OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY | PROFESSIONAL & CONTINUING EDUCATION

Online Gardening Programs: Compare Your Options

Three ways to learn home horticulture from Oregon State Extension faculty, side by side.

	Short Course Series Single topics, on demand	Home Horticulture Self-Paced	Home Horticulture Instructor-Led
Price	**$45** per course	**$395** + $70 registration fee	**$490** + $70 registration fee
Start	Anytime	New dates coming soon	Jan. 8 to Apr. 8, 2027
Format	On demand, online	Self-paced, with quiz and assignment due dates	13-week online cohort, no live sessions to attend
Time commitment	4 to 6 hours per course	About 6 to 9 hours a week	3 to 5 hours a week
Course access	One year from registration	Through Dec. 31 of the calendar year	13-week term
WHAT'S INCLUDED			
Recorded video lessons from OSU instructors	✓	✓	✓
Weekly quizzes, hands-on garden assignments and a final exam	✗	✓	✓
Personalized feedback from an instructor on your assignments	✗	✗	✓
Digital Certificate of Home Horticulture	✗	✓	✓
24 NALP CEUs and 16 Oregon Landscape Contractors Board CEHs	✗	✓	✓
Refund within 48 hours of the start (minus $70 fee)	✗	✓	✓
Open to learners anywhere, no volunteer hours required	✓	✓	✓
WHAT YOU'LL STUDY			
Topics	Pick from 13 courses: Basic Botany, Soils and Fertilizer, Vegetable Gardening, Entomology, Plant Pathology, Pesticide Safety, Integrated Pest Management, Herbaceous Ornamentals, Woody Landscape Plants, Sustainable Landscape Design, Sustainable Landscape Management, Container and Small Space Gardening, PNW Native Plants	16 recorded lectures: botany and entomology; integrated pest management and pesticide safety; diagnosing plant problems; soils, fertilizers and composting; herbaceous and woody plants; vegetable and container gardening; sustainable landscape design and maintenance	13 weekly modules: soils, composting and fertilization; plant selection and landscape design; watering, pruning and season extension; pests, diseases and nutrient problems; a final project. Bonus modules on organic gardening, native plants and permaculture
A good fit if you want to	Learn one topic, or try OSU's teaching before committing	Earn the certificate on your own schedule	Earn the certificate with structure and feedback on your own garden

None of these programs lead to Master Gardener certification. To volunteer, contact your county OSU Extension Master Gardener program.

Questions? Contact **Professional and Continuing Education** at pace@oregonstate.edu or call 541-737-4197.