

ORGANIC FARMING, CERTIFICATE

Program Code: CC.ORGANICFARM

This certificate focuses on an ecological systems approach to sustainable farming principles and practices which are suitable for small-scale market farming. Many classes have a lab component, which provides students with the opportunity to gain a practical, working knowledge of small-scale, organic farming and marketing practices. Production methods for vegetables, grain, and fruit are covered.

Students may begin this program any term, although starting in Spring term to follow the annual crop planting, harvesting and planning cycle is recommended.

For information contact April Chastain, Horticulture Department advisor, 503-594-3055 or april.chastain@clackamas.edu.

Outcomes

Related Instruction Outcomes

Computation

- 1 course - MTH-050 Technical Mathematics I or MTH-065 Algebra II or higher
- Use appropriate mathematics to solve problems.

Communication

- 1 course - WR-101 Workplace Writing or WR-121Z Composition I
- Read actively, think critically, and write purposefully and capably for professional audiences.

Human Relations

- 1 course - BA-285 Human Relations in Business or COMM-100Z Introduction to Communication
- Engage in ethical communication processes that accomplish goals.

Program Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students should be able to:

- apply sustainable, organic methods in the planning, planting, management and harvesting of food crops;
- select and properly use farm equipment that is appropriate for a given scale and system of farming;
- implement organic IPM strategies in orchards and on small scale vegetable and berry farms;
- use a basic understanding of soil science and irrigation systems to make ecologically sound decisions in the production of food crops;
- write a business plan and identify the various regulations that impact an organic food producer;
- effectively communicate with co-workers and customers through speaking, writing and computer technology.

Requirements

| Fall Term | | Credits |
|-----------|--------------------------------|---------|
| HOR-113 | Organic Farming Practicum/Fall | 3.00 |
| HOR-124 | Food Harvest | 3.00 |

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|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| HOR-223 | Applied Plant Science | 4.00 |
| Select one of the following | | 4.00-5.00 |
| MTH-050 | Technical Mathematics I | |
| MTH-065 | Algebra II | |
| Higher Level Math or Statistics | | |
| Electives (p. 1) | | 2.00 |

Credits 16-17

| Winter Term | | |
|---------------------------|---|------|
| BA-285 or COMM-100Z | Human Relations in Business or Introduction to Communication | 4.00 |
| HOR-136 | Organic Farming Practicum/Winter | 3.00 |
| HOR-216 | Integrated Pest Management | 3.00 |
| HOR-230 | Equipment Operation & Maintenance | 2.00 |

Credits 12

| Spring Term | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| HOR-135 | Propagation of Edible Plants | 3.00 |
| HOR-140 | Soils | 3.00 |
| HOR-141 | Organic Farming Practicum/Spring | 4.00 |
| Electives (p. 1) | | 3.00-4.00 |

Credits 13-14

| Summer Term | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|------|
| HOR-146 | Fruit & Berry Growing | 3.00 |
| HOR-284 | Organic Farming Practicum/Summer | 3.00 |
| HOR-285 | Organic Farming/CWE | 3.00 |
| WR-101 or WR-121Z | Workplace Writing or Composition I | 4.00 |

Credits 13

Total Credits 54-56

Electives

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---------|-------------------------------|---------|
| BA-119 | Project Management Practices | 2.00 |
| BA-207 | Prepping for Business Success | 4.00 |
| BA-223 | Principles of Marketing | 4.00 |
| BA-270 | Social Media Marketing | 4.00 |
| HOR-212 | Flower Arranger's Garden | 2.00 |
| HOR-214 | Organic Cut Flower Farming | 2.00 |
| HOR-235 | Weed Identification | 2.00 |
| HOR-236 | Insect Identification | 2.00 |
| HOR-237 | Disease Identification | 2.00 |
| HOR-240 | Irrigation Practices | 3.00 |
| HOR-246 | Organic Gardening | 2.00 |
| HOR-250 | Organic Herb Growing | 1.00 |
| HOR-251 | Herbal Products | 1.00 |
| HOR-252 | Kitchen Herbs | 1.00 |

Careers

Career opportunities include:

- operating your own farm
- working in the community food system
- running small-scale farms

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- working closely with existing farmers
- advocating for local food systems
- working and managing community gardens, farmers markets, and school gardens