



VIN 212 – Winter Viticulture Technology

Date: **January 8 – March 29, 2024**¹

Instructor: Patricia Chalfant

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Semester: **Spring 2024**

Host: Missouri State University WP

Host Course No: 20735-SP24-WP

Course Credit: 2 Hours

Delivery Format: Online

¹**NOTE:** The start and end dates for this course are set to accommodate *winter vineyard operations* and do not follow the standard VESTA semester start/end dates.

Course Description: This course is designed to provide students initiated in the field of viticulture with practical experience in winter vineyard operations. Students are required to partner with an approved vineyard to participate in the required field experience component of the course which also will serve as work experience for those seeking employment in commercial viticulture.

Prerequisites: VIN 111 or instructor permission

Next Course in Sequence: VIN 214 or VIN 293

Course Objectives

Through lectures, facilitated discussions, written assignments, and field work the student who successfully completes this course will be able to:

- Identify different parts of a grapevine.
- Describe the sequence of growth events through growing and dormant seasons.
- Describe the annual and perennial growth cycles.
- Accurately identify one season old wood, diseased wood, live and dead buds, and basal buds.
- Identify vine training systems.
- Perform bud counts on single vines.
- Position renewal spurs and properly space fruiting spurs.
- Properly tie cordons.
- Explain the concept of balanced pruning.
- Calculate the number of buds to retain based on pruning weight and the appropriate balanced pruning formula for the variety being pruned.
- Prune vines using the results of the appropriate balanced pruning formula.
- Understand propagation techniques and perform at least one method of propagation.

Textbook Information

There are no textbooks required for this course. Reading materials will be assigned and posted on the online course site.

Course Schedule and Outline of Topics

Week # — Dates	Wednesday Live Class Meeting	Topics
1 01/08 - 01/14	01/10	Course Overview Review of Grapevine Anatomy Vineyard Safety
2 01/15 - 01/21	01/17	Trellis Systems and Pruning Overview
3 01/22 - 01/28	01/24	Balanced Pruning Technique
4 01/29 - 02/04	01/31	Balanced Pruning Technique - Video
5 02/05 - 02/11	02/07	Balanced Pruning in Response to Cold Injury
6 02/12 - 02/18	02/14	Pruning Young Vines
7 02/19 - 02/25	-	Watch Supplemental Videos, Work at Practicum Site
8 02/26 - 03/03	02/28	Grapevine Propagation Review for Midterm Exam
9 03/04 - 03/10	-	Midterm Exam Midterm Practicum Journal Check
10 03/11 - 03/17	03/13	Grafting
11 03/18 - 03/24	-	Pruning Project Pruning Project due
12 03/25 - 03/29	03/27	Discussion of Student Pruning Projects Complete Practicum requirements as needed Submit Practicum Journal Mentor must turn in Practicum Evaluations by the end of Week 12

The instructor reserves the right to adjust the schedule as necessary.

Instructional Format

This is an online course with a synchronous component. An online course site (Learning Management System) is provided by the host institution to provide announcements, lectures, notes, supplemental printed and web-based materials, and assignments to the students. It also serves as a central point for interaction/communication between the instructor and the students.

Live Class Meetings

The live class meetings will take place every **Wednesday from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Central Time** via the **Zoom** web conferencing system, except for weeks 7, 9, and 11. Participation in the live class meetings is *required* and a participation grade is assigned. This is an opportunity for the instructor to go over weekly topic highlights and for students to interact with the instructor and fellow students through questions and discussions. Students are expected to be prepared to ask questions and actively participate in the live class sessions.

The link to the Zoom virtual classroom will be posted in Brightspace at the top of the list of weekly modules. Students will use the *same* virtual classroom for their live class meetings the entire semester. The sessions will take place on the dates listed in the above schedule.

It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor in advance if he/she must miss a class. The recording of each live class will be available within 24-48 hours after each session for those who miss a live class.

