

ANNOUNCEMENT

**VI International Short Course on Agroecology 2005
at the
University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC)
Santa Cruz, California, July 10-23, 2005**

Special Focus:

“Using Agroecology for Building Community Connections in Food Systems”

Description

The **International Short Course on Agroecology** for 2005 will be held in Santa Cruz, California July 10-23, 2005. This year we have formed new strategic alliances to give the course a special focus on the interactions between human and ecological communities in food systems, from rural producers to urban consumers. Besides Dr. Stephen R. Gliessman's agroecology research group at the Department of Environmental Studies (UCSC), this course will be jointly organized by the Program in Community and Agroecology (PICA), and the Community Agroecology Network (CAN).

These new partners will greatly enrich the content, perspectives, and special focus of this year's course. PICA is a living/learning program providing UCSC students opportunities to integrate cultural and ecological knowledge in our search for sustainability. CAN is a non-governmental organization with the objective of supporting agroecological and social development in rural communities of Central America and Mexico.

Academic Activities

The course will consist of lectures, demonstrations, and field applications of agroecology. Discussions of course concepts will be complemented with on-farm experiences in research and production problems. Activities will include presentations on specific topics given by invited specialists, group discussions on assigned readings, hands-on lab and field activities, individual and group presentations, field trips to local farms, and the preparation of a case study demonstrating principles of agroecology and sustainability based on agroecosystems in the participant's home area. Participants will receive key texts, bibliographies, and publications in the field of agroecology, and will access the University of California library system and other on-line resources to search the contemporary knowledge-base on agroecology and sustainable agriculture.

Instructors

Dr. Gliessman's Agroecology Research Group of the University of California (<http://www.agroecology.org/people.htm>) will be the core instructors for the course, joined by a host of instructors and specialists from the University of California and other state institutions and organizations.

Eligibility

We encourage applications from research centers, government, non-governmental organizations, universities, private institutions, community development groups, farmers, teachers, and agricultural professionals interested in agroecology and the promotion of sustainable agriculture. Enrollment is limited to 30 participants. The course will be in English, so a working knowledge of English is required for participation.

Requirements for Admission

Interested candidates should send a short resume and cover letter explaining their background, current work, and reasons for taking the course by the application deadlines listed below. Participants will be selected by a committee and notified of their acceptance within 2 weeks of their application submission, at which time they will need to pay their fees, within the established deadlines below. Upon completion of the full program of the course, participants will be granted a Certificate of Participation.

Fees/Accommodation Options

The course fee is comprehensive, including all tuition, course & lecture materials, accommodations (single occupancy room in a nine-person residential unit with shared bathroom), three meals per day, field trips and administrative fees. Fees do not include airfare or stays for the period before and after the course. We are offering two payment options depending on the timing of registration. In an effort to facilitate assistance from developing country residents, we have reduced their fees by 15%. Regrettably, at this time we are unable to provide any type of financial support for course participants.

Normal Registration Package:

Application received by May 15, 2005

Fees received by June 15, 2005

Developed country residents: \$2140.00

Developing country residents: \$1820.00

Mail:

International Agroecology Shortcourse
c/o Sarah Levitan, Course Organizer
Community Agroecology Network (CAN)
PO Box 7653

Santa Cruz, CA 95061

Fax: 831-459-2867

Electronic submission:

Email resume and letter to: course@communityagroecology.net

note: please use text within the email message or attach a document in MS word format.

Payment

Participants should pay course fees by the dates indicated by bank check or money order in US dollars payable through a United States bank to: **CAN** and mailed to the address above. It is also possible to use international bank transfers-email: course@communityagroecology.net for more information.

For More Information

Information will be continuously updated. For the updated information and questions on the course, please visit the web site at <http://www.agroecology.org/shortcourse.htm>, email course@communityagroecology.net, or contact the course organizer, **Sarah Levitan** at Tel. 831-459-3619, Fax. 831-459-2867.