

# GERONTOLOGY: THERAPEUTIC HORTICULTURE ACTIVITY SPECIALIST CERTIFICATE (39 Credits)



This certificate prepares students to work as therapeutic horticulture activity specialists with diverse populations in therapeutic gardens and horticultural therapy programs within pediatric, geriatric, psychiatric, offender, vocational and medical rehabilitation, and other day or residential treatment and care facilities and activity programs. The coursework serves to enhance the skills of health and human services professionals. Finally, the certificate is appropriate for horticultural therapists, who design, implement, and evaluate therapeutic garden and horticultural therapy programs, and often work in interdisciplinary teams with occupational, physical, and recreational therapists and other health and human services professionals. When combined with a baccalaureate degree including 18 credits of human science and 18 credits of horticulture on the approved AHTA list, the certificate prepares students for designation as a Horticultural Therapist Registered (HTR) by the American Horticultural Therapy Association (see summary of current standards below).

## THAS Certificate Learning Outcomes

Students successfully completing this certificate will be able to:

- Work effectively with diverse populations in therapeutic gardens and therapeutic horticulture programs within pediatric, geriatric, psychiatric, offender, vocational and medical rehabilitation, educational, and other day or residential treatment facilities.
- Design, implement, and evaluate therapeutic garden and therapeutic horticulture programs meeting the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial needs of clients or patients, while applying professional skills and standards of the field.
- Complete the core therapeutic horticulture courses required to be registered as an HTR [Horticultural Therapist-Registered] by the American Horticultural Therapy Association when combined with required educational, continuing education and supervised work experience criteria.

## Certificate Courses and When Offered:

Course #	Type*	Course Title	Credits	Offered
GRN 165	OL	Basic Activity Director Training	2	F, Sp
GRN 166	O/R	Therapeutic Horticulture: Intro	1	Sp Only
GRN 234	OL	Intro: Dementia Care & Practice	4	F, W, Sp
GRN 267	O/R	Prof Therapeutic Horticulture	3	SU 2021
GRN 268	O/R	Therapeutic Hort Strategies	2	F-1 2021
GRN 269	O/R	Therapeutic Hort Skills I	2	F-2 2021
GRN 270	O/R	Therapeutic Hort Programming	2	W-1 2022
GRN 271	O/R	Therapeutic Hort Skills II	2	W-2 2022
GRN 272	O/R	Therapeutic Gardens	3	SP 2022
GRN 273	O/R	Interior Plants	3	Fall only
GRN 280A	V	CE: Gerontology Internship	4	All
GRN 280B	OL	Gerontology Internship Seminar	1	F & Sp
GRN 282	OL	Gerontology Professional Seminar	2	F & Sp
PSY 236	OL	Adult Development & Aging	4	All
SOC 223	OL	Sociology of Aging	4	F, Sp
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>			<b>39</b>	

For a list of Gerontology courses from the current PCC Catalog, go to the following site and search for "GRN": <http://www.pcc.edu/schedule/>

For a catalog overview of the Gerontology program, degree, certificates, and courses, go to: <http://catalog.pcc.edu/programsanddisciplines/gerontology/#text>

For PCC Gerontology Program website, to go: <http://www.pcc.edu/programs/gerontology/>

For a review of Gerontology Program Outcomes, go to: <http://www.pcc.edu/resources/academic/degree-outcome/>

**GRN 267-272** Must take in sequence, unless instructor approves. All courses in the 21-22 sequence are Online/Remote with Zoom conferencing & other enhancements. See website for details: [pcc.edu/horticulture](http://pcc.edu/horticulture).

TYPE\*: **OL** = Online with Zoom conferencing & other interactive elements. **O/R** = Online & Remote [w/scheduled Zoom meetings]. **V** = Until further notice, PCC will be offering only internships that meet Virtual Internship Guidelines (check for updates).