Field Practicum

There is a required **32-hour practicum component** to this course. Each student is required to identify a vineyard and mentor that would be willing to allow the student to put into practice the theory and skills learned in class.

After identifying their mentor, the student should complete the online **Field Practicum Site Form** (link available on the course site and the VESTA website) by the end of the **second** week of the semester. Upon receipt of the form, the VESTA office will send a packet of information to the mentor explaining the field practicum, the skill sets to be completed by the student, and the mentor's role in the field experience. The packet also includes a **Student Assessment Form (SAF)** for the mentor to fill out and send to the VESTA office at the *conclusion* of the practicum.

The course schedule is designed to allow for regional differences. Therefore, students should complete the practicum hours within the specified semester timeframe. The practicum is completed when the VESTA office receives the student/trainee evaluation from the mentor.

Field Practicum Journal

In order to monitor the success of the field practicum portion of the course, students will keep an online journal detailing their experiences. Journal entries will be posted using the Blog feature provided on the online course site. Instructions are provided on the online course site. There will be a Midterm Journal Check at the end of Week 9.

Course Assignments

Course assignments include weekly lectures, readings, response to weekly discussion questions and a midterm exam. There is a pruning project to demonstrate your pruning technique. Details will be provided in class. Students are also required to keep a reflective journal for practicum activities.

Weekly Lecture and Reading Assignments: Students are required to complete the weekly lecture and reading assignments posted on the online course site by the week's live class meeting time.

Weekly Questions Discussion Postings: Your instructor will post one or two weekly questions on the online course site Discussion Board. Students are required to contact their vineyard mentor in a timely manner, find and post the answer to the question(s) for that particular vineyard. Students are encouraged to respond to other students' experiences as well.

Midterm Exam: There will be a Midterm Exam taken online through the course site during Week 9.

Pruning Project: Students will be asked to apply their knowledge of pruning practices by answering questions related to diagrams of vines of various ages and states of health. The Pruning Project is in lieu of a Final Exam.

Late Material

Late assignments will not receive any credit. The instructor reserves the right, under extreme circumstances, to make exceptions to this policy.

Expectations and Instructor Feedback

Students should participate in the weekly virtual class meetings. It is also the students' responsibility to check the online course site on a regular basis, be aware of the required activities and assignments, and adhere to the deadlines. This will ensure a successful learning experience.

The instructor will make every effort to respond to student questions and complete assignment/exam grading on a timely manner.

Grading

Student grades will be determined based on their total points earned in the class. The table below outlines the total points possible and their percentage weight.

Percentage Weight of Student Performance		
Activity	Percentage	Points
Live Class Participation	12%	120 points (at least 8 sessions for full points)
Weekly Discussions	14%	140 points (7 weeks, 20 points per week)
Midterm Exam	14%	140
Pruning Project	10%	100
Field Practicum	40%	400
Practicum Journal	10%	100
Total	100%	1000

Grade calculation: total points earned ÷ total points possible; then using the following scale to determine final letter grades:

90 – 100% = A	80 – 89.9% = B	70 – 79.9% = C	60 – 69.9% = D	Below 60% = F
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It is the students' responsibility to see that all graded assignments and exams reach the instructor in a timely fashion.

Missouri State University Institutional Policies

Withdrawing from the Course

Grades of Incomplete will not be issued. Should it become necessary to withdraw, it is the student's responsibility to do so according to MSU-West Plains guidelines which can be viewed at <http://wp.missouristate.edu/recreg/withdrawl-procedures.htm>

**Students planning to withdraw from this course must also complete the VESTA Withdrawal/Change of Schedule form and submit it to the VESTA office.*

Online Student Academic and Student Support Resources

Missouri State University-West Plains provides a full-range academic and student support for online students. To learn more about specific academic and student support and how to access the resources, go to <http://online.wp.missouristate.edu>

