



ARBORIST TECHNICIAN

Associate in Applied Science (AAS)
Program Code: 10-001-5
Total Credits: 60-61

Mid-State's Arborist Technician graduates enter the workforce with real-world knowledge and skills. Our students learn the fundamentals of pruning, plant health care, tree planting and maintenance, plant identification, and tree risk assessment. Our unique aerial component gives our graduates experience working safely in the trees.

Estimated tuition and fees: mstc.edu/programcosts

ACADEMIC ADVISOR

To schedule an appointment with an academic advisor, call 715.422.5300. Academic advisors will travel to other campuses as necessary to accommodate student needs. For more information about advising, visit mstc.edu/advising.

CHECKLIST:

This section will be completed when meeting with your academic advisor.

- ☐ FAFSA (www.fafsa.gov)
- ☐ Financial Aid Form(s)
Form(s): _____
- ☐ Follow-Up Appointment:
Where: _____
When: _____
With: _____
- ☐ Official Transcripts
Mid-State Technical College
Student Services Assistant
1001 Centerpoint Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54481
- ☐ Other: _____



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ADAMS CAMPUS
401 North Main
Adams, WI 53910

MARSHFIELD CAMPUS
2600 West 5th Street
Marshfield, WI 54449

STEVENS POINT CAMPUS
1001 Centerpoint Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54481

WISCONSIN RAPIDS CAMPUS
500 32nd Street North
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

CAREER PATHWAY • BEGIN AT ANY POINT



CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE

- Certifications and Licenses
- High School Credit
- Military Experience
- National/Standardized Exams
- Transfer Credit
- Work and Life Experience

Learn about Credit for Prior Learning at mstc.edu/cpl.

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (AAS)

ARBORIST TECHNICIAN

Associate in Applied Science (AAS) • 60-61 Credits

Start Your Career

- Arborist (commercial, utility, government)
- Landscape Contractor
- Plant Health Care Technician
- Apprenticeship

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

BACHELOR'S DEGREE OPTIONS

Arizona State University, Bellevue University, Colorado State University Global, Concordia University, Franklin University, Grand Canyon University (GCU), Lakeland University, Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE), Mount Mary University (MMU), Northern Michigan University, University of Phoenix, UW-Green Bay, UW-Oshkosh, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stevens Point at Marshfield, UW-Stout, UW-Whitewater, Western Governors University, and Wisconsin Private-Nonprofit Universities/Colleges.

For more information and additional opportunities, visit mstc.edu/transfer.

OTHER OPTIONS

RELATED PROGRAMS

- Agribusiness Agronomy Technician
- Agribusiness Science and Technology
- Farm Operation

APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Arborist Apprenticeship

Employers will expect you, as an Arborist Technician graduate, to be able to:

SAMPLE FULL-TIME CURRICULUM OPTION

Term		14 credits
10001118	Landscape Plant Identification ☑	2
10001124	Arborist Skills Introduction	2
10001133	Chainsaw Safety and Operation	2
10001173	Pruning for Structure ☑	2
10801196	Oral/Interpersonal Communication ☑ -or-	
10801198	Speech ☑	3
10806184	Plant Biology	3

Term		16 credits
10001102	Plant Health Care Applicator ☑	2
10001108	Electric Systems & Safety in Arboriculture	1
10001110	Tree Biology	2
10001111	Intro to Horticulture	2
10001125	Arboriculture Operations 1	2
10001150	Workplace Communication in Arboriculture	1
10806112	Principles of Sustainability	3
10809166	Intro to Ethics: Theory & Application ☑	3

Term		16-17 credits
10001105	Dendrology and Silvics	3
10001126	Arboriculture Operations 2	2
10001127	Arboriculture Operations 3	2
10001199	Fish, Forest, and Wildlife Management	3
10801136	English Composition 1 ☑	3
10804107	College Mathematics ☑	3
	-or-	
10804118	Intermediate Algebra with Applications ☑	4

Term		14 credits
10001103	Applied Arboriculture & Urban Forestry	2
10001113	Ornamental Plant Health Care	3
10001149	Ecology for Arboriculture	3
10001198	Soil & Water Resources	3
10809188	Developmental Psychology ☑ -or-	
10809198	Intro to Psychology ☑	3

Total credits 60-61

☑ This course has options available to receive credit for prior learning (CPL) or work experience. Visit the website at mstc.edu/cpl or contact your advisor for details.

Please Note:

- This curriculum sequence is only for student planning. Actual student schedules will vary depending on course availability.
- Program completion time may vary based on student scheduling and course availability. For details, go to mstc.edu/schedule.

SAMPLE PART-TIME CURRICULUM OPTION

Term		8 credits
10001118	Landscape Plant Identification ☑	2
10001124	Arborist Skills Introduction	2
10001133	Chainsaw Safety and Operation	2
10001173	Pruning for Structure ☑	2

Term		7 credits
10001125	Arboriculture Operations 1	2
10001108	Electric Systems & Safety in Arboriculture	1
10001150	Workplace Communication in Arboriculture	1
10806112	Principles of Sustainability	3

Term		6-7 credits
10806184	Plant Biology	3
10804107	College Mathematics ☑	3
	-or-	
10804118	Intermediate Algebra with Applications ☑	4

Term		9 credits
10001102	Plant Health Care Applicator ☑	2
10001110	Tree Biology	2
10001111	Intro to Horticulture	2
10809166	Intro to Ethics: Theory & Application ☑	3

Term		7 credits
10001126	Arboriculture Operations 2	2
10001127	Arboriculture Operations 3	2
10801196	Oral/Interpersonal Communication ☑ -or-	
10801198	Speech ☑	3

Term		6 credits
10001113	Ornamental Plant Health Care	3
10809188	Developmental Psychology ☑ -or-	
10809198	Intro to Psychology ☑	3

Term		9 credits
10001105	Dendrology and Silvics	3
10001199	Fish, Forest, and Wildlife Management	3
10801136	English Composition 1 ☑	3

Term		8 credits
10001103	Applied Arboriculture & Urban Forestry	2
10001149	Ecology for Arboriculture	3
10001198	Soil & Water Resources	3

Total credits 60-61

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Applied Arboriculture & Urban Forestry

10001103.....2 credits

Students gain familiarity with techniques & methods used in the management of trees & tree populations. This course also serves to create an awareness of arboriculture career paths.

Prerequisites: Pruning for Structure 100001173 and Tree Biology 100001110

Arboriculture Operations 1

10001125.....2 credits

Emphasizes practice of skills associated with being safe & productive members of crews engaged in basic tree work/ arboricultural operations. Topics include introductory elements of pruning & removal techniques, equipment operations, & work site set-up.

Prerequisites: Arborist Skills Introduction 10001124 and Pruning for Structure 10001173

Arboriculture Operations 2

10001126.....2 credits

Builds upon the skills & topics of Arboriculture Operations 1. Students will participate as safe & productive members of crews engaged in an intermediate level of arboricultural operations skills development.

Prerequisites: Arboriculture Operations 1 10001125, Chainsaw Safety & Operation 10001133

Arboriculture Operations 3

10001127.....2 credits

Builds upon the skills & topics of Arboriculture Operations 2. Students will participate as safe & productive members of crews engaged in an advanced level of arboricultural operations skills development.

Prerequisite: Arboriculture Operations 2 10001126

Arborist Skills Introduction

10001124.....2 credits

Introduction to the basic techniques, safety requirements, & equipment employed by arborists engaged in tree care operations. Topics include aerial tree work methods, industry safety standards, equipment operations, rope usage, risk recognition, & introductory tree biology.

Chainsaw Safety and Operation

10001133.....2 credits

This course will familiarize students with common chainsaw practices employed within the arboricultural industry, including safe operation, routine maintenance, common cutting techniques, and use of personal protective equipment. Students will operate and maintain chainsaws. Additionally, field exercises will simulate tree removal operations.

College Mathematics

10804107.....3 credits

Designed to review and develop fundamental concepts of mathematics pertinent to the areas of: 1) arithmetic and algebra; 2) geometry and trigonometry; and 3) probability and statistics. Special emphasis is placed on problem solving, critical thinking and logical reasoning, making connections, and using calculators. Topics include performing arithmetic operations and simplifying algebraic expressions, solving linear equations and inequalities in one variable, solving proportions and incorporating percent applications, manipulating formulas, solving and graphing systems of linear equations and inequalities in two variables, finding areas and volumes of geometric figures, applying similar and congruent triangles, converting measurements within and between US and metric systems, applying Pythagorean Theorem, solving right and oblique triangles, calculating probabilities, organizing data and interpreting charts, calculating central and spread measures, and summarizing and analyzing data.

