

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

**Course Prefix and Number: HRT 295**

**Credits: 3**

**Course Title:** Sustainable Landscape Design

**Course Description (including lecture hours, lab hours, total contacts)**

Exposes students to the concept of “Sustainable Landscape Design” as presented by the *Sustainable Sites Initiative*. Studies the *Sustainable Sites Initiative*, which provides a strong foundation for understanding the requirements, as related to site design for LEED certification. Lecture 3 hours per week.

**General Course Purpose**

The *Sustainable Sites Initiative* explains how students in the field of Horticulture can utilize a nationally shared understanding of **Sustainability Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks** to achieve more sustainably designed landscapes. Students will learn the process of site selection, pre-design assessment and planning, site design as related to water, soil and vegetation, as well as plant and hardscape selection

**Course Prerequisites/Corequisites** (*Entry-level competencies required for enrollment*)

none

**Course Objectives: Upon Completing the Course, the student will be able to:**

1. Use the shared language, process, actions and achievements of sustainable landscape design as presented through case studies.
2. Understand the terms of the nationally recognized LEED rating systems (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design - Green Building Rating Systems) for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings and green sites, as established by the USGBC (United States Green Building Council).
3. Utilize sustainable competencies in their landscape designs.

**Major Topics and Outcomes included**

1. Tested recognition of significant historic and contemporary sustainable models of design
2. Production of written and illustrated analytical critique of local project sites, successes and weaknesses
3. Design Proposal of a “re-design” of a real local site to achieve a more sustainable outcome

**Effective Date of Course Content Summary (Month, Date Year):** April 15, 2010