

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE 264 – SAFE WORK PRACTICES IN TREE CLIMBING AND ARBORICULTURE

.5 hour lecture, 1.5 hours laboratory, 1 unit

Catalog Description

Study and training in the current accepted arboricultural practices in tree climbing and tree work with a chainsaw. Course content includes safety standards and procedures for: personal protective equipment, climbing equipment identification and preparation, pre-climb tree inspection, proper use of climbing equipment, safe operation and maintenance of chainsaws. The course can be used to help with preparation for the International Society of Arboriculture Certified Tree Worker Climber Specialist Exam, and can provide Continuing Education units for those already certified.

Prerequisite

None

Course Content

- 1) Personal Protective Equipment for Climbing
- 2) Climbing Equipment: Identification and Inspection
- 3) Pre-climb Inspection: Tree and Work Area
- 4) Climbing Knots: Identification and Proficiency
- 5) Rope Installation and Ascension Techniques
- 6) Safe Practices for Chainsaw Operation and Maintenance

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Demonstrate the proper use of personal protective equipment required for climbing and working in trees.
- 2) Identify the correct sequence of steps required in a pre-climb inspection of the tree and work area.
- 3) Demonstrate correct climbing knot tying, rope installation and ascension techniques.
- 4) Identify and demonstrate safe practices for working with a chainsaw.

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Exercises, assignments and exams which measure students' ability to use approved methods in the practice of climbing arboriculture demonstrated in class meetings.

Special Materials Required of Student

- 1) Work boots (steel toe not required)
- 2) Gloves (optional)

Minimum Instructional Facilities

- 1) Smart classroom
- 2) Field site for demonstrations and lab class meeting activities
- 3) Industry accepted standard arboriculture equipment for care of trees

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lecture and demonstration
- 2) Laboratory activities

Out-of-Class Assignments

Reading assignments

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative example): *Tree Climbers' Guide*, 3rd edition, Sharon Lilly, International Society of Arboriculture, 2005.
- 2) Supplemental:
 - a. Jepson, *The Tree Climber's Companion*. 2nd edition. Access Publishers, 2000.
 - b. *Climber Safety* (TCI Pro Arborist Series, Volume 1). Tree Care Industry Association Inc., 2011.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Demonstrate the proper use of personal protective equipment required for climbing and working in trees.
- 2) Identify the correct sequence of steps required in a pre-climb inspection of the tree and work area.
- 3) Demonstrate correct climbing knot tying, rope installation and ascension techniques.
- 4) Identify and demonstrate safe practices for working with a chainsaw.