



Hartlebury Castle Adult Learning Programme

Royal Horticultural Society Level 2 Theory of Garden Planning, Establishment and Maintenance

Hartlebury Castle will be offering a Level 2 qualification in the Theory of Garden Planning, Establishment and Maintenance as an Approved Royal Horticultural Society Centre.

If you are looking for a new start in a horticultural career or want to delve further into garden planning for personal interest, this could be the course for you!

The qualification is ideal for those wanting a route to employment in professional horticulture, for those who are already working in horticulture who want to develop their knowledge, further study, or interested in improving practical skills. The course covers a wide range of horticultural topics and up-to-date working practices. It is designed to provide the underpinning knowledge of plants and horticultural practices. The course is part-time so particularly suitable for those with work or other commitments.

There are no entry requirements and all learners are welcome. We are committed to facilitating access to qualifications through reasonable adjustments to assessment arrangements for candidates with an identified specific need. An example of a reasonable adjustment which could be made is a large print examination paper or an application for extra time.

Dates and times –

Starting Tuesday 24th September 2019, 10:30am to 2:30pm

The course includes 30 weeks of teaching and breaks between half terms, over Christmas, and time for final study before the exams.

A break for lunch will be included each day but lunch will not be provided. The Castle has a newly built café, the Bishop's Table, that serves a delicious selection hot and cold food.

Cost -

The course costs £600, not including exam fees.

The Venue -

Hartlebury Castle is a Grade 1 listed building in the heart of Worcestershire surrounded by 43 acres of historic parkland. The grounds were left untended following the exit of the Bishop, and are only now being reclaimed by a team of dedicated volunteers. The land that



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Hartlebury sits on was granted to the Bishop of Worcester by King Burghred in the late 9th century. The foundations of the building that now stands here is believed to date back to the 13th century. Since that time, it has been a centre of ecclesiastical and administrative power in Worcestershire with its resident bishops involved in some of the major events of British history.

The Old Kitchen provides a historic learning setting in the heart of the Castle. The teaching room and the majority of the Castle and part of the grounds have level access.

The Tutor -

Judy Knight trained in Garden Design at Pershore College and has spent over 10 years designing and creating approximately 100 gardens across Worcestershire and the surrounding counties.

Since graduating, Judy has run a successful family business designing, building and maintaining a diverse range of gardens, from low maintenance urban courtyards to wildlife friendly rural landscapes. She is passionate about gardens and the positive effect a well designed outside space can have on our lifestyle and health.

She was the local coordinator for the Society of Garden Designers for 7 years and delivers talks and courses on all aspects of designing, creating and maintaining gardens.

Course content -

The Principles of Garden Planning, Establishment and Maintenance consists of four units which cover the scientific principles of horticultural practices:

- Understanding garden features, plant selection and planning
- Understanding the choice, establishment and maintenance of garden plants and lawns
- Understanding the production of outdoor vegetables and fruit
- Understanding protected environments and their use in plant cultivation

Assessment

Each unit is assessed by written examination covering all learning outcomes specified in the unit. Examinations will take place February and June 2020.

It is not mandatory to sit the examinations, but if you pass all four units you will receive an RHS Level 2 Certificate in The Principles of Garden Planning, Establishment and Maintenance.

This module counts towards the RHS Level 2 Diploma in the Principles and Practices of Horticulture.



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Guided Learning Hours

The Guided Learning Hours cover the time that the learner spends learning under the immediate guidance and supervision of a tutor and includes assessment by the tutor, as well as invigilated exams. Guided Learning Hours are always less than total qualification time, as learners are expected to complete a certain amount of study in their own time. Students should also commit to unsupervised, directed study, coursework and practice.

The recommended Guided Learning Hours for this qualification are 97. The Hartlebury Castle course includes 105 hours, not including the invigilated exam.

Learning Resources

We will provide a selection of books and other learning resources to support students. Students will also have the opportunity to explore the grounds of the Castle and undertake some practical aspects of the course in their historic setting.

There are 43 acres of grounds at Hartlebury Castle, including historic parkland, farmland, and the newly instated circular walk around the moat. The land surrounding the Castle has an interesting and chequered history – first granted to the Bishop of Worcester by King Burghred in the late 9th century, royal visitors have left their mark for centuries. The Queen Elizabeth Walk was built for its namesake to celebrate her visit accompanied by 100 guests. Charles II's choice of James Fleetwood as Bishop began an age of radical change from a ruined fortified Castle to a country mansion with a sweeping circular lawn. King George and Queen Charlotte are said to have promenaded along the orchard terrace before a crowd of 8000 people.

Over the past few decades the grounds have become somewhat of a lost wilderness, and last year work began to return them to their former glory. Although the rose gardens of Bishop Hough are yet to be restored, a huge amount of progress has taken place. There are two groups of dedicated volunteers and members of the Worcestershire Woodland Project tirelessly working to bring the gardens back to life. Students will have free access to the grounds for the duration of the course.



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