

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN HORTICULTURAL THERAPY– 2023

1 INTRODUCTION

Horticultural therapy is defined as the engagement of a person in gardening and plant-based activities, facilitated by a trained therapist, to achieve specific therapeutic treatment goals. Horticultural therapists are specially educated and trained members of rehabilitation teams (with doctors, psychiatrists, psychologists, occupational therapists and other) who involve the client in all phases of gardening, from propagation to selling products, as a means of bringing about improvement in their life.

This course is designed to introduce students to the growing field of Horticultural Therapy in which gardens and garden based activities are designed to support the physical, mental and social health of individuals. The course will explore a range of aspects of both garden and activity design such as understanding client needs, rehabilitation, special care community, working with all senses and catering for mobility issues. Students study the theory and history of horticultural therapy, and gain experience developing plans and therapeutic activities for a variety of client populations, as well as how best to engage clients in garden based therapeutic activities. Students will also learn about designing facilities for special populations and getting started in establishing and managing a horticultural therapy practice. This coursework will be a foundation for those considering a career in Horticultural Therapy (HT).

Course Objective

- a. To understand the history and practices of Horticultural therapy.
- b. To design and implement Horticultural Therapy to the targeted population activities.
- c. To distinguish the difference between therapeutic, vocational, and social programs.
- d. To learn to set up a Horticultural Therapy garden

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course in horticultural therapy, students will:

- a. Be able to explain the delivery models and systems used in settings where horticultural therapy is currently practiced and where it is emerging as a service
- b. Have achieved entry-level competence through a combination of academic and fieldwork education
- c. Be prepared to articulate and apply horticultural therapy theory and evidence-based evaluations and interventions to achieve expected outcomes
- d. Uphold the ethical standards, values, and attitudes of the horticultural therapy profession
- e. Understand the distinct roles and responsibilities of the horticultural therapist
- f. Be prepared to advocate as a professional for the horticultural therapy services offered and for the recipients of those services
- g. Be prepared to be an effective consumer of the latest research and knowledge bases that support practice and contribute to the growth and dissemination of research and knowledge

2.

The course is offered on cost sharing basis and all students have to pay the fees as stated below. No fee concession will be given by the University to any type /class of students other than SC/ST/PwD students. The details of course is given below:

a.	Name of Course	PG Diploma in Horticultural Therapy
b.	Name of Institution	College of Agriculture, Vellayani, Thiruvananthapuram
c.	Number of seats	15 (Fifteen)
d.	Duration of Course	One year (Two Semesters)
e.	Eligibility	BSc Degree in Agriculture, Horticulture, Community Science, Home Science, Nursing, Environmental Science, Education, Special Education, Botany, Psychology, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Audiology & Speech Language Pathology, Social work, Occupational therapy, Physiotherapy
f.	Fee Structure	
	Admission Fee	Rs. 2,000/- (at the time of admission)
	Caution Deposit (Refundable)	Rs. 2,000/- (at the time of admission)
	Semester Tuition Fee	Rs. 25,000/- (per semester, at the time of registration of each semester)
	Late Registration Fee	Rs. 200/- per day up to 5 working days
	Additional late Registration fee (upto 10 working days of registration)	Rs. 500/- per day exceeding 5 working days
	Fee for repeating a course	Rs.4000/- for one course
	Fee for registering as Re-exam course	Rs. 2,000/- for one course
	Re-registration fee after discontinuance	Rs.4,000/-
Fee for Revaluation/scrutiny of answer paper	Rs.200/- per paper	
g.	Medium of Instruction	English
h.	Residence	Candidates have to make own arrangements for boarding and lodging

** The fee will be subject to revision from time to time at the discretion of the University.*

3. SELECTION

The selection of candidates will be based on an Entrance Exam conducted by KAU. The questions will be objective type. The centre of entrance examination will be decided by the University in accordance with the number of applicants. Allotment to the course will be based on the rank list published by the University.

Community reservation as per Kerala Government rules will be followed. Candidates claiming community reservation shall produce the documents like community/non-creamy layer certificates from the designated revenue officials at the time of submission of the filled in application form.

The Select list and waiting list will be published in the KAU website and the candidates will be admitted in accordance with their rank on the date and time of admission published by the University in the website. No individual communication will be sent to any candidates in this regard. The candidates should scrupulously watch the website to know their tenure of admission. Any further claim in this regard will not be entertained.

4. SYSTEM OF TEACHING AND EVALUATION

Semester system of teaching and internal evaluation will be followed.

5. HOW TO APPLY

- (a) Log on to website www.admissions.kau.in
- (b) Download the Prospectus for admissions to Post Graduate Diploma Programmes 2023-24 and read it carefully to understand eligibility criteria and other requirements for submission of online application.
- (c) Go to the link “Candidate Registration” and open the same.
- (d) Fill all the details, password and Upload images of photograph (JPEG format) at Step-1 of the application and register. After registering note down the Register Number (eg;- KAU*****).
- (e) After Registration Go to the link “Candidate Login” and open the same.
- (f) Login with your Register Number and Password to process the Step - 2.
- (g) Fill all the family, education, communication details, and make payment of fee through online by using “SB COLLECT” .

Application Fee payable by the Candidates of Various Categories:

Community	Fees
General/Unreserved	Rs. 1000/-
SC/ST/PwD	Rs. 500/-
Applicable Service/Processing charges & GST are to be paid by the candidate	

- (h) Enter the details of the fees paid and submit the application to complete the Step-3.
- (i) Take print out of Confirmation page(s) at Step-4 of online application form and preserve it for future reference along with copy of proof of fee deposited.

