

Increasing Student Participation in a Large Class



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Can an introductory horticulture course make everybody happy?



service...
recruitment...
core

Departmental Priorities

- **Recruitment**
- **Introduction to department**
- **Provide background in horticulture**

Objectives of Introduction to Horticulture Course

- **Increase course enrollment**
- **Increase enrollment in other horticulture courses**
- **Increase number of horticulture minors**
- **Increase number of horticulture majors**
- **Horticulture as a profession**

Finding an audience

Where are our students?

- **College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (1095)**
- **College of Arts and Sciences (11,983)**
- **School of Environmental Design (416)**

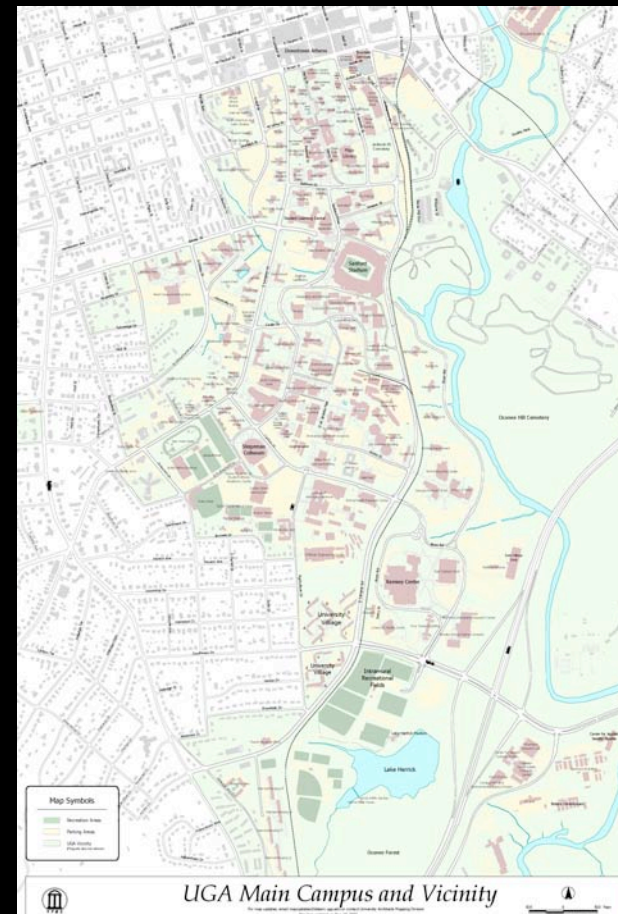
The Easy Things

**Larger classroom:
50 to 120 seats**



The Easy Things

- **Larger classroom: 50 to 120 seats**
- **Change of venue: another part of campus**



Student Learning Center



The SLC features 26 general classrooms varying in size from 24 to 280 seats (a total of 2,200 seats) and 4 state-of-the-art Advanced Learning Labs.

The Easy Things

- **Larger classroom: 50 to 120 seats**
- **Change of venue: another part of campus**
- **Better time slot: 12:00 pm to 11:00 am**

Marketing without advertising

- **All teaching professors guest lecture**
- **Links to courses and major on WebCT**
- **Introductory course pre-requisite for most other horticulture courses**
- **Shameless plugs for other courses**
- **Public service requirement**

In the Classroom

Keeping students interested and enthusiasm high in a large classroom

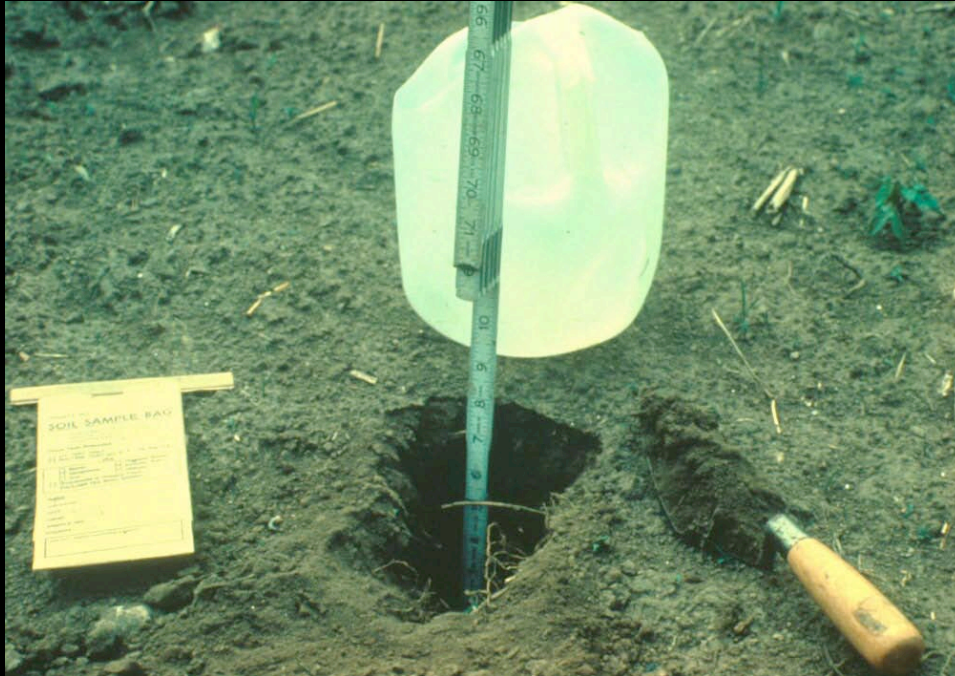
- **Change it up** (PowerPoint and the decline of human communication)
- **Outside class activities**
- **Student participation**



Food project



House plant project



Soil sample project

ANALYSES		RESULTS												
Soil pH	6.3													
Buffer pH	7.85													
Phosphorus (P)	2	Be/acre												
Potassium (K)	53	Be/acre												
Calcium (Ca)	411	Be/acre												
Magnesium (Mg)	83	Be/acre												
Zinc (Zn)	13.1	Be/acre												
Manganese (Mn)	46	Be/acre												
Copper (Cu)	1.2	Be/acre												
Boron (B)	2.3	Be/acre												
Sulfur (S)	18	Be/acre												
Sulfur		Be/acre												
Soluble Salts		ppm												
Nitrate Nitrogen		ppm												
Organic Matter		% (LOI)												
CALCULATIONS														
Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC)		Acidity			Base Saturation									
4.7 meq/100g		3.2 meq/100g			Ca	22 %	Mg	7 %	K	3 %	Na	1 %	Total	33 %
RECOMMENDATIONS														
FERTILITY (in Be/acre required)														
										LIME (in Be/acre required)				
One	N	P ₂ O ₅	K ₂ O	Ca	Mg	Zn	Mn	Cu	B	S	Target pH 5.5	Target pH 6.0	Target pH 6.5	
Highgrass Golf Green	20	30	50	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	200	200	200	
See Comments: 62, 65, 801, 821, 860														
Lowland Golf Course	40	30	50	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	200	200	200	
See Comments: 62, 65, 801, 821, 881														
Highgrass Golf Green											LIME			
See Comments: 62, 65, 432, 460, 535														
Lowland Golf Course											LIME			
See Comments: 62, 65, 442, 490, 535														



Service

2003 Results

- **Horticulture 2000 annual enrollment up from 80 to 280**
- **12 change of majors in fall '03**
- **10 sign up for minor**
- **Service participation up**
- **Great Evaluations**



Thank you!

