

CNPS Mission:

To offer intensive classes, taught by professional botanists, horticulturalists, and gardeners, which inspire an appreciation and understanding of native plants, including identification, ecology, habitat requirements, and use in home landscape gardening.



CNPS was founded in 2009 by Dr. Larry Mellichamp, Director Emeritus of the UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens. It was one of the first such programs in the Southeast, offering a challenging curriculum focused on the knowledge and cultivation of native plants.



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Certificate in Native Plant Studies

*Designed specifically for
those interested in
the diversity and use of
native plants of the Carolinas*



Certificate in Native Plant Studies

Requirements:

To receive a Certificate in Native Plant Studies, you must have successfully completed 100 contact hours of Native Plant Studies Classes, participated in two days of CNPS Field Trips, and volunteered 30 hours in native-plant related efforts.



Enrollment in the Certificate Program is not required to take individual CNPS classes.



Benefits:

The knowledge gained from the CNPS curriculum can be applied practically whether the certificate holder is a professional gardener, landscaper, botanist, botanical artist, conservationist, amateur naturalist, or home gardener.

Upon completion of the core class, Beginning Botany, students will receive a complimentary one-year membership to the North Carolina Native Plant Society.

Annual Classes

and number of hours CNPS credit

Basic Botany, 10*

Advanced Botany, 9

Basic Ecology, 10*

Bird ID and Ecology, 6

Botanical Drawing, 3

Botanical Watercolor, 3

Fern ID, 6

Insect ID and Ecology, 9

Native Shrub ID, 6

Native Tree ID, 6

Plant Pest Diagnosis, 3-6†

Plant Propagation, 9

Sustainable Gardens, 2-12†

Wildflower ID, 6

Wildlife Gardening, 3-6†



Periodic Classes

Aquatic and Wetland Plant ID, 6

Carnivorous Plant ID and Bog Ecology, 3

Ethics of Gardening, 3

Fire Ecology in NC, 3

Herbal and Medicinal Native Plants, 6

Moss, Lichen, and Liverworts ID, 6

Mushroom ID, 6

Plant Communities of NC, 6

Plant Evolution, 3

Plant Families of the Carolinas, 15

Smart Native Landscape Design, 6

Soils, 9

Summer Perennials and Grasses, 6

Weed ID and Invasive Ecology, 6

Wild Edible Plants, 6

*Required core classes; we *recommend* these are taken early in a students' CNPS experience.

†Classes offered in a series (can be taken individually)

www.gardens.charlotte.edu



Core Instructors

UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens Staff:

Jeff Gillman, PhD Horticulture
MS Entomology
Director

Amy Tipton, MS Botany
MFA Visual Art
Assistant Director

Ed Davis, BLA (Landscape Architecture)
BFA Visual Art
Horticultural Supervisor and Landscape Architect

Additional Instructors

UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens works with ornithologists, professional landscapers, ecologists, wetland scientists, herbalists, and other native plant proponents who are knowledgeable, enthusiastic, and experienced teachers in the classroom and in the field.

Founders

Dr. Larry Mellichamp
PhD Botany & Director Emeritus

Paula Gross
MS Horticulture & Former Associate Director