**Note: 1. If a candidate fail to submit the above said documents the application is liable to be rejected.
2. Documents sent along with the application will not be returned under any circumstances.**

(*) The time schedule may change in accordance with the decision of the University and the same will be updated in the KAU Website.

6. GENERAL CONDITIONS:

- a. The online submission of application form is available in the website www.admissions.kau.in. The candidates should complete all the required details while filling up the online form. On submission of details and required fee, a Confirmation Page with Application Number will be generated.
- b. Before filling and submitting the Online Application Form, candidates should download the Prospectus and read them carefully. Candidates must follow the instructions strictly as given in the Prospectus. Application Forms not complying with the instructions are liable to be rejected.
- c. Mode and Method of Payment of Fee

Application fee can be paid online by using the internet facility “SB COLLECT” of State Bank of India for which a link will be provided in the admission portal and an online Payment Receipt will be generated. Application fee can be directly remitted at any of the branches of State Bank of India by showing the chalan generated through “SB COLLECT” and an online receipt of payment will be issued by the bank. **Any other mode of payment will not be accepted.**

- d. The candidate should produce all the original documents required by the University **at the time of admission** for verification purpose, failing which, their candidature for admission will be forfeited.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS TO BE PRODUCED AT THE TIME OF ADMISSION

- Aadhar Card in original and its copy.
- Original certificates to prove educational qualification (SSLC, +2, Degree)
- Community/Non-creamy layer certificate (NCLC) in case of reservation candidates other than SC/ST
- Community Certificate (for SC/ST candidates only)
- Certificate in proof of age
- Certificate of disability from the District Medical Board certifying the percentage of degree of disability (for claiming reservation under Physically Disabled category).

Note: Further details will be provided in the announcement for admissions.

Candidates should also remit the amount of fees on the date of admission itself. Fee once paid will not be refunded under any circumstances. The claims regarding excess remittance, wrong remittance etc. will not be entertained at any circumstances for refund of the amount.

- e. The communal reservation will be allowed only to the candidates of Kerala natives.
- f. The SC/ST students are exempted from remitting the Tuition Fee and Special Fee.
- g. **If an applicant applied in the General Category, he/she will be treated as General, even if he/she is in the reservation quota.**
- h. The candidates should have passed the qualifying examinations before the last date fixed for the receipt of application in the University.

- i All those who took admission and discontinued the course shall be liable to pay liquidated damages to the University as directed by the authorities.
- j The Registrar, Kerala Agricultural University or the officer entrusted by him with the work of admission on his behalf is entitled to refuse admission to candidates if they are not satisfied with the correctness or genuineness of any certificates filed by them along with the application. The decision of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor on this behalf will be final.
- k The Registrar, Kerala Agricultural University is competent to close the admission at any date after the commencement of 1st semester of course.
- l The student should report at the concerned college on the date mentioned in their Bio-data cum Admit Card. Failure to report at the college on the date without prior permission will lose the admission of candidate without further notice.

7. PENALTY FOR FALSE INFORMATION

Any candidate who is found to have willfully or otherwise given any particulars which are false or has suppressed material information or does not satisfy the requisite qualification for admission shall be disqualified. They shall not be allowed to continue on the rolls of the University, if it is detected at any stage of his/ her studentship in the University. In case the candidate has already passed out of the University, then the Diploma awarded by the University will be withdrawn.

8. REJECTION OF APPLICATION AND DISQUALIFICATION OF CANDIDATES

- a. Applications received late or defective or incomplete in any manner or which do not contain any of the enclosures specified above are liable to be summarily rejected.
- b. Applicants who attempt to canvas or influence the authorities in any manner directly or otherwise will be disqualified.

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

A list of candidates selected for admission and the dates on which they have to remit the fees and join the course will be published in the website www.admissions.kau.in.

10. ADMISSION

- a. Candidates selected will be admitted to the course, provided that they have remitted the prescribed fees in full and produce all original documents on the due date specified.
- b. In the case of those candidates selected for admission who have not paid the fees in time and not joined the course on the date specified, their claims for admission will be cancelled without any notice and the seat thus becoming vacant will be filled up with other eligible candidates, if any, in the rank/wait list.
- c. Candidates in Government / Quasi-Government/ University service joining the course, will make their own arrangements to get relieved from their positions in time.
- d. **Candidates should produce the original certificates in proof of age, qualifications, Transfer Certificate, Conduct Certificate and physical fitness (medical) certificate obtained from a Medical officer not below the rank of Assistant Surgeon.** Candidates who have passed their qualifying examination outside Kerala state should produce Migration Certificate within one month of admission.

11. RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

On campus residence is not compulsory. The students themselves shall arrange for their boarding and lodging.

12. An amount of Rs. 25,000/- will be levied as liquidated damages from the students who discontinue the course after the close of admission during the current year or the subsequent years. SC/ST/OEC candidate are exempted from this condition.

Note:- The course will be offered only if at least 50% of students take admission during the Academic Year.

Time Schedule*

		(Tentative)
1	Online Application Submission begins on	24.07.2023
2	Last date for submission of online application including fee payment	20.08.2023
3	Issue of Admit Card	Will be announced later
4	Entrance Examination	
5	Date of Publication of Rank List	
6	Date of Admission	
7	Date of Registration	
8	Classes begin	

* The time schedule may change in accordance with the decision of the University and the same will be updated in the KAU website.

Dr. S. GOPAKUMAR
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION