

ANNOUNCEMENT

INTERNATIONAL SHORT COURSE ON AGROECOLOGY

The University of California, Santa Cruz, through its Department of Environmental Studies and the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems, announces an international short course on Agroecology for extensionists, farm advisers, trainers, NGO managers, farmers, advanced undergraduate students, graduate students, researchers, professors, and other agricultural professionals from around the world to be held in Santa Cruz, California, August 16 - 27, 1999.

Description

This course will explore the application of agroecological knowledge to the design of sustainable farming systems, emphasizing the integration of agroecology theory with agricultural practice. Coursework will focus on sustainable management practices in small farm systems and their function in supporting farming communities and environmental health around the world.

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 activities on specific topics, individual and group presentations and field trips to local farms and field research projects. 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.

Main topics covered in the course:

- Advanced concepts and principles of agroecology
- Design of sustainable agroecosystems
- Ecological pest management and biological control
- Agroforestry and intercropping
- Soil management for sustainable production
- Use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) for farm and regional management
- Application of ecological economics to agricultural development
- Organic agriculture and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)
- Interdisciplinary methods for assessing the sustainability of farming systems
- On-farm participatory research and training
- Traditional knowledge and indigenous farming systems
- Agroecology and rural development
- Information technology for sustainable agriculture
- Making the transition to sustainable agriculture

Instructors in Charge

Main course instructors will be Stephen R. Gliessman, Miguel A. Altieri, and Erle C. Ellis from the University of California, joined by a host of instructors and specialists from the University of California and other state institutions and organizations.

Eligibility

We encourage applications from advanced university students, personnel from research centers, government, non-governmental organizations, private institutions, farmers, teachers, and agricultural professionals interested in agroecology and the promotion of sustainable agriculture. Enrollment is limited to 35 participants. The course will be in English, so a working knowledge of English is required for participation, though special sessions may be held in Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, and Portuguese.

Requirements for Admission

Interested candidates should send an abbreviated resume and a letter explaining their background, current work, and reasons for taking the course by the application deadline of **March 1, 1999**, to:

mail:

Dr. Stephen R. Gliessman
University of California
Environmental Studies
Santa Cruz, CA 95064
Fax: 831-459-2867

electronic submission:

email resume and letter to:
shortcourse@agroecology.org
note: please use text within the email message
or attach a document in MS word format.

Participants will be selected by a selection committee and notified of their acceptance by May 15, 1999. Upon completion of the full program of the course, participants will be granted a Certificate of Attendance.

Fees/Accommodation

Tuition fees for participants from developed countries are US\$850 and \$550 for developing countries. This amount includes administration fees, lecture materials, all academic activities, and field trips. Accommodations and dining services are separate and cost approximately \$63/day including double occupancy and three meals per day served cafeteria style. Total cost is anticipated to be around \$819, plus airfare from the country of origin, for the period arriving 15 of August and departing 28 of August. Stay for the period before 15 of August and beyond the 28 of August is not included. Five scholarships covering up to 50% of accommodation and dining services will be available to participants from developing countries that can demonstrate special need.

Payment

Once accepted, participants should pay course fees in advance by check in US dollars payable through a United States bank to: **Regents of the University of California** and mailed to Professor Stephen R. Gliessman at the above address.

For more information about the Agroecology Short Course, please visit the course web site at <http://www.agroecology.org/shortcourse.htm>, email shortcourse@agroecology.org, or contact the course coordinator Dr. Erle C. Ellis at Tel. 831-459-2506, Fax. 831-459-2867.

This document is available on-line at: <http://www.agroecology.org/shortcourse/announce.htm>

For information in Spanish:

Información Adicional

Para mayor información sobre el Curso Corto en Agroecología, favor visitar la página de red del curso en <http://www.agroecology.org/espanol/cursocorto.htm>, email: shortcourse@agroecology.org, o contactar al coordinador del curso Dr. Erle C. Ellis al Tel. (831) 459-2506, Fax. (831) 459-2867

Este documento esta disponible “en línea”, en:

<http://www.agroecology.org/espanol/cursocorto/anuncio.htm>