

# SKETCHING AND PLANT IDENTIFICATION

UCLA EXTENSION

SPRING 2022

INSTRUCTOR: DAVID W. SQUIRES

Student:

## Course Description:

Students participate in four (4) all day site visits to observe and sketch 4 - 5 plant species from those locations. The spring quarter students visited:

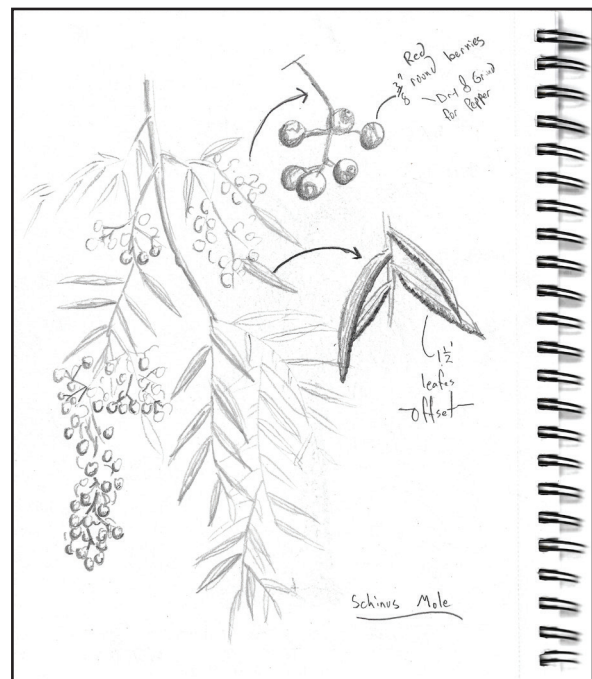
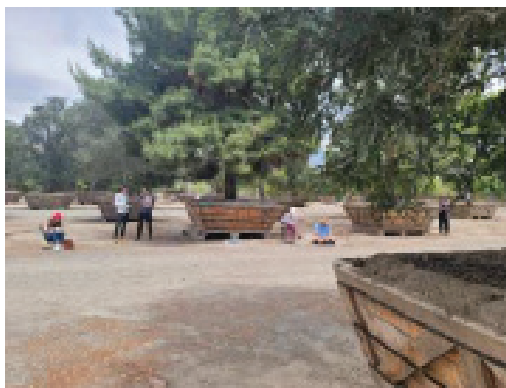
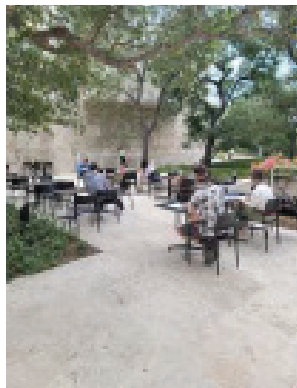
Meeting 1: Via Zoom: Nursery Stock, small plant containers

Meeting 2: Getty Center: Trees

Meeting 3: Devil Mountain Specimen Yard: Trees

Meeting 4: Instructors Project Location: Trees and under story composition

Students learn sketching technique with pencil. The instructor guides observation of form, detail, texture, scale and proportion; with the emphasis on observation and seeing. While the students are developing their sketches, the instructor leads conversation centered around the subject plant species. The conversation ranges from planting design, growing conditions, plant specifications, acquisitions, costs, construction site management and equipment needed to plant.



Eric de la Hoya

## A Brief Reflection:

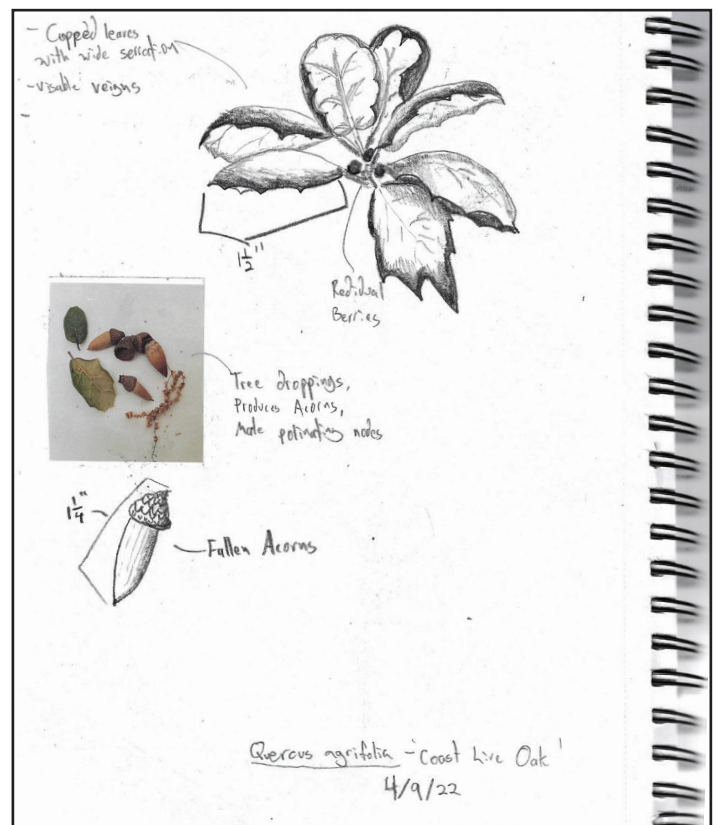
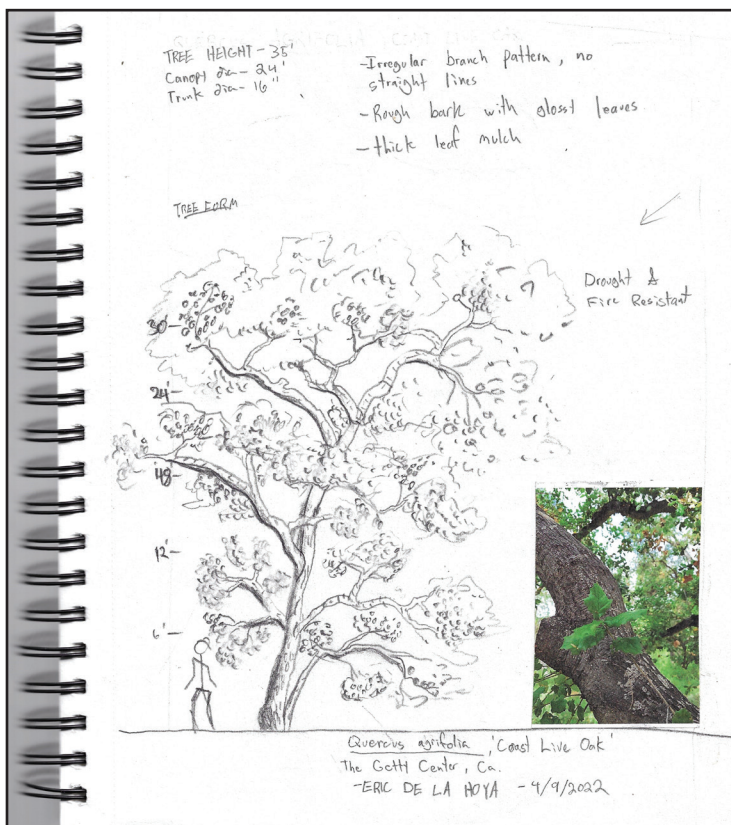
On the matter of form and structure, I've had limited cognitive exposure. Surely one like me who has had years of admiration of simple beauty, complex colours, shapes and pattern; of scents, size and sound... would be able to look at what I love and capture some of its essence on a paper page? Not so much at first.

The ability to see is far different as to look. We look where we were going, we look at our phone, we look at a friend's face. To see though is to understand, or at least to understand better. That's what this course is about. It is to be able to notice the finer details, to fathom size and place of our beloved plantscape. Certainly to see the subtle edges of a leaf and learn to draw them is a beautiful experience and tool, but to place the grandeur of the grand oak in space and capture its girth and value in a landscape is priceless as well.

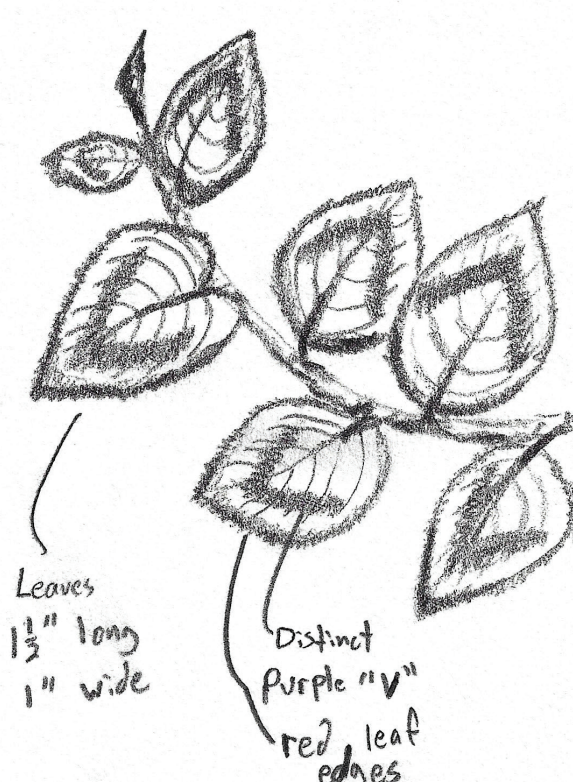
With the instruction of David Squires in this elective, I've been exposed not only how to perceive and represent the form and structure of plants, but to appreciate a greater scheme. In-person-on-site exposure to the tree nursery and a project site had broadened my view of my future profession. Sketching is just a part of the experience. I feel the time spent with such an intelligent passionate professor has been an invaluable experience. We discussed the purpose of various site elements, the working of a site and some measure of time while in project. We learned about tree cost, the importance of road closure permits, crane rentals, how to handle a sick tree and how to pick a good one. This list goes on... His knowledge is freely shared and it is golden.

As a matter of faith I've been taking the next step, the next class and following suggestion in this program. I'm finding that so far I have not been led astray, and certainly Sketching & Plant Identification was a gem of a class that I would have loved to continue to experience throughout my time at UCLA extension.

With Much Gratitude,  
Eric de la Hoya~

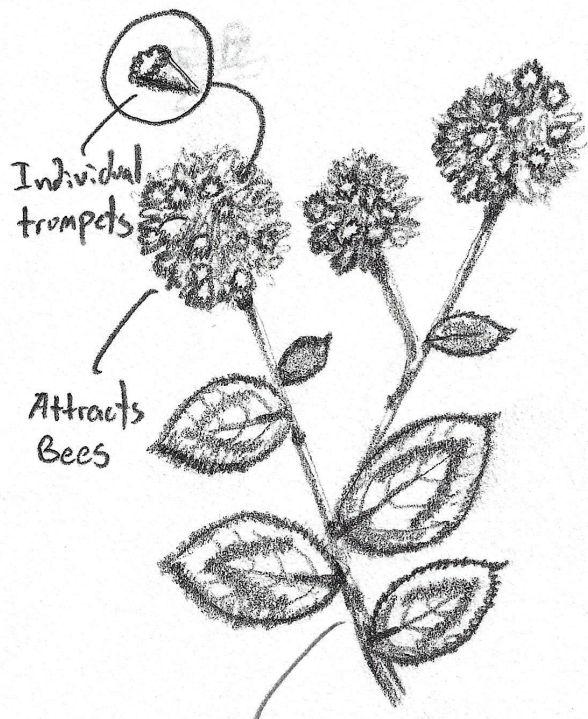


Eric de la Hoya



Leaves  
1 1/2" long  
1" wide

Distinct  
Purple "V"  
red leaf  
edges



Individual  
trumpets

Attracts  
Bees

Alternating  
leaves



Multi branching  
Ground cover

creates 3"-12"  
thick mat

- Full sun, moderate water
- Plant 8" apart
- 24 plants/flat
- flat size 26" x 26"



Persicaria capitata 'Pink Knotweed'

Burbank, Ca.  
Eric de la Hoya

\$25 / flat  
5/7/22

54'

weeping structure  
Swamp tree

54" tall

2" trunk

48'

Hard "Pine" seed pod



Fathered plump leaflets

24'

18'

12'

6'



Taxodium mucronatum  
'Mexican Cypress'  
Getty Center, CA  
Eric de la Hoya 4/9/2022

20' Tall  
24' canopy width  
18" trunk dia

25,000 lb  
\$12,000 Tree

Poisonous Seeds

Box 18' x 18'

*Erythrina coralloides*, Naked Coral Tree  
Tajunga, Ca.  
Eric de la Hoya 6/3/2022

Red flower - 5-6" wide

Tri-foliate leaf 2-5" wide

*Erythrina coralloides*

\$12,500  
25,000 lb

40' tall  
35' tall  
13" trunk dia  
14' wide

Evergreen,  
needs moist air  
temperate climate

Box 120" x 120"

*Sequoia sempervires*, Coast Redwood  
Tajunga, Ca.  
Eric de la Hoya 6/3/2022

Woody stems

Creates mulch bed under tree

Fire Resistant

$\frac{1}{2}$  -  $\frac{3}{4}$ " needles

Light green new growth tips

offset needle pattern

*Sequoia sempervires*