

VIII INTERNATIONAL AGROECOLOGY SHORTCOURSE

Special Focus: Action-Education and Training in Community and Agroecology

Organized and Coordinated by:

Stephen R. Gliessman & Vivan (bee) Vadakan

Dept. of Environmental Studies • Heifer International • Program in Community and Agroecology (PICA) • Community Agroecology Network (CAN)

Place: Program in Community and Agroecology (PICA), The Lower Quarry, UCSC

Date: 8-21 July, 2007

Description

This year's special focus uses an interdisciplinary perspective for the teaching and training of agroecology, with the intention of creating action for change in the communities where agroecology is being applied. Specifically, the course aims to explore the role of agroecology in the development of sustainable living for human and ecological communities.

Academic Activities

The course will consist of lectures, demonstrations, and field applications of agroecology. Discussions of course concepts will be complemented with on-farm and in-garden experiences in research and production alternatives. Activities will include presentations on specific topics given by invited specialists, group discussions on assigned readings, hands-on field activities, individual and group presentations, and field trips to local farms and training programs. 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 food systems. Given this year's special focus, the course content has been expanded to include a range of action-education and training systems and examples.

ORGANIZERS/INSTRUCTORS

Stephen R. Gliessman (SG), Alfred Heller

Professor of Agroecology, UCSC

Vivan (bee) Vadakan (VV), Coordinator, Program
in Community and Agroecology (PICA)

OTHER INSTRUCTORS

V. Ernesto Méndez (EM), Asst. Professor,
University of Vermont

Carlos Guadarrama (CG), Professor, Agroecology,
University of Chapingo, México

Laura Trujillo (LT), Professor, Political Ecology,
University of Chapingo, México

Chris Bacon (CB), PhD, Consultant in Agroecology

Sean Swezey (SS), CASFS, UCSC

Hilary Melcarek (HM), Doctoral Student, UCSC

Roseann Cohen (RC), Doctoral Student, UCSC

Patricia Allen (PA), Acting Director, CASFS,
UCSC

Juan Jose Jimenez-Osornio (JJ), Professor,
UADY, PROTROPICO, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico.

Francisco Rosado-May (RM), Rector, Universidad
Intercultural de Quintana Roo, Mexico.

Nicholas Babin (NB), Doctoral Student, UCSC

Kathy Hilimire (KH), Doctoral Student, UCSC

Roberta Jaffe (RJ), Executive Director, CAN

Joji Muramoto (JM), Agroecologist, ENVS,
CASFS, UCSC

Jim Hoey (JH), Agroecology Programs, Heifer
International

Tim Galarneau (TG), Food Systems Working
Group, UCSC

And Others !!!

SCHEDULE
INTERNATIONAL AGROECOLOGY SHORTCOURSE: JULY 8-21, 2007

DAY	TIME	INSTRUCTOR
Monday 9		
Module 1: The Basic Principles of Agroecology		
1.1 Introduction, Course Overview & Welcome from UCSC Social Sciences Dean Dr. Sheldon Kamieniecki	8:30-9:30 am	SG, VV
1.2 Introduction to Village facilities, logistics, PICA, CAN	9:30-10:30	SG, VV
<i>Break</i>	10:30-10:45	
1.3 Participant and Instructor Introductions & Presentations	10:45-12:00	ALL
<i>Lunch</i>	12:00-1:15 pm	
1.4 Basic Principles of Agroecology	1:30-2:30	SG
1.5 Action applications of Agroecological Principles through the Exploration of the CASFS Farm and PICA Garden	2:30-4:00	ALL
<i>Break</i>	4:00-4:15	
Applying the concepts of agroecology in your own community, setting up our feedback process	4:15-5:30	Facilitators
<i>Dinner</i>	6:30	
Tuesday 10		
Module 2: Sustainable Resource Management		
2.1 Managing Resources Sustainably - introduction	8:30-8:45 am	SG
2.2 Sustainable Soil Management	8:45-9:45	JM
<i>Break</i>	9:45-10:00	
2.3 Sustainable Water Management	10:00-11:00	SG
2.4 Management of Biotic Resources	11:00-12:00	JJ
<i>Lunch</i>	12:00-1:15 pm	
2.5 Biological Control and Pest Management	1:15-2:15	SS
<i>Break</i>	2:15-2:30	
2.6 Action applications of the concepts of sustainable resource management at the CASFS Farm and PICA Garden	2:30-4:30	All
Small group discussion of concept applications	4:30-5:30	Facilitators
<i>Dinner</i>	6:30	
Wednesday 11		
Module 3: Managing Diversity in Agroecosystems		
3.1 Managing Diversity in Agroecosystems	8:30-9:30 am	SG
3.2 Cropping System Design & Management	9:30-10:30	SG
<i>Break</i>	10:30-10:45	
3.3 Agroforestry and Diversity Management in Home Gardens in the Yucatan, Mexico	10:45-11:45	JJ
<i>Lunch</i>	12:00-1:30 pm	
3.4 Action applications of diversity concepts: Field work at the CASFS Farm or the PICA Garden	1:30-3:30	All
<i>Break</i>	3:30-4:00	
Small group discussion of diversity activities.	4:00-5:00	Facilitators
Summary presentations of findings for small groups	5:00-6:00	All
<i>Dinner</i>	6:30	
Thursday 12		
Module 3: Continued		
3.5. The Role of Animals in Sustainable Agroecosystems	8:30-10:00 am	SG, JH
<i>Break</i>	10:00-10:15	
3.6 The Conversion Process: Diversification and sustainability	10:15-11:15	SG, SS
3.7 Case Studies of Organic Conversion	11:15-12:15	SS
<i>Lunch</i>	12:15-1:30 pm	
3.8 Action applications of the diversification process: Field Trip to High Ground Organics and Pacific Gold Farms, including Sam Earnshaw from CAFF	1:30-5:30	All
Small group discussion of conversion process	5:30-6:15	Facilitators