Prerequisite: High School GPA of 3.0 or Accuplacer Arithmetic of 250 and QAS 234 or ACT of 17 or Pre-Algebra 10834109 with a grade of "C" or better or equivalent. Students are encouraged to bring transcripts for further evaluation if they do not meet these requirements.

Dendrology and Silvics

10001105.....3 credits

Provides the student with an understanding of how trees interact with their environment and with one another, at different spatial and temporal scales. Builds on concepts from botany and ecology with an emphasis on woody plant systematics and silvics. Tree identification is a major component of this course.

Prerequisite: Landscape Plant Identification 10001118

Developmental Psychology

10809188.....3 credits

Studies human development throughout the lifespan and explores developmental theory and research with an emphasis on the interactive nature of the biological, cognitive, and psychosocial changes that affect the individual from conception to death. Application activities and critical thinking skills enable students to gain an increased knowledge and understanding of themselves and others.

Prerequisite: High School GPA of 3.0 or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 236, Writing of 237 or ACT of 15 Reading/ 16 Writing. Students are encouraged to bring transcripts for further evaluation if they do not meet these requirements.

Ecology for Arboriculture

10001149.....3 credits

Introduces the basic principles of ecology and their application to management of natural resources. The scientific method and interactions between and among species are examined. Lab exercises are designed to give hands-on experience with measurement and data collection, preparation of technical reports, use of library resources, use of computer models, and development of critical thinking skills.

Prerequisite: Plant Biology 10806184

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Electric Systems & Safety in Arboriculture

10001108.....1 credit

Students will gain familiarity with electrical distribution and transmission system hardware identification. Industry safety best practices and standards related to performing tree work near energized conductors will be explored.

English Composition 1 ☑

108011363 credits

Designed for learners to develop knowledge and skills in all aspects of the writing process. Planning, organizing, writing, editing, and revising are applied through a variety of activities. Students analyze audience and purpose, use elements of research, and format documents using standard guidelines. Individuals develop critical reading skills through analysis of various written documents.

Prerequisite: High School GPA of 3.0 or Accuplacer Writing of 262 or ACT of 20 or College Reading and Writing 110831104 with a "C" or better or equivalent. Students are encouraged to bring transcripts for further evaluation if they do not meet these requirements.

Fish, Forest, and Wildlife Management

100011993 credits

Provides an integrated introduction to principles and practices of fisheries, forestry, and wildlife management, including production of goods and services while maintaining ecosystem integrity and functions. Emphasizes contemporary issues.

Intermediate Algebra with Applications ☑

108041184 credits

This course offers algebra content with applications. Topics include properties of real numbers; order of operations; algebraic solution for linear equations and inequalities; operations with polynomial and rational expressions; operations with rational exponents and radicals; and algebra of inverse, logarithmic, and exponential functions.

Prerequisite: High School GPA of 3.0 or Accuplacer Arithmetic of 263 and QAS 234 or ACT of 19 or QAS of 245, or Pre-Algebra 10834109 with a grade of "C" or better or equivalent. Students are encouraged to bring transcripts for further evaluation if they do not meet these requirements.

Intro to Ethics: Theory & Application ☑

108091663 credits

Provides a basic understanding of the theoretical foundations of ethical thought. Diverse ethical perspectives are used to analyze and compare relevant issues. Students critically evaluate individual, social, and/or professional standards of behavior, and apply a systemic decision-making process to these situations.

Prerequisite: High School GPA of 3.0 or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 236, Writing of 237 or ACT of 15 Reading/16 Writing. Students are encouraged to bring transcripts for further evaluation if they do not meet these requirements.

Intro to Horticulture

10001111.....2 credits

Provides an overview of the science and profession of horticulture. Its role and importance throughout history, current trends, and careers are covered. Particular attention is given to horticultural crops, plant growth, and plant development.

Intro to Psychology ☑

108091983 credits

This science of psychology course is a survey of multiple aspects of behavior and mental processes. It provides an overview of topics such as research methods, theoretical perspectives, learning, cognition, memory, motivation, emotions, personality, abnormal psychology, physiological factors, social influences, and development.

