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| TITLE | Growing Fruit |
| TUTOR | Brian Dillon |

Dear Student,

Thank you for enrolling on this Lifelong Learning course. This letter gives you some further information. If you have any questions, please contact either:

**The LLL Office**: learning@aber.ac.uk

**The Tutor:** Brian Dillon brd30@aber.ac.uk

**The Co-ordinator:** Elin Mabbutt emm32@aber.ac.uk

We hope you enjoy the course.

Best Wishes,

**The Lifelong Learning Team**

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**GETTING STARTED**

**Aberystwyth University Student Account**

Before you can begin your course, you need to activate your **Aberystwyth University Student Account**. After you pay and enrol, you will be sent your **unique student number** by the Lifelong Learning Administrator. This will enable you to obtain your student username and set a password for your student account.

Having an account gives you many additional benefits such as access to the university library and online journals, an email address, and discounts for university services.

Please watch this [**video (link)**](https://aberystwyth.cloud.panopto.eu/Panopto/Pages/Embed.aspx?id=8599b9f0-bb74-4e17-8a61-abb800c9c1b1&v=1) as it will give you all the instructions you will need to set up your student account.

Once you have completed this process login to your [Aberystwyth University email account here](https://login.microsoftonline.com/common/oauth2/authorize?client_id=00000002-0000-0ff1-ce00-000000000000&redirect_uri=https%3a%2f%2foutlook.office.com%2fowa%2f&resource=00000002-0000-0ff1-ce00-000000000000&response_mode=form_post&response_type=code+id_token&scope=openid&msafed=0&client-request-id=1a50f117-68e4-464d-b9c3-80fd788cb7e5&protectedtoken=true&claims=%7b%22id_token%22%3a%7b%22xms_cc%22%3a%7b%22values%22%3a%5b%22CP1%22%5d%7d%7d%7d&domain_hint=aber.ac.uk&nonce=637354312838097988.a0319ebd-6272-4475-a59a-e0b8afa5fbe1&state=Dcs7DoMwEEVRO1kJTTobf5lxgbKWNzBIUUCRkBK2HxfndtcaY-7drbOhx9CUKdeSY-LMoVFj9gg5NpXVTYmSK4WqQ21wGoSxoW6i0fZ3GD8Xxuep2I8ZoqfH4r_vx2-dL5UDr_0P)

**Online Learning Environment: Blackboard**

Once you have an active username and password you can login to our **online learning environment** called **Blackboard** by going to<https://blackboard.aber.ac.uk>. This is where you can access the learning materials for your course, interact online with your tutor and other students and submit your assignments. [Guide to Blackboard Ultra - Students  : Information Services , Aberystwyth University](https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/is/it-services/elearning/blackboard/guidetoblackboardultra-students/)

**Microsoft Teams**

Your course may include one or more live online learning webinars or seminars. If so, these will be held using the online platform **Microsoft Teams**. Like Blackboard, you can access Teams online by going to <https://teams.microsoft.com/> and logging in with your Aberystwyth University student username and password. Although not essential, we would recommend you download the Microsoft Teams software onto your desktop. Once you have logged in, you can do this from the Microsoft Teams homepage. Click on the circle in the top right-hand corner of the screen and select **Download the Desktop App.**

If an online meeting has been scheduled by your tutor you will receive an email to your **University Email Account** that will contain a link, which you can click on to join the meeting. Alternatively, if you go to your **Calendar** in Microsoft Teams, which is on the left-hand side of the screen, you will see a **Join button** appear by the meeting just before it begins, which you can click on.

If you haven’t used Microsoft Teams before I would recommend watching this one minute [**video (link)**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pauAUOl8v4) so you know what to expect.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

Thriving fruit trees are a joy to behold, but the practices of propagation, pruning and disease control can seem confusing. This course unlocks the mysteries by looking at the science behind fruit growing. We concentrate on apples and pears, but cover other fruits such as damsons, figs and soft fruit. No previous knowledge is required as the course is suitable for beginners.

Growing Fruit can be studied as a stand-alone course, but it is also an optional level 0 module for the Certificate of Higher Education in Ecology.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

On completion of this module, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of taxonomy in relation to fruit species and varieties.
2. Describe various plant growth responses and their significance to propagation and pruning.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of sexual and asexual reproduction to fruit pollination, and propagation by grafting and cuttings.

**COURSE PROGRAMME**

1. Taxonomy of common fruit families
2. Pollination and fruit development
3. Soil science
4. Garden ecology relating to pests and diseases
5. Plant growth – tropisms, hormones and plant responses to pruning and training
6. Asexual reproduction - propagation techniques – layering, cuttings, grafting
7. Sexual reproduction – understanding cultivars to ensure fruit pollination

**ASSESSMENTS**

1. Worksheets – 600 words (70%)
2. Quiz – 10 questions (30%)

**Submission Policy**: <https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/lifelong-learning/virtual-student-centre/schemes_programmes/latesubmission/>

Find our full programme listings here: <https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/lifelong-learning/courses/>

Are you interested in completing a Certificate in Higher Education? If you are, speak to your tutor or contact the co-ordinator: emm32@aber.ac.uk