

Certificate Programs General Outline

Each certificate includes required courses that provide an opportunity to develop a fundamental understanding of the certificate topic.

Each certificate also has elective courses that allow you to customize the certificate to meet your individual goals.

There is no time limit on completion for each program. We encourage you to proceed at your own pace.

Class size is limited to facilitate interaction among students and instructors. Instructors are experienced teachers with particular expertise in their field of study.

Schedules include day, evening, and weekend class offerings to meet a variety of personal scheduling needs.

Enroll by completing the attached form to let us know of your intention to pursue a certificate. We will then track your progress towards completion.

You may enroll in certificate classes without enrolling in the certificate program.

You are responsible for selecting your schedule of classes and registering for each class. View the current classes and fees at www.sarahpdukegardens.org and then register by calling 919-668-1707

I am enrolling in the

- Master Naturalist Certificate
- Nature Photography Certificate
- Home Horticulture Certificate

Name _____

Date _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Phone _____ email _____

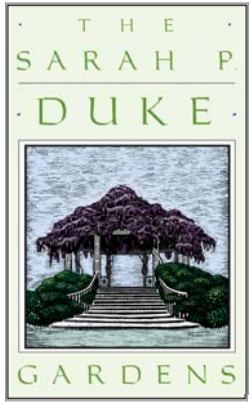
List any certificate courses you have already completed

Sarah P. Duke Gardens
Duke University
Box 90341
Durham NC 27708

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

at

Sarah P. Duke Gardens

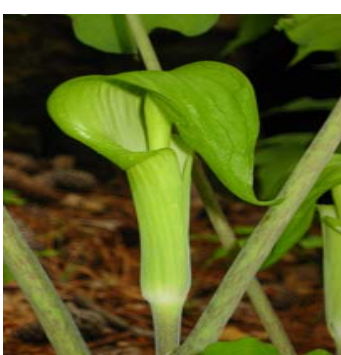
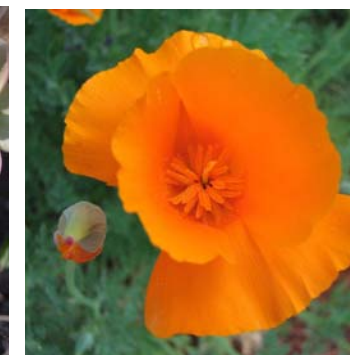


- **Master Naturalist Certificate Program**
- **Nature Photography Certificate Program**
- **Home Horticulture Certificate Program**

Sarah P. Duke Gardens is pleased to offer three certificate programs designed for the life-long learner interested in gardening, natural history, or nature photography.

The certificate programs evolved from individual requests. Students wanting a more comprehensive understanding of a topic area often ask for a list of classes that would meet their goals.

Those lists became the basis for each certificate. Each class is sufficiently rigorous to offer you challenge, increased skill, and expanded understanding of a topic that intrigues you. Enjoy.



MASTER NATURALIST CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The natural resources of North Carolina are among the most rich and diverse in the world. There is a fascinating story to be learned about how our North Carolina environment was formed and the challenges it faces today. Explore with us the geology, flora, and fauna, and marvel at the beauty of the old north state.

The goal of the Master Naturalist Certificate program is to develop your knowledge and skill about the functions of our natural world. These skills will also be useful if you volunteer in natural areas, assist with natural landscape maintenance and management tasks, or instruct others.

In response to student and instructor evaluations we have updated the certificate requirements. All continuing students will be credited for course work already completed.

The program is directed to all levels of interest, from beginning to experienced naturalist.

Required courses:

- **The Ecology of Change;** includes geology, vegetation, water cycles, human impact – 12 class hours in each of 4 classes
- **Basic Botany and Plant Growth;** 15 class hours
- **Field Studies: Local Flora;** Three seasonal courses – 12 class hours each; classroom and field experience.
- **Field Studies: Local Fauna;** includes butterflies, birds, insects, and small mammals – 9 class hours in each of 4 seasonal classes; classroom & field experience.

Elective courses:

These courses will change seasonally and two electives are the minimum required to complete your certificate. Electives are created in response to student requests, allowing students to pursue their specific interests.

Elective topics may include:

- **Mammals of North Carolina**
- **Ethnobotany**
- **Nature Writing**
- **Flowering Plant Families**
- **Nature Interpretation**
- **The Naturalist's Home Garden**
- **Recognizing Birds by Song**
- **Special topics: field trips**



NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Nature Photographers possess a unique blend of technical knowledge and artistic vision. Their skills illustrate nature and build appreciation and understanding of the natural world for us all. To share your love of nature – with an ability to capture it in an image – is exhilarating.

The Nature Photography Certificate Program will help you refine and expand your knowledge of equipment, processes, composition, and methods. You will not only increase your skill but also your awareness of the beauty of our natural world.

Photographers of all experience levels, from beginner to advanced, using any type of photo equipment (film or digital), are encouraged to enroll in this program.

Required courses:

- **Introduction to Nature Photography**
– 12 class hours
- **History of Nature Photography**
– 6 class hours
- **Learning to See in Nature**
– 12 class hours
- **Improving Photo Quality**
– 12 class hours
- **Photographing Plants**
– 12 class hours
- **Curator Basics**
– 8 class hours
- **Juried Portfolio** – submitted upon completion
- Three required courses from the Master Naturalist curriculum



Elective courses:

These courses will change seasonally and two electives are the minimum required to complete your certificate. Electives are created in response to student requests, allowing students to pursue their specific interests.

Elective topics may include:

- **Close-up Photography**
- **Photoshop for Nature Photographers**
- **Night Photography**
- **Using Light Effectively**

HOME HORTICULTURE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Each garden is a unique combination of site, soil, climate, and the individual gardener who creates it. The Home Horticulture Certificate will give you the knowledge and skill to select plants successfully, develop and grow your landscape garden, and maintain your home landscape.

The curriculum focuses on practical knowledge presented in lectures, demonstrations, field experiences, and design projects. You will master the gardening techniques best suited to North Carolina. Enjoy learning from local experts and sharing your experiences with other gardeners from your community.

Required courses:

- **Landscape Plants for North Carolina Gardens;**
Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter
Learn 150 plants useful for your garden. Class includes indoor work to introduce plants and outdoor walks to see ornamental plants in the landscape – 8 class hours each.
- **Basic Botany and Plant Growth;** Classes focus on the basic function of plants, how structure relates to function, and plant response to the environment – 15 class hours
- **Gardening 101;** Classes cover basic skills in bed preparation, soil improvement, planting, and creating your garden – 12 class hours
- **Caring for Your Landscape;** Gives you the skills to nurture your garden over time. Learn to prune, divide, and maintain your landscape plants – 12 class hours.

Elective Courses will expand your design skills and gardening knowledge. Four elective courses are the minimum required to complete your certificate. Electives are created in response to student requests, allowing students to pursue their specific interests.

Elective topics may include:

- **Landscape Design**
- **Sustainable Gardening**
- **Container Gardening**
- **Hardscape Installation**
- **Fruits and Vegetables**
- **Herbs and Cookery**
- **Irrigation Options**



The land itself reads well . . . from a lively, unfinished manuscript. Records, prophecies, mysteries are inscribed there, and changes -- always changes. Go examine for yourself the original manuscript, which begins at your front door. -- May Theilgaard Watts