sample projects include, but are not limited to:**

- Essay, collection of poems or other piece of garden writing.
- Detailed music composition, sculpture, or other piece of original art.
- Series of paintings or botanical illustrations.
- Batik, shibori, or tritik, or another method of making designs on cloth with plant-based dye.
- Musical instruments from plant materials.
- Tree sculpture, bonsai, turf work, topiary or piece of woven branch art.
- Working in cloth, metal, clay...the sky is the limit, as long as plants are explicitly depicted and/or a central theme for the piece.

**There will be several steps for project completion.** Please see benchmarks, below.

#### **Criteria for grading final projects:**

- Adhering to each of the steps for project completion.
- Evidence of demonstrated work over the course of the semester.
- Clearly shows the link between art and horticulture.
- Commitment to original project idea (or clear explanation of how the project evolved & why it needed to).
- Originality and creativity.
- Conveying the process clearly.
- Presentation delivery.

This is your golden opportunity not to write a paper for a final project. I encourage you to enjoy it, learn from it, and to be creative with it. The students who get the most out of this project typically select topics they have always wanted to explore; things they know they enjoy; or challenges that they actually welcome working on as a break from other studies. Bottom line: if you really enjoy it, engage with it, and gain deep learning from it, this will show.

All students will engage in a peer review of final projects, though will not grade projects. This review is intended in the spirit of helpful feedback.

#### **Final Project Benchmarks: Required Steps for Completion**

All steps below due via email on the date required, by class time, to [ME14@cornell.edu](mailto:ME14@cornell.edu)

- 1) **Project idea:** What do you hope to do, and what would you like to say you have achieved or accomplished at the end of the semester? Clearly articulate your final project idea(s) in just three or four sentences. This is an important part of the process,

since I can help to provide a reality check, if it seems that your scope is too big, amorphous, or challenging. **Due Sept 20.**

2) **Conceptual framework or approach**: Often, students have great, big ideas; within the scope of a month, you will need to focus your work so that you are able to move rapidly forward with it; it is preferable to complete a well-thought-out, succinct project than to dream up a lofty one that overwhelms you in this short time frame. In addition, an important part of your final project grade is work over the semester, not something thrown together in November. Please describe your semester-long approach in 3 to 4 sentences. **Due Sept 27.**

3) **Project staging.**

**A jpg image of your emerging work, along with a brief, 1-2 sentence description of progress, (as well any question about challenges or concerns) is due these dates:**

**October 18**

**November 1**

**November 22**

4). **Completion, and final project presentation, last day of class, November 29.**

5). **Reflection.** A self-assessment of your overall experience in the course, and a reflection about the process of creating your final project, including any gaps between your perspectives of your work, and what you learned from feedback, is due one week following the last day of class, **December 6.**

The rubric that will be used to assess your work during the final project presentation follows. All students will engage in peer review. However, only the TA and instructor will apply grading to the rubrics.

Criteria	<b>Outstanding:</b> Attention to detail as well as design and materials make obvious the extensive effort put into the project; includes all required elements; the artistic appeal emotionally affects your audience, or you, depending on your focus.	<b>Satisfactory:</b> Design is somewhat advanced and effort appears satisfactory; may be weak in 1 or 2 criteria.	<b>Needed Work:</b> Project appears thrown together or poorly executed with little aesthetic appeal; substantially weak in 3 or more elements defined in the prompt.
Reflects evidence of thoughtful effort over the semester.			
Clearly shows the link between art and horticulture.			
Originality and creativity			
Commitment to original project idea (or clear explanation of how the project evolved & why it needed to)			
Discussion of the process, including “trials and tribulations.”			
Overall presentation of the final project (presentation skills)			
Other comments?			