Hello and welcome to the Horticulture section at OTEN.

Our section offers courses in Amenity or Ornamental Horticulture at both Certificate 11 and Certificate 111 levels. The Certificate 11 is a prerequisite to entry into the Certificate 111.

Our Certificate 11 in 2008 is programmed to run over two semesters or one year. We will be able to take enrolments progressively throughout the year and you will be able to study at your own pace, so you may choose to complete your studies earlier by working harder, or alternatively you might prefer to spread the course over a longer period and work at a more leisurely pace.

The practical component of this course will normally be completed at a practical session conducted at a TAFE college in the Sydney region. There will be a number of these sessions during the year so you will be able to choose the time that best suits you. The practicals will be of five days duration and they will be scheduled during the week in school holiday periods. The dates for these sessions are available from this teaching section at OTEN.

If you already work in the horticulture industry, you may be able to complete the practical aspects of the course in your workplace under the supervision of a qualified horticulturist. You will need to discuss this option with the teachers in this section at OTEN. It may also be possible to do this if you live in a remote area but have access to a qualified person who is willing and able to supervise you through your practical work. This is called the Work Evidence Pathway. Please contact us if you think that you will be able to study in this way.

Most of the learning materials for this course are print based, however you will need to have reliable internet access as many of the assessments will only be available electronically or on line. Your assessments will take the form of assignments that you complete at home in your own time, tests that you will either complete on line or at your local TAFE College and practical assessments to be done either at the practical session or in your workplace.

This course will set you up to work in a variety of roles in the horticulture industry. It is general in nature and provides a very good basis for further more specialised study in any of the horticulture industries, such as production and retail nurseries; landscape construction; parks and garden maintenance; tree maintenance and even turf management.

On completion of the Certificate 11 in Horticulture, you will be eligible for entry into higher level courses either here at OTEN or at other specialist TAFE Colleges.

We wish you well in making the decision to study with us. Horticulture is an exciting and progressive industry and you will find studying by distance through OTEN both challenging and rewarding.