Attendance Policy

Missouri State University believes that students must attend class in order to achieve the best learning results. In the case of VESTA online courses, attendance is defined as active participation in the form of attending synchronous class meetings (if applicable), completing reading/writing/testing assignments by assigned deadlines, and maintaining regular communication with course instructor via the online course site and communication tools designated by the instructor. For courses with a practicum/workshop component, students must participate and complete the number of hours of practical experience required. Instructors may assign attendance grade as part of course grade if they choose to do so. MSU expects instructors to be reasonable in accommodating students whose absence from class resulted from: 1) participation in University-sanctioned activities and programs; 2) personal illness; or 3) family and/or other compelling circumstances. The University's attendance policy can be found at <http://www.missouristate.edu/registrar/catalog/attendan.html>

Make-up Policy and Special Instructions

The exams can be made up only in the event of an excused absence where the instructor has prior knowledge of the absence. Allowance of make-up tests will be at the discretion of the instructor and will be taken on the date of the student's return to class.

Title IX Policy

Missouri State University does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education program or activity that it operates, including in admission and employment. Concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment, should be referred to Melissa Berry, Title IX Coordinator, Carrington 205, 901 S. National Ave., Springfield, MO 65897, 417-836-4252, or TitleIX@MissouriState.edu. MSU has adopted a grievance procedure policy for the prompt and equitable resolution of allegations of sexual discrimination, including sexual harassment. This policy is available at the [Title IX website](#). Individuals may report an allegation of sex discrimination, file a complaint of sexual discrimination, or file a formal complaint of sexual harassment by contacting MSU's Title IX Coordinator.

Statement of Grading Policy

Faculty have the choice to utilize either the standard grade policy or the plus/minus grading option but are required to indicate their grading scale on their syllabus. The University's plus/minus grading system can be found at <http://wp.missouristate.edu/recreg/grade-policies.htm>

Academic Integrity Statement

Missouri State University is a community of scholars committed to developing educated persons who accept the responsibility to practice personal and academic integrity. You are responsible for knowing and following the university's student honor code, Student Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures, available at <http://www.missouristate.edu/academicintegrity/> and also available at the Reserves Desk in Meyer Library. Any student participating in any form of academic dishonesty will be subject to sanctions as described in this policy.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Missouri State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, and maintains a grievance procedure available to any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against. At all times, it is your right to address inquiries or concerns about possible discrimination to the Office for Institutional Equity and Compliance, Park Central Office Building, 117 Park Central Square, Suite 111, 417-836-4252. Other types of concerns (i.e., concerns of an academic nature) should be discussed directly with your instructor and can also be brought to the attention of your instructor's Department Head. Please visit the OED website at <http://www.missouristate.edu/equity/>

Statement on Disability Accommodation

If you are a student with a disability and anticipate barriers related to this course, it is important to request accommodations and establish an accommodation plan with the University. Please contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at the [Disability Resource Center website](#), Meyer Library, Suite 111, 417-836-4192, to initiate the process to establish your accommodation plan. The DRC will work with you to establish your accommodation plan, or it may refer you to other appropriate resources based on the nature of your disability. In order to prepare an accommodation plan, the University usually requires that students provide documentation relating to their disability. Please be prepared to provide such documentation if requested. Once a University accommodation plan is established, you may notify the class instructor of approved accommodations. If you wish to utilize your accommodation plan, it is suggested that you do so in a timely manner, preferably within the first two weeks of class. Early notification to the instructor allows for full benefit of the accommodations identified in the plan. Instructors will not receive the accommodation plan until you provide that plan, and are not required to apply accommodations retroactively.

Religious Accommodation

The University may provide a reasonable accommodation based on a person's sincerely held religious belief. In making this determination, the University reviews a variety of factors, including whether the accommodation would create an undue hardship. The accommodation request imposes responsibilities and obligations on both the individual requesting the accommodation and the University. Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or other assignments as a consequence of their sincerely held religious belief shall be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious observances on which they will be absent by submitting a Request for Religious Accommodation Form to the instructor by the end of the third week of a full semester course or the end of the second week of a half semester course.