**Plants for Sustainable Landscapes**

**Plants for Landscape Design II**

**HORT 308 / 609 Spring 2020**

**Plants As Landscape Design Elements**

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**Changing 3-Dimensionality With Color**

- Bright colors draw the eye, bring plants to the foreground
- Darker colors (blues, purples, violets, deep greens) provide illusion of depth

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**Complementary / Contrasting Color Designs**

Opposite colors like red and green (complementary) or widely spaced like red and yellow (contrasting) on color wheel are often visually pleasing

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**Harmonizing or Adjacent Colors**

Adjacent series of colors (hues) on the color wheel often provide harmonious combinations for designs
**Tints, Tones, Shades Within a Hue**

Particularly important along with textures in tropical landscapes where greens tend to dominate.

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**Monochromatic Effects**

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**Creating Space Illusion:**

*Horizontal Lines*

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**Creating Space Illusion: Vertical Lines**
**Textural Considerations: Coarse**

Coarse textured plants grab your attention = focal points

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**Textural Considerations: Fine**

- Fine textures can be used to soften harsh lines & highlight coarser textured plants by contrast

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**Form (habit)**

- Natural shapes
- Altered states

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**Formal versus Informal**

- Formal: Texas Capital Grounds
- Informal: Texas Cottage Garden

- Formal: Structured Water Garden
- Informal: Naturalistic Pond
**Naturalizing**

Naturalistic plantings ≠ native plants

**Repetition of Plants or Hardscape**

Repeated use of a design element can provide a unifying theme

**Balance**

Can be symmetrical or asymmetrical

**Scale**

Strategies differ when designing on a grand scale
Scale

Micro-scale allows greater implementation of individual elements such as textural contrasts

Perennial / Mixed Borders

Spring emphasis is flowers, transitions to summer & autumn fruiting structures, can look rough in late summer & winter

Wildflower Meadows

Pocket Prairie
Seasonal Displays

Seasonal Accents / Focal Points
/ Specimen Plants

Knot Garden / Parterres

Containers Gardens
Bulb Displays

Hanging Baskets

Window Boxes

Formal Sheared Hedges
Topiaries

Rock Gardens

Heritage Garden Features

Arbors / Pergolas
**Green Roofs**

What do you notice first about this building, even in the dead of winter?

**Living Walls**

Images courtesy of Dr. David Byrne

**Living Walls**

Offer transition from exterior to interiorscapes and incorporation as living art

**Framing Views**

(Outdoors)