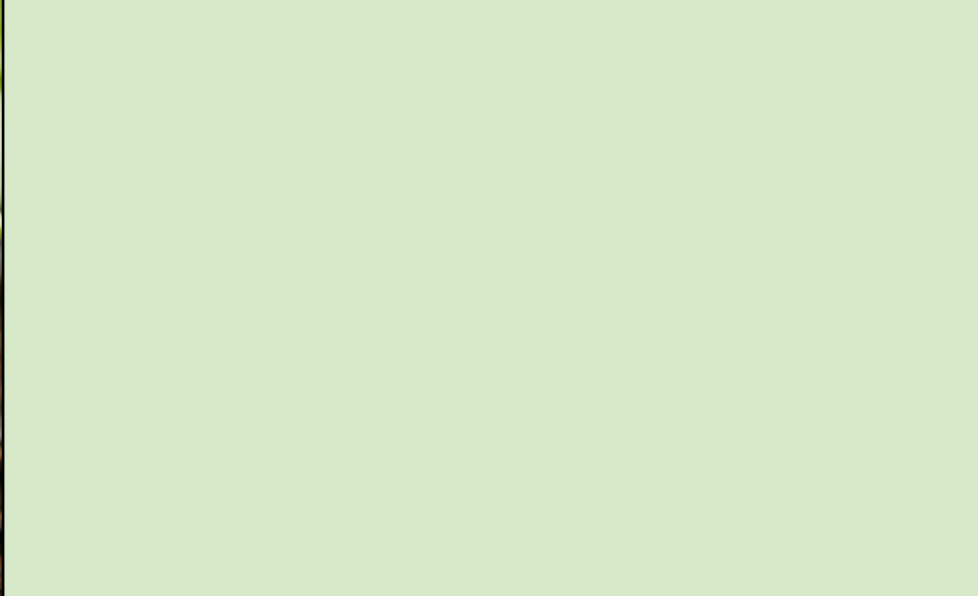


Edinburgh Garden School

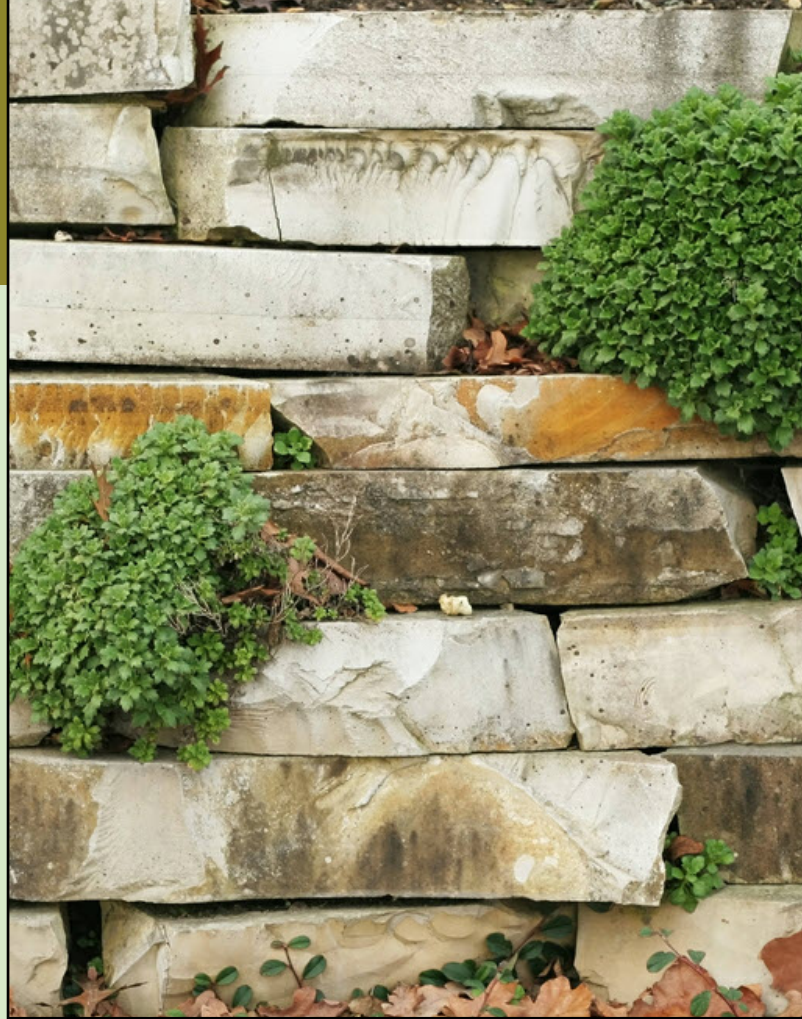


Online Training

Studying with Edinburgh Garden School allows you to fit learning around work and family commitments. You can study for leading RHS qualifications or simply learn for pleasure. Our courses can show you how to create a more beautiful garden or grow fruit and vegetables more successfully.

If you are interested in pursuing a career in this area, we can help you to prepare for internationally recognised horticulture qualifications that will get your new career off to a flying start. We also offer specialist training in garden design, healing gardens, gardening for schools, and horticultural therapy.

Our team of enthusiastic expert tutors is always available to offer advice, support and encouragement. Online tutor support is available between 9am and 9pm every day, including weekends, so that you can get the support you need as soon as you need it. No waiting for an email reply or letter.





Careers in Horticulture

Horticulture offers a wide range of career opportunities, meaning that whatever your age or level of ambition, there's sure to be a job to suit you! Possibilities range from running your own gardening business or working as a gardener in a large public garden to running a plant nursery or training as a garden designer

“There are 18.5 million gardeners in the UK spending more than £2,000 million a year on plants and gardening products.”

Each of the following areas offers a range of career options:

- commercial horticulture
- amenity horticulture
- parks and gardens
- landscape design and architecture
- nursery/garden centre management
- plant propagation
- horticultural sciences
- research
- sports turf management
- journalism and media.

Horticulture also offers plenty of opportunity for career progression, with the possibility of promotion to management positions or supervisory posts for those who are keen to take their career to the next level.



The Horticulture Industry

Horticulture is a huge industry and the largest employer in the UK. There are a wide variety of jobs in the commercial and environmental sectors as well as in research and journalism.

