



Study outline for CCF Applicants

The California Certified Florist exam is a self taught program that is based on a selection of study materials and is supported by selected California State Colleges. Information regarding these schools can be found online.

Written Exam

This study outline is based on the suggested study materials as listed on www.californiacertifiedflorist.org.

Applicants must be able to identify and apply the knowledge of the topics listed below.

Care and Handling of Cut Flowers

Recognize and understand the importance of the following basic treatment procedures for cut flower materials.

- water quality
- proper stem treatment
- storage procedures
- flower conditioning
- special care for tropical flowers and woody stems
- commonly used chemicals and their applications

History of Floral Design

Understand and recall all major historical periods in Floral Design as well as contemporary design styles and trends as well as recognize their distinguished design characteristics.

Principles and Elements of Design

Recognize and define the basic principles and elements of design and understand how they are used in commercial floristry.

Explain and understand the application and use of color and color theory.

Elements of Design:

- Line
- Form
- Space
- Texture
- Pattern
- Fragrance



- Size
- Color

Principles of Design:

- Balance
- Dominance (Emphasis, Focal Area, Accent)
- Rhythm (Depth, Repetition, Transition)
- Proportion(Scale)
- Contrast (Opposition, Tension, Variation)

Mechanics

Identify the following mechanics and aids used in their application:

- tapes: corsage tape, bowl or anchor tape
- foams: wet and dry floral foam, Styrofoam, floral clay
- wires: bind wire, paddle wire, decorative wire, indentify floral wire gauges
- pins: corsage pins, anchor pins, steel pins
- picks: wired wood pick, hyacinth pick, skewer , candle pick, water pick
- adhesives: hot glue, cold glue, floral adhesive
- cable ties, pipe cleaners, water tubes, pew clips, casket saddle, iglu, easel, polyfoil, bouquet holder, waxed string
- ribbon, strings, fiber

Techniques

Recognize and describe the following design techniques as listed below:

Airtaping	Framing	Shadowing
Armature use	Grouping	Sheltering
Baling	Hand-tying	Spiraling
Banding	Kubari	Spray gluing
Basing	Layering	Stacking
Binding	Pave	Terracing
Clustering	Picking	Weaving
Collaring	Pillowing	Zoning
Facing	Reflexing	



Flower Id Test

The following listed flowers and foliage must be identified and labeled with both, common names and botanical names.

Common Name	Botanical Name (Genus Name)
1. Knifeblade Acacia	<i>Acacia</i>
2. Yarrow	<i>Achillea</i>
3. Monkshood	<i>Aconitum</i>
4. Urn Plant	<i>Aechmea</i>
5. Agapanthus, Lily-of-the-Nile, African Lily	<i>Agapanthus</i>
6. Giant Allium	<i>Allium</i>
7. Amaranthus, Love-Lies-Bleeding, Tasselflower	<i>Amaranthus</i>
8. Queen Ann's Lace, Bishop's Weed	<i>Ammi</i>
9. Dwarf Ornament Pineapple	<i>Ananas</i>
10. Anemone, Poppy Anemone, Lily-of-the-Field, Windflower	<i>Anemone</i>
11. Kangaroo Paw	<i>Anigozanthus</i>
12. Anthurium, Flamingo Lily	<i>Anthurium</i>
13. Snapdragon	<i>Antirrhinum</i>
14. Novi-Belgi Aster	<i>Aster</i>
15. Raspberry Forrest Banksia	<i>Banksia</i>
16. Rattlesnake	<i>Calathea</i>
17. Pot Marigold	<i>Calendula</i>
18. Safflower, False Saffron	<i>Carthamus</i>
19. Cattleya	<i>Cattleya</i>
20. Waxflower	<i>Chamelaucium</i>
21. Button Pomp, Button-Flowered-Spray-Mum	<i>Chrysanthemum</i>
22. Spider Pomp, Spider-Flowered-Spray-Mum	<i>Chrysanthemum</i>
23. Football Mum	<i>Chrysanthemum</i>
24. Variegated Pittosporum	<i>Pittosporum</i>
25. Clematis, Old Man's Beard, Traveler's Joy, Virgin's Bower	<i>Clematis</i>
26. Lily-of-the-Valley	<i>Convallaria</i>
27. Craspedia, Billy Buttons	<i>Craspedia</i>
28. Montbretia, Crocosmia	<i>Crocosmia</i>
29. Cymbidium	<i>Cymbidium</i>
30. Globe Artichoke, Artichoke	<i>Cynara</i>



Common Name	Botanical Name (Genus Name)
31. Genista	<i>Cytisus</i>
32. Hybrid Delphinium	<i>Delphinium</i>
33. Mini Carnation	<i>Dianthus</i>
34. Foxglove	<i>Digitalis</i>
35. Globe Thistle	<i>Echinops</i>
36. Lisianthus, Prairie Gentian	<i>Eustoma</i>
37. Freesia	<i>Freesia</i>
38. Gardenia	<i>Gardenia</i>
39. Mini Gerbera	<i>Gerbera</i>
40. Gloriosa Lily, Glory Lily, Climber Lily	<i>Gloriosa</i>
41. Sunflower	<i>Helianthus</i>
42. Hyacinth, Dutch Hyacinth, Common Hyacinth, Garden Hyacinth	<i>Hyacinthus</i>
43. Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea</i>
44. St. John's Wort	<i>Hypericum</i>
45. Silvan Red Leucadendron	<i>Leucadendron</i>
46. Star Magnolia	<i>Magnolia</i>
47. Pincushion, Protea	<i>Leucospermum</i>
48. Liatris, Gay-Feather, Blazing-Star	<i>Liatris</i>
49. Asiatic Lily	<i>Lilium</i>
50. Stargazer Lily, Oriental Lily	<i>Lilium</i>
51. Grape Hyacinth	<i>Muscari</i>
52. Paper White Narcissus, Paper Whites	<i>Narcissus</i>
53. Nerine, Guernsey Lily	<i>Nerine</i>
54. Love-in-a-Mist, Devil-in-a-Bush	<i>Nigella</i>
55. Waterlily	<i>Nymphaea</i>
56. Star-of-Bethlehem, Chincerinchee	<i>Ornithogolum</i>
57. Poppy	<i>Papaver</i>
58. Paphiopedilum, Lady's Slipper Orchid	<i>Paphiopedilum</i>
59. Moth Orchid	<i>Phalaenopsis</i>
60. Ranunculus, Persian Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus</i>
61. Rose, Standard Rose, Tea Rose	<i>Rosa</i>
62. African Violet	<i>Saintpaulia</i>
63. Scabiosa, Pincushion Flower, Scabiosus	<i>Scabiosa</i>
64. Goldenrod, Solidago	<i>Solidago</i>



Common Name	Botanical Name (Genus Name)
65. Stephanotis, Madagascar Jasmine	<i>Stephanotis</i>
66. Bird-of-Paradise, Crane Flower	<i>Strelitzia</i>
67. Black-Eyed-Susan Vine, Clock Vine	<i>Thunbergia</i>
68. Trachelium, Blue Throatwort, Throatwort	<i>Trachelium</i>
69. Wheat	<i>Triticum</i>
70. Tulip	<i>Tulipa</i>
71. Viburnum	<i>Viburnum</i>
72. Pansy	<i>Viola</i>
73. Calla, Golden Calla, Yellow Calla	<i>Zantedeschia</i>
74. Zinnia	<i>Zinnia</i>
75. Noble Fir	<i>Abies</i>
76. Serruria, Blushing Bride	<i>Serruria</i>
77. Kiwi Fruit Vine	<i>Actinidia</i>
78. Maidenhair Fern	<i>Adiantum</i>
79. Salal, Lemonleaf, Shallon	<i>Gaultheria</i>
80. Foxtail Fern	<i>Asparagus</i>
81. Ming Fern	<i>Asparagus</i>
82. Croton, Variegated Laurel	<i>Codiaeum</i>
83. Lion's Head Papyrus, Bulrush, Paper Plant	<i>Cyperus</i>
84. Horsetail, Snake Grass, Scouring Rush	<i>Equisetum</i>
85. Flowering Euc, Mount Wellington Peppermint, Tasmanian Snow Gum	<i>Eucalyptus</i>
86. Cider Gum, Silver Spoon Eucalyptus	<i>Eucalyptus</i>
87. Willow Eucalyptus, Nichol's Willow-Leaved Peppermint, Narrow-Leaved Black Peppermint	<i>Eucalyptus</i>
88. Spiral Eucalyptus	<i>Eucalyptus</i>
89. English Ivy	<i>Hedera</i>
90. Galax	<i>Galax</i>
91. Pussy Willow	<i>Salix</i>
92. American Holly	<i>Ilex</i>
93. Monstera, Swiss Cheese Plant	<i>Monstera</i>
94. Nandina, Heavenly Bamboo	<i>Nandina</i>
95. Leatherleaf, Leather Leaf Fern,	<i>Rumohra</i>



Common Name	Botanical Name (Genus Name)
Baker Fern	
96. Italian Ruscus, Smilax Ruscus	<i>Ruscus</i>
97. Palmetto Palm	<i>Sabal</i>
98. Lamb's Ear, Woolly Betony	<i>Stachys</i>
99. String-of-Pearls, String-of-Beads	<i>Senecio</i>
100. Tillandsia, Air Plant	<i>Tillandsia</i>

Hands on exam

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Good organizational skills
- Good time management skills. Applicants must finish all five designs within the time allotted.
- Good use of the materials that are provided.

Corsage

Applicants must demonstrate a proficiency in:

- Selection of appropriate materials.
- Wiring and taping flowers and greens.
- Glueing techniques.
- Bow making.
- Clean, solid and secure construction techniques.
- Artistic/saleable design
- Demonstration of appropriate design principals and elements.

Hand tied wedding bouquet

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Appropriate selection of materials.
- Clean, solid and secure construction techniques.
- Well defined and secure binding point.
- Clean stems below the binding point.
- Professional finishing techniques.
- Demonstration of appropriate design principals and elements.

Duplication Design

Applicants must demonstrate:



- Ability to duplicate a sample design.
- Clean, solid and secure mechanics.
- Demonstration of appropriate design principals and elements.

Sympathy Spray

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Appropriate choice of materials.
- Pleasing, professional design.
- Clean, solid and secure mechanics.
- A well finished design on all sides.
- Design must be properly secured to the easel.
- Demonstration of appropriate design principals and elements.

Designers Choice

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Creativity.
 - Appropriate choice of materials.
 - Clean, solid and secure mechanics.
 - Demonstration of appropriate design principals and elements.
-
- Appropriate selection of materials.
 - Appropriate selection of materials.