Agriculture Series

The more you know, the more you'll grow!



Have you ever wondered what really makes plants grow?

Do you want to know more about the natural world?

Are you curious about biology, plants, insects or microorganisms but lack the scientific knowledge to explore any further?

This Agriculture Series is a weekly offering of classes that will help local gardeners and farmers grow their understanding of the natural world. Instructor, James Rushing will teach the science of agriculture in easy to understand terms.

The classes have been specially designed as an introduction to agricultural sciences and are suitable for all experience levels.

Only \$39 per class!

Take one class or take them all! Beginning March 26th! Call now to register, 934-2700!



Refund Policy: You are entitled to a full refund for complete withdrawal if made 5 business days prior to the first day of instruction. Thereafter refunds will not be allowed. Hawaii Community College complies with federal and state rules and regulations regarding non-discrimination, affirmative action, and educational opportunity for the disabled. Students wishing more information or to register a complaint on the basis of these rules, please contact the Director for the Office of Continuing Education & Training (OCET), 200 W. Kawili Street, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 934-2700. Students with disabilities needing assistance for a non-credit course are encouraged to contact OCET 10 days prior to the first day of instruction, (808) 934-2700.

Classes held on Wednesdays from 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Hawaii Community College Manono Campus Building 381, Room 15

Must register prior to the class, no walk-ins please.

Date March 26	Class Introduction to Soil Science	Description Students will be introduced to soil science which is the study of the development and dynamics of soil. This introduction will discuss where soil comes from and why it is important to understand what is going on in your soil. This class can help students reduce farm costs and retain top soil.
April 2	Advanced Soil Science	Students will be introduced to the biology and chemistry of soil. This class will expose you to the living, breathing diverse environment just beneath our feet. This class can help students increase the biodiversity within their soil, which improves fertility and can reduce crop pathogen occurrence.
April 9	Soil Fertility	Students will be introduced to the fertility of soil. This class will discuss the chemistry behind fertilizers and organic matter. This lecture will show you how to get the most out of your soil and fertilizers. Students benefit by learning how to properly amend their soil which can reduce farm costs, maintain a biological balanced system, and reduce environmental effects of improper amendment application.
April 16	Plant Morphology & Physiology	Students will be introduced to botany, which is the study of plants. This class will discuss various plant structures and their functions. Students who attend this class will better understand plant health which can help improve their crop yield, increase plant disease resistance, and increase the overall productivity of your crop.
April 23	Plant Nutrition	Students will be introduced to the fertility of plants. This lecture will discuss how plants take up nutrients, what nutrients they take up, and how these nutrients effect growth and development. Students who attend this class could reduce or eliminate their crop amendment cost, improve the overall health of their plants, and help reduce unnecessary negative environmental effects associated with the fertilizing of crops.
April 30	Introduction to Microorganisms	Learn about soil and plant associated microorganisms. This class will breakdown all of the confusing scientific terminology and concepts so that students can fully understand where microorganisms exist, why they exist in certain environments, and what are their functions as integral members of an ecosystem.
May 7	Soil Microorganisms	Students will be introduced soil microorganisms. This lecture will detail decomposition and mineralization of organic matter which provides nutrients to plants. Students who attend this class could reduce their cost of soil amendments, increase biodiversity of their soil, increase plant nutrient availability, reduce water usage, prevent plant pathogen occurrence, and improve soil quality.
May 14	Plant Associated Microorganisms	Students will be introduced to plant associated microorganisms. This class will discuss associations and relationships between plants and microorganisms. Students will be exposed to plant beneficial microorganisms as well as pathogens. Students who attend this class could reduce their cost of crop amendments, increase biodiversity of their farm or garden, increase plant nutrient availability, increase plant health, prevent plant pathogen occurrence, and increase crop yield.
May 21	Introduction to Entomology & Nematology	Students will be introduced to the fascinating world of insects and nematodes. This lecture will show you how to identify species, structures, and life cycles of insects and nematodes. Students who attend this class will learn how to properly identify plant pests, research the proper approach for treatment, and develop control measures that would address specific pests. This would allow some students to reduce or eliminate pesticide applications, increase the populations of beneficial insects and nematodes, and reduce the overall impact of pests on their farm or garden.