Prerequisite: High School GPA of 3.0 or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 236, Writing of 237 or ACT of 15 Reading/16 Writing. Students are encouraged to bring transcripts for further evaluation if they do not meet these requirements.

Landscape Plant Identification ☑

10001118.....2 credits

Introduces students to woody trees/shrubs and herbaceous plants commonly used in residential and commercial landscapes in Wisconsin. The three plant groups covered in this course are woody trees/shrubs, herbaceous perennial plants, and herbaceous annual plants. Identification, installation, and maintenance are covered for each plant group.

Oral/Interpersonal Communication ☑

108011963 credits

Focuses on developing effective listening techniques and verbal and nonverbal communication skills through oral presentation, group activity, and other projects. The study of self, conflict, and cultural contexts will be explored, as well as their impact on communication.

Prerequisite: High School GPA of 3.0 or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 236, Writing of 237, or ACT of 15 Reading/16 Writing. Students are encouraged to bring transcripts for further evaluation if they do not meet these requirements.

Ornamental Plant Health Care

10001113.....3 credits

Classification and identification of important ornamental plant insects, diseases, and abiotic agents is presented, emphasizing their modes of plant damage. Diagnostics, damage assessment, sample preparation, and control strategies are introduced.

Prerequisites: Landscape Plant Identification 10001118 and Plant Health Care Applicator 10001102

People, Resources, and Sustainability

100011483 credits

Explores the relationship between the human population and natural resources over time, and the effect this relationship has on the biosphere. Global resources, environmental concerns, and the human dimensions of resource management are explored from biological and socioeconomic perspectives.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Plant Biology

108061843 credits

This lecture/laboratory course provides students with an in-depth study of the plant kingdom. The content includes, but is not limited to, plant cell anatomy and physiology, plant genetics, plant classification, plant anatomy and physiology, plant responses, plant life cycles, and ecology. A survey of viruses, prokaryotes, protista, and fungi as they pertain to plants is presented.

Plant Health Care Applicator ☑

100011022 credits

Focuses on training to successfully pass the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture and Consumer Protection's pesticide applicator exam (which will be proctored in this class). Additionally, students are familiarized with chemical handling, mixing, calibration, and application via field exercises.

Principles of Sustainability

108061123 credits

Prepares the student to develop sustainable literacy, analyze the interconnections among the physical and biological sciences and environmental systems, summarize the effects of sustainability on health and well-being, analyze connections among social, economic, and environmental systems, employ energy conservation strategies to reduce the use of fossil fuels, investigate alternative energy options, evaluate options to current waste disposal and recycling in the U.S., and analyze approaches used by your community to promote and implement sustainability.

Pruning for Structure ☑

100011732 credits

Focuses on the art and science of tree pruning. Topics include tree structure, introductory biology, pruning cuts, and young tree training. Students will gain hands-on experience performing tree pruning.

Soil & Water Resources

100011983 credits

Introduces the student to integrated concepts of soil and water resources at the landscape level. Examines physical, chemical, and biological interactions relating to watershed processes and response to land use and management.

Prerequisite: Plant Biology 10806184; Corequisite: General Chemistry 10806134

Speech ☑

108011983 credits

Explores the fundamentals of effective oral presentation to small and large groups. Topic selection, audience analysis, methods of organization, research, structuring evidence and support, delivery techniques, and other essential elements of speaking successfully, including the listening process, form the basis of this course. Bring transcripts for further evaluation if they do not meet these requirements.

Prerequisite: High School GPA of 3.0 or Accuplacer Reading of 253, Writing of 262, or ACT of 21 Reading/19 Writing, or completion of College Reading and Writing 1 10831104 with a "C" or better or equivalent.

Tree Biology

100011102 credits

This course provides an overview of the major structures and functions of woody plants. The overall objective is to provide a basic understanding of these complex organisms, equipping you with a solid foundation to diagnose myriad health & structural abnormalities you'll encounter. Major course themes include plant functions, physiology, adaptations, root systems, planting, & basic risk assessment.

Workplace Communication in Arboriculture

100011501 credit

This course introduces students to the key concepts of effective and impactful communications in the arboriculture industry. Students will investigate the diversity of commonalities and differences among people and how they relate to improving personal and organizational effectiveness at work.