<i>Dinner</i>	6:30	
Friday 13		
Module 4: Community-based Agroecology Projects and Programs		
4.1 Linking Agroecology and Community: an introduction	8:30-8:45 am	SG
4.2 Agroecology, Community Development, and Landscape Change	8:45-10:00	LT, NB
<i>Break</i>	10:00-10:15	
4.3 Reconstructing Agroecosystems in Displaced Communities	10:15-11:15	RC
4.4 Building Community Networks in Agroecology: a case study in process on the central California coast.	11:15-12:15	SG, JM
<i>Lunch</i>	12:15-1:30 pm	
4.5 The Heifer Agroecology Program	1:30-2:30	JH
4.6 Action applications of community-based agroecology: Heifer Project Experiences	2:30-3:00	Heifer Project Leaders
<i>Break</i>	3:00-3:15	
4.6 Continued...	3:15-5:00	Heifer Project Leaders
Small group discussion of community-based agroecology	5:00-6:00	Facilitators
<i>Dinner</i>	6:30	
Saturday 14		
Module 5: Creating Opportunity in Food Systems – Field Trip		
5.1 The ALBA model for creating opportunity in agriculture	9:30 -10:30 am	Brett Malone
<i>Break</i>	10:30-10:45	
5.2 Orientation and initiation of the action applications at ALBA	10:45-12:00	ALBA staff
<i>Lunch</i>	12:00-1:00 pm	
5.2 Continue action applications in creating opportunity – hands-on learning with farmer participants with ALBA	1:00-3:00	Facilitators and ALBA staff
Return to Santa Cruz	3:00-4:00	
Small group discussion of creating opportunities	4:00-5:00	Facilitators
Mid-course evaluation discussion	5:00-6:00	All
<i>Dinner</i>	6:30	
Sunday 15	FREE DAY!!!	
Monday 16		
Module 6: The Social Dimensions of Sustainability		
6.1 Participatory Action Research (PAR) in Agroecology	8:30-9:30 am	CB
6.2 Food Chains: alternative markets and food sovereignty	9:30-10:30	LT
<i>Break</i>	10:30-10:45	
6.3 The Political Ecology of Coffee	10:45-11:45	CB, LT
<i>Lunch</i>	11:45-1:30	
6.4 The Community Agroecology Network (CAN) Case Study	1:30-2:30	RJ and the CAN Team
<i>Break</i>	2:30-2:45	
6.5 Action applications: Workshops (1) internships and curriculum, (2) institutional marketing, (3) PAR	2:45-4:45	CAN Team
6.5 Action applications: Group synthesis	4:45-5:15	CAN Team
Small group discussion of CAN approach	5:15-6:15	Facilitators
<i>Dinner</i>	6:30	
<i>Optional Documentary: Birdsong and Coffee-a wakeup call</i>	8:00	RJ
Tuesday 17		
Module 6: Continued...		
6.6 The CAN experience in Mexico	8:30-9:30 am	LT, CG
6.7 Landscape Approaches to Natural Resources Management	9:30-10:30	EM
<i>Break</i>	10:30-10:45	
6.8 Environmental Services: Concepts & Key Issues	10:45-11:45	EM
<i>Lunch</i>	11:45-1:15 pm	
6.9 Agroecology, Urban Agriculture, and Community Gardens	1:15-2:15	HM
Action applications: A coffee cupping – learning agroecology in the cup	2:15-4:15	CB

<i>Break (!)</i>	4:15-4:30	
Small Group discussion on wrap-up of CAN approach	4:30-5:30	Facilitators
<i>Dinner</i>	6:30	
<i>Wednesday 18</i>		
Module 7: Reconnecting the Consumer and the Producer as a Force for Change in Food Systems		
7.1 Food Citizenship and a Declaration of Food Independence	8:30-9:30 am	SG
7.2 Choice vs. Access in agro-food systems	9:30-10:30	PA
<i>Break</i>	10:30-10:45	
7.3 The UCSC Food Systems Working Group	10:45-11:45	TG
<i>Lunch</i>	12:00-1:30 pm	
7.4 The Role of Higher Education in Understanding and Promoting Sustainability	1:30-2:30	RM
7.5 Action applications: Visit to the Santa Cruz Downtown Farmers' Market	2:30-5:00	Facilitators
Small Group discussions on Declaring Food Independence	5:30-6:00	Facilitators
<i>Dinner</i>	6:30	
<i>Thursday 19</i>		
Module 8: Designing Sustainable Food Systems		
8.1 The Transition to Sustainability	8:30-9:30 am	SG
8.2 Indicators of Sustainability	9:30-10:30	CG
<i>Break</i>	10:30-10:45	
8.3 Linking Social and Ecological Networks for Sustainability	10:45-12:00	SG, RJ, EM, CB, CG, JJ, RM
<i>Lunch</i>	12:00-1:30 pm	
8.4 Action applications: Sustainability analysis workshops	1:30-4:30	All
Small Group discussions on Sustainability	4:30-5:30	Facilitators
<i>Friday 20</i>		
Module 9: Course Synthesis		
9.1 Difference as a source of strength – Intercultural knowledge dialogues in agroecology	8:30-9:30	RM
9.2 An Action Approach for moving towards food system sustainability	9:30-10:30 am	SG
<i>Break</i>	10:30-11:00	
9.3 Facilitated Discussion and Course Evaluation	11:00-12:15	CB
<i>Lunch</i>	12:15-1:30	
Going Away Party !!!	Evening	All
<i>Saturday 21: Departure ☺</i>		