

department of
HORTICULTURE

MIDWEST GARDENING CERTIFICATE OF MERIT PROGRAM (MGC)

If you are new to gardening or would like to improve your gardening skills, the Midwest Gardening Program provides the practical, learner-friendly training you seek. The courses are continuously updated to include current information and practical tips for growing a wide array of plants as well as the basics of home garden design, plant propagation, lawn care, the peculiarities of the region's soils, climate, pests, diseases and gardening heritage.

Who Should Participate

Anyone wanting to become a more successful home gardener

Program Design

The nine required courses are offered on a rotating basis over a two-year period. If you are able to take all courses when offered, you can complete the certificate in just two years.

Courses in this certificate may be taken in any order, but it is strongly recommended that you take Botany 1 and Introduction to Midwest Gardening at the first opportunity. For the certificate, a grade of at least 70 percent must be achieved for each course. All courses must be completed within five years of the start date of your first Midwest Gardening Certificate course. You can prove proficiency for up to 20 percent of the coursework by passing proficiency exams or providing college transcripts indicating grades of at least 70 percent for similar courses.

There is no separate enrollment for the program. Just take your first course and you are on your way. Please contact Julia Zanieski at (847) 835-8246 or school@chicagobotanic.org if you have questions or comments about the program or courses.

MGC REQUIRED COURSES	PREREQUISITES
Plant Propagation (B)	None
Botany 1 (B)	None
Understanding Soils (B)	None
Growing Vegetables and Herbs (B)	None
Introduction to Midwest Gardening (B)	None
Growing Fruit Trees and Berries (B)	None
Growing Ornamental Plant Materials (B)	None
Survey of Plant Disorders (I)	None
Basic Landscape Principles (I)	None