Ursinus COLLEGE | SUSTAINABILITY

Agroecology Fