

CHCA Intersession 2018

May 21-31, 2018

Course Description for: ***Food Equity: Aquaponics and Urban Agriculture***

Instructor(s): **Kevin Savage and Gary Delanoy**

Course Type: **Local Day (Greater Cinti Area)**

Service Hours: **20**

Maximum enrollment: **18**

Minimum enrollment: **10**

Overview:

We invite students to join us as we explore food equity and food justice issues in an urban setting in Cincinnati. Students will learn basic methods of aquaponic and soil-based food production, and apply those skills in the CHCA Greenhouse and at an urban farm in the Cincinnati suburb of Westwood.

Course Goals:

- Learn the causes and impacts of living in a food-insecure community
- Discuss the connections between food production, eating, and theology
- Learn basic skills of gardening and small-scale food production
- Complete tasks related to operation of greenhouse aquaponics and urban lands

Reading Component: Selected readings from Wendell Berry, Norman Wirzba, and Ellen Davis

Writing Component:

Daily journal, to include skills learned and tasks completed; a 1-2 page summary reflective paper at the end of the experience.

Description:

4 Days: We will spend time in the CHCA Greenhouse, learning the basics of aquaponics, and applying skills to plant seeds, transfer seedlings, and harvest mature plants within a production-type aquaponic system, as well as complete daily operation and maintenance tasks associated with the system, such as daily water quality monitoring, and daily monitoring of environmental conditions in the greenhouse. Additionally, students will learn about the “business” portion of the production system – e.g., planting and harvesting schedules, inventory control of consumables, and calculating production costs to set price points for sale of the produce. Produce harvested and packaged by the students will go to Jubilee Farms in the Westwood community of Cincinnati, for sale at the Jubilee Fresh Market.

4 Days: We will travel by bus to Jubilee Farms Urban Agriculture Project in Westwood complete daily tasks of operating and maintaining urban farm. Plots at the Westwood site include one site with non-recirculating hydroponic grow beds, two plots with traditional soil and raised bed grow beds, one orchard plot with a variety of fruit trees, and a plot with chickens. Tasks may include planting, weeding, harvesting, bed preparation, etc. All produce harvested at Urban Agriculture Project will be sold at the nearby Jubilee Fresh Market.

Each day will begin with devotions at CHCA. On days spent at Jubilee Farms, students will be transported by bus to and from the farm site, returning to CHCA. On days spent in the CHCA Greenhouse, we will be on-campus all day. Most days will start at CHCA at 8:00 a.m.; on days at Jubilee Farms, students will return to campus between 1:00 and 1:30 p.m., and will finish daily activities no later than 3:00 p.m.

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This course is well suited to: Spring athletes who need to be back at school in the afternoon for practices and games with an active interest in gardening, food production and social justice issues associated with food insecurity.

Cost: \$ 250 - \$300

Additional costs: Students will need to pack a lunch on days at Jubilee Farms, and include beverages! On days at CHCA, students will be responsible for their own lunch. Course fees include a group lunch on the final day (food to be determined).

Other Information:

- Dress at the farm site will include long pants and sturdy shoes; no sandals or open footwear.
 - Start time each day will be 8:00 a.m.; activities will end each day at CHCA by 3:00 pm.
 - Transportation to the Jubilee Farm site in Westwood, and back to CHCA will be provided by bus.
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Dated 10/10/2017