It's estimated that there are around 13,000 production horticulture businesses, employing around 70,000 people. They range in size from small self-employed designers and private nurseries, to large international organisations employing hundreds of people in different locations.

You could find yourself growing and potting up seedlings or undertaking international marketing; you could be travelling in search of rare and unusual plants or creating CD-ROM's; you could be designing a back garden or creating a nature reserve; designing a golf course, managing glasshouses or selling pot plants at the nursery gate or garden centre, or moving grown trees.

Commercial Horticulture?

Commercial horticulture covers the production of ornamental plants, vegetables, salads, fruit and flowers both outdoors and under protection of glass or plastic. Production, harvesting

and storing of vegetables is highly mechanised and merges into food technology. Plants are grown under strictly controlled conditions using sophisticated sensors, computers. Biological control of pests and diseases is common. Horticulturists are also employed by the major supermarkets as buyers.

Marketing skills are in demand for competition to sell to garden centres and other large companies is high.

Amenity Horticulture

Amenity horticulture helps to improve the quality of everyone's life be it in public or private areas. Horticulturists may be called in to advise, design or maintain private gardens or may be concerned with landscaping, managing or maintaining public parks, open spaces, roadside plantings or sports grounds.

Practical Experience

Practical experience is invaluable if you are considering a career in horticulture. Informal experience in your own garden or allotment is an important starting point. You can also develop your horticultural skills by taking part in community projects, by organisations such as Britain in Bloom, BTCV and Trees for Cities. These projects offer a great opportunity to learn

from experienced gardeners and are a good way of getting hands-on experience. In addition, many larger RHS and botanic gardens and stately homes offer volunteer schemes too.

What qualifications do I need?

There are a number of different qualifications that are recognised in the horticultural industry, from BTECs, NVQs and SVQs, to RHS certificates, diplomas and degrees. At Edinburgh Garden School we offer online courses leading to RHS certificates. These are accessible and easy to fit around work and family commitments. You might also choose a more traditional college course. A good starting point is to research what is on offer at local colleges and universities. Because there are so many different options, you should be able to find a course that suits your budget, your available study time and one that will give you a good grounding in horticulture.

“Once you have completed your horticultural education there are a number of routes available. People don't realise quite how vast the horticultural sector is. You can come in and be a journalist, a scientist, work in gardens, sports fields or arboriculture. It's very varied.”

~ Tim Hughes, RHS

RHS Qualifications

The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) is the UK's leading gardening charity, respected around the world as the foremost authority on gardening and horticulture issues.

The RHS are also committed to research into horticultural science and plant trials. They also offer garden advice and education, and run a series of well-regarded gardens, flower shows, including the Chelsea Flower Show, and gardening events.

RHS qualifications are recognised by employers, universities and the general public. They are highly regarded for the quality and depth of knowledge that successful students attain.

Edinburgh Garden School offers a full range of RHS qualifications, allowing you to study for world-recognised qualifications and get your horticulture career off to a flying start. Advanced RHS qualifications are also a good choice for students who are already working in horticulture and would now like to formalise their knowledge and experience, or progress their career to the next level.

The tutorial team at Edinburgh Garden School works with students right up to successful completion of their certificates.

CERTIFICATES

The RHS Level 2 Principles of Horticulture is the most popular RHS Certificate - a good entry qualification and very popular with employers. The certificate gives you a strong, broad grounding in horticulture and is ideal if you are considering a career change, or considering going on to higher level study. It's also a popular choice among keen amateurs.

The RHS Level 3 Certificates are advanced level qualifications ideal for students already working in horticulture who would like to move to the next level. They are also a good choice for students who have a lot of experience or horticultural knowledge, but don't yet have a formal certificate.

“My tutor was a huge help in the run up to the exams - especially when I had a little wobble the day before. It's years since I took an exam, but thanks to all the preparation and my tutor's support, I passed first time. Ecstatic is an understatement.”





Level 2 Principles of Horticulture

This is the most popular Level 2 qualification, widely recognised across the horticulture industry as a strong entry-level qualification. It is a good starting point for a career in gardening, propagation, fruit and vegetable growing, garden design and many other areas of the horticulture industry. It is also a popular option for keen amateur gardeners eager to learn more about their hobby.

You can also choose to study for just half of the Level 2, earning a shorter certificate: Level 2 Plant Growth, Propagation and Development or Level 2 Garden Planning, Establishment and Maintenance.

Study topics covered include: plant selection and garden planning; establishment and maintenance of garden plants and lawns; soils and growing media; pests and diseases; production of outdoor vegetables and fruit; understanding and managing protected environments; plant classification; plant structure and function; identification and nomenclature; the biology of plants; plant nutrition and the root environment; maintaining plant health; weeds, pests and diseases; managing the growing environment; and plant propagation.

Level 3 Principles of Plant Growth, Health and Applied Propagation

This is an advanced course, ideal for those wishing to take their career in professional horticulture to the next level. It focuses on soil management, disease, pest control, and plant propagation.

The course is also a good choice for students wishing to launch a new career in horticulture at an advanced level, and provides a good foundation for higher education.

Study topics covered include: plant propagation; health and safety; growing media and plant nutrition; plant anatomy and physiology; plant health; important pests, diseases and disorders; soil science; effective cultivation techniques; the root environment; plant taxonomy



"I've now worked with EGS for over three years, and in that time I've completed both my Level 2 and the Level 3 Plant Growth. The tutor support and learning material have been amazing - it's great to work with tutors who love the subject and have a really good industry knowledge. They can also offer a lot of useful advice about the RHS exams and exactly what the examiners are looking for."

Ashley Hughes

Level 3 Principles of Garden Planning, Construction and Planting.

This is an advanced qualification, ideal for students wishing to pursue a career in professional horticulture, with a focus on amenity planting, large-scale garden design, accessible and sustainable design, and urban planting.