# HORTICULTURAL THERAPY REGISTRATION through AHTA

Students planning to apply for HTR registration should consult this link on the AHTA website: <https://www.ahta.org/registration-requirements-and-process>, for educational, internship and other requirements. All questions related to professional registration need to be addressed directly to AHTA.

**Education:** Registration as a Horticultural Therapist requires a baccalaureate degree including 12 semester credits in human science courses and 12 semester credits in horticulture approved by the AHTA. PCC offers required and elective credits in both categories, but the conversion from semester to term credits presents a challenge in terms of exact equivalency as outlined in the PDF link: “Course Titles that Support the AHTA Core Curriculum Topic Areas.” See tables below for suggestions to ensure required credits. Note that students can earn a Horticultural BS with a Horticultural Therapy Option at Oregon State University, which includes PCC’s core HT courses, but OSU’s curriculum is also in term credits. Students taking Human Science and Horticulture courses at other colleges/universities similarly need to consult with AHTA to ensure they meet AHTA standards.

**Internship:** The AHTA requires a minimum of 480 hours of field work supervised by a registered horticultural therapist for registration as an HTR. The internship credits in the THAS Certificate *can* count toward those required hours, if the AHTA internship requirements are met (<http://www.ahta.org/internships>). PCC’s Melissa Bierman can provide HTR supervision for a limited number of students, offering them group and monthly individual supervision. She can also assist students in setting up alternative supervision.

The following tables indicate suggested options for students taking courses at PCC, with the reminder that AHTA makes the final decision of what courses they will accept:

### AHTA Human Science Requirements – 18-term credits including 16 credits in the three required topic areas (must be 13.5 credits minimum):

Area	Course #	PCC Course Title	CR
General Psychology	PSY 201A and PSY 202A	Intro to Psychology –1 and Intro to Psychology –2	8
Abnormal Psychology	PSY 239	Abnormal Psychology (PSY201 prerequisite)	4
Human Lifespan Develop	PSY 215	Human Development	4
<b>Plus one 3 or 4-credit elective course from these Topic Areas</b>			
Adult Dev & Aging	PSY 236	Adult Dev & Aging	4
Group Dynamics	COMM 215	Small Group Communication	4
Counseling Theories*	AD 153	Theories of Counseling Group Counseling & Addiction	3
	AD152		3
Principles of Therapy	AD 160	Basic Counseling	4
Human Anatomy & Physiology	BI 121	Intro Human Anat/Phys I Struct & Func Human Body	4
	FT 131		4

\*AD152 and 153 are only open to AD majors.

### AHTA Horticulture & Landscape Requirements – 18-term credits including 16 credits in the three required topic areas (must be 13.5 credits minimum)\*:

Area	Course #	PCC Course Title	CR
Intro to Hort	LAT 106	Plant Anatomy & Physiology (TBD)	4
Plant Propagation	LAT 109	Plant Propagation (TBD) Interior Plants (Fall)	3
	GRN273		3
Pest & Disease Mgmt	LAT 250	Plant Disease, Insect, Weed ID (Spring) Pesticides	3
	LAT204		3
<b>Plus one 3 or 4-credit elective course from these Topic Areas</b>			
Plant Materials	HOR 226	Plant – Deciduous (Fall) Plant – Evergreen (Win) Flowering Plant ID (Spring) Summer Annuals & Peren	3
	HOR 227		3
	HOR 228		3
	HOR 272		3
Landscape Design	HOR 290	Intro/Landsc Design (Spr) Landscape Design III (TBD) Landscape Construction Practices (TBD)	3
	HOR 291		3
	LAT 111		3

\* Some HOR/LAT courses are not being offered during remote operations under COVID19. Check the schedule.

*Note: The above configurations result in a total of 19 to 20 total term credits, exceeding the AHTA standard of 18 term credits or 12 semester credits. But the need to ensure 13.5 term credits (9 semester credits) in the required topic areas, using 3 or 4 term credit classes, results in a higher total number of credits.*