

Geography 391: Food and the City

Overview

This course was developed for students concerned with social justice, ecological sustainability, and good food, who are also concerned with finding a livelihood that aligns with their values. The course will be co-lead by entrepreneur Chris Hildreth (of Topsoil Innovative Urban Agriculture) and Cam Owens (UVic Geography). In an intensive two-week period (from May 7th-18th) students will learn about the business of growing food in the city through engaging classroom discussions, local field excursions, and getting their hands dirty at a local urban farm.

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A series of pertinent and engaging readings will be made available through the Coursespaces site. Students will lead discussions on these readings as part of the course.

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Mon, May 7 th 9-12 City Studio	Course introductions, Ice-breakers
Tues, May 8 th 9-12 City Studio	Why innovative urban agriculture? Social, Economic, Ecological Rationales Guest presenter: Jeremy Caradonna (UVic Environmental Studies)
Wed, May 9 th 9-2ish Topsoil	The idea of Topsoil Innovative Urban Agriculture + visit Canoe Restaurant – discussion with Chef Sol, lunch and socializing
Thurs, May 10 th 12-3 City Studio	Field Trip to Mason Street Farm, discussion with Jess Blue
Fri, May 11 th 9-2ish City Studio	Field Trip to Downtown Food Eco-District + lunch and socializing Guest presenters: Jayne Bradbury (Fort St Properties), Jill Doucette & Heidi Gratner (Synergy Enterprise)
Mon, May 14 th 9-12 City Studio	Student lead seminars
Tues, May 15 th 9-12 City Studio	Student lead seminars II
Wed, May 16 th 9-12 City Studio	Local Food Mini-Conference Guest presenters: Virginie Lavallée-Picard (Food Systems Coordinator for the City of Victoria), Linda Geggie, (Executive Director – Capital Region Food and Agriculture Initiative Roundtable), Fiona Devereux (Aboriginal Health)
Thurs, May 17 th 9-12 Topsoil	Reflections on the business of growing food in the city + reflective sharing circle
Fri, May 18 th 9-? City Studio	Final reflective assignment + socializing

*The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and safe learning and working envi