

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: HRT 130

Credits: 3

Course Title: Introduction to Biointensive Mini-Farming

Course Description: Familiarizes students, through lecture and demonstration, with small-scale food production by gardening. Covers the basics of composting and organic vegetable gardening using biointensive methods. Prerequisites: None. Lecture 3 hours per week.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

None

Course Objectives:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- a. Demonstrate applications of composting, ecosystem interactions, and intensive gardening;
- b. Interface with individuals interested in organic gardening;
- c. Communicate with confidence to clients and co-workers regarding products and techniques of organic food production; and
- d. Evaluate compost for use as a soil amendment in diverse circumstances.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. Composting of organic materials into a safe and usable soil amendment
- b. Building garden ecosystems using companion planting, succession planting, and crop rotation
- c. Vegetable production by means of biointensive cultivation practices, including spacing and equipment used

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: February 12, 2009