Again, it is a good choice for students wishing to launch a new career in horticulture at an advanced level, or go on to degree level study.

Study topics covered include: garden survey techniques; design principles; selecting and understanding landscaping elements; setting out and construction of landscaping elements; specialist design elements; urban planning.



Garden Design Diploma

Edinburgh Garden School offer a comprehensive online course designed to give you the skills and knowledge you need to work professionally as a Garden Designer.

You'll work through carefully structured material to develop your understanding of design principles and learn how to apply them in practical situations. You'll also learn how to work with clients and market your garden design services effectively. Throughout the course, you'll work with an expert tutor who is an experienced garden designer.

Carefully Designed to Meet Your Training Needs

In preparing this course we followed guidelines on preferred course content from the Society of Garden Designers (SGD) closely. As a result the course has a strong emphasis on practical design

work, but also covers essential garden design theory. Students can join the SGD as student members whilst studying the course and once they have completed they may work towards full designer membership.

Course Summary

Subjects covered include: practical garden planning and design; key design techniques; latest trends in garden design; selecting new materials and techniques; understanding soil; working with clients; harmony and cohesion; creating a sense of place; key styles – Minimalist, Mediterranean, Urban and Oriental; materials and styles; assessing the site; selecting and arranging plants. With many garden plans and three-dimensional design sketches.

www.gardendesigncourse.net

Learning for Pleasure

As well as our professional training courses, Edinburgh Garden School offers a range of shorter, more focused courses for students who would like to learn more about specialist areas of gardening, horticulture or garden design. These courses lead to the award of a Certificate of Course Completion - there are no exams for these courses.

Introduction to Horticulture is a great starting point for absolute beginners - it provides a gentle introduction to the key principles, with lots of practical ideas that you will be able to use day-to-day in the garden, and is also an excellent foundation for further study.

Organic Gardening shows you how to apply organic principles in your garden and greenhouse! This course explores principles of organic gardening in depth, and considers how these ideas can be applied in practice.

Wildlife Gardening shows you how to turn your garden into a wildlife haven. It is ideal for keen wildlife gardener who would like to learn how to plan and maintain a garden that is a haven for wildlife.

Visit our website to learn more about our full range of courses:

www.edinburghgardenschool.com

OTHER COURSES

The Edinburgh Garden School team also offers a range of specialised training opportunities in the areas of horticultural therapy, garden design and gardening for schools.

.....
Horticultural Therapy explores the social and emotional aspects of gardening, and the design of healing and sensory outdoor spaces. It includes many practical ideas and suggestions.

.....
www.horticultural-therapy.org

.....
Healing Garden looks at ways in which a garden can be designed to create healing and harmony in our lives, contributing to emotional, mental, physical and spiritual well-being.

.....
www.horticultural-therapy.org

.....
Gardening for Schools provides an in-depth introduction to the development of a school garden and the integration of gardening into the curriculum, with many practical ideas and suggestions. It also explores social and emotional aspects of gardening, and considers the planning, design and maintenance issues.

.....
www.edinburghgardenschool.com







The RHS

The Royal Horticultural Society, or RHS as it is usually known, was founded in 1804 by Sir Joseph Banks and John Wedgwood. It was originally called The Horticultural Society of London and its aims were to collect information about plants and promote improved horticultural techniques.

The society adopted its current name in 1861, under the guidance of Prince Albert.

In 1903, Sir Thomas Hanbury presented a garden at Wisley in Surrey to the Society as

a new experimental garden. Wisley remained the Society's only garden for 80 years and is perhaps still its most well-known. In 1987 the RHS received its second garden, Rosemoor in Devon, from Lady Anne Palmer.

In 1993 Mr and Mrs Dick Robinson made a gift of Hyde Hall garden in Essex and finally, in 2001 the RHS amalgamated with the Northern Horticultural Society, taking over the running of Harlow Carr in North Yorkshire.

- Work towards recognised qualifications.
- Plan your study around family and work commitments.
- Work through carefully planned course material that includes everything you need to successfully complete your course.
- Receive support from expert, encouraging tutors, available 7 days a week by instant chat or email.
- If your course includes an exam, receive revision support, including the opportunity to complete past exam papers, right up to the day of your exam.

How Our Courses Work

Online learning means that we deliver the course material to your in-box and you can then save it to your computer or print it off for reading at your leisure. You do not need to be online to work through your course material.

Studying Your Course

You work through course materials written by expert horticulturists and send your assignments to a qualified personal tutor for feedback on your work. You can also contact your tutor at any stage if you need additional help or advice. If you're completing an exam course your tutor will work with you right up to exam day, answering questions during revision, and if you wish, completing past exam papers as extra assignments.

Each course has been designed to be easy to follow and includes a set number of assignments. The course materials give full guidance on how to prepare and complete each one.

What is Included in the Course Fee?

The course fee includes everything you need to complete your course: full study material, supplementary reading, and full tutorial support. If there is an exam at the end of your course, we'll also provide past exam papers and your tutor will continue to work with you right up to the day of your exam.

How Much Tutor Support is Included?

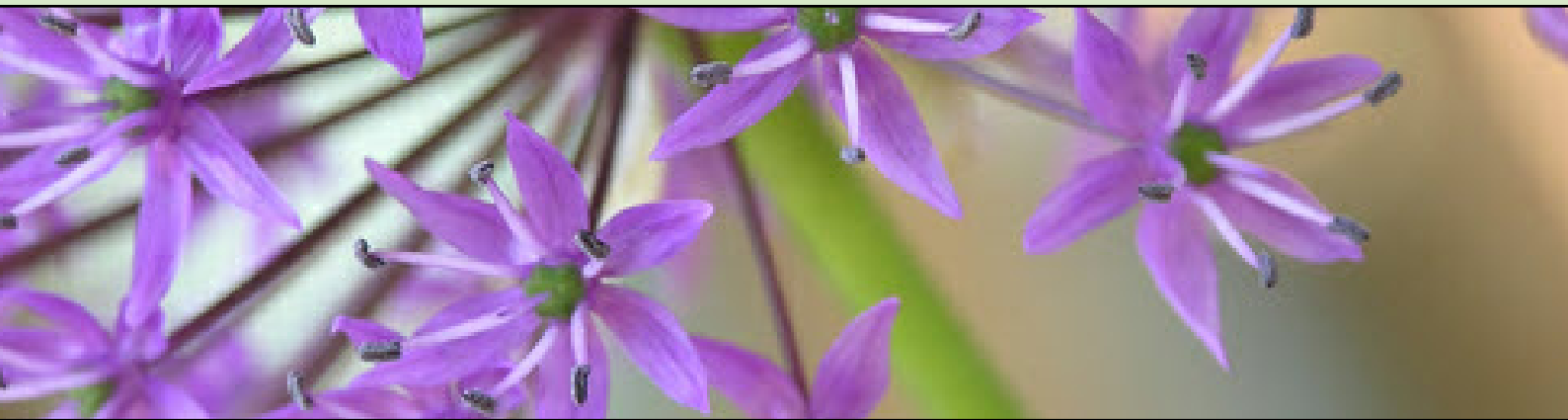
When you become a student you're assigned an expert personal tutor who you can contact at any time by email and who will work with you throughout your course. A member of your tutorial team is also available by instant chat between 9 am and 9 pm, 7 days a week, to answer any questions you might have at time to suit you. If you choose an exam course, your tutor will work with you all the way through revision up to exam day.

TESTIMONIAL

I've really enjoyed completing the RHS Level 2 course, the study material is easy to follow and my tutor was always patient and encouraging. I work long hours during the growing season, so I often needed to speak to a tutor quite late in the evening or at the weekend. The instant chat service was real boon because it meant I could speak to a tutor as soon as I needed advice, even if I was working on my course at odd hours, which I usually was! I'm now planning on studying for the Level 3!

.....
Katy Ridley
.....





Edinburgh Garden School

Leader Cottage
Nether Blainslie
Galashiels

admin@edinburghgardenschool.com

www.edinburghgardenschool.com