



Gardening in the Desert Mastership Program

Mastership Program Mission

The Desert Botanical Garden's Mastership Programs are designed for those interested in plants and will teach about their selection and care, as well as their ecological and cultural significance.

Mastership Information

- Classes are designed for those with no previous gardening experience as well as those who have spent years working with plants.
- Mastership Programs are designed to provide students with layered, structured tracks of study that will enrich their learning experience and expand upon existing knowledge of gardening in the desert.
- Programs are presented both in and out of doors at the Desert Botanical Garden and taught by experts in desert environments.
- Students may enjoy individual classes or pursue a mastership certificate by fulfilling the guidelines below.
- Previous class credit: Students wishing to obtain a Mastership Certificate may apply previous class credit toward selected classes. To apply for credit for previous classes, please complete the *Previous Class Credit Form*. Previous credit is subject to approval.

Mastership Guidelines

- Students will be awarded a Mastership Certificate upon completion of 12 classes outlined below:
 - 4 Core classes
 - 5 Elective classes in one Mastership Track
 - 3 Additional Elective classes from any Mastership Track
- Mastership Programs can be completed within three years by taking one class per quarter; there is no time limit to complete a Mastership Program.

Core Classes

Core classes will get you started in your garden. They are introductory in nature and will help you build a solid foundation in whatever type of gardening endeavor you pursue. For students wishing to obtain a Mastership Certificate, the Garden recommends completing these four core classes prior to participating in electives within a selected mastership track. This will ensure the highest quality, comprehensive experience. Core classes may be taken in any order.

- **Design Basics**
An introduction to design concepts for creating a successful, attractive, and functional garden.
- **Native Plants – The Elegant Solution**
The benefits of using Sonoran Desert plants in your garden.
- **Caring for Your Desert Garden**
Tips on selection, planting, and caring for your garden plants.
- **Environmental Challenges of Desert Gardening**
Understanding the unique soils, climate, and water concerns in our desert environment.

Mastership Program Tracks Overview and Class Listing

For a complete schedule, descriptions, and registration logon to www.dbg.org or call 480-481-8146.

Core Classes <i>(May be taken in any order)</i>	Design Basics An introduction to design concepts for creating a successful, attractive, and functional garden.		
	Native Plants – The Elegant Solution The benefits of using Sonoran Desert plants in your garden.		
	Caring for Your Desert Garden Tips on selection, planting, and caring for your garden plants.		
	Environmental Challenges of Desert Gardening Understanding the unique soils, climate, and water concerns in our desert environment.		
Track Topics	<i>Growing Your Garden</i>	<i>Garden Design</i>	<i>Future Track Topics...</i>
Elective Classes <i>(May be taken in any order)</i>	Pruning Trees	Designing Hardscapes: Walkways Walls, and More	<i>Gardening for Wildlife</i>
	Pruning Shrubs	Designing Water Features: Home Fountains, Waterfalls, and Ponds	
	Multiplying and Dividing: Propagating Techniques	Specialty Design Gardens	
	Irrigation: Retrofitting and maintaining Irrigation Systems	Tree Selection and Placement: Conservation Strategies Explored	
	Composting	Sustainable Garden Design	
	Integrated Pest Management: Weeds, Insects, Fungi, Critters	Designing a Home Irrigation System	
	Irrigation Technology: Home Timers	Water Harvesting Designs for Landscapes	
	<i>2-Part Field Trip</i> <u>Part 1:</u> Propagation gardens and greenhouses tour at the Desert Botanical Garden: <u>Part 2:</u> Tour recommended local nurseries for great desert plants	<i>2-Part Field Trip</i> <u>Part 1:</u> Design features tour at the Desert Botanical Garden <u>Part 2:</u> Design features tour of local luxury resorts with desert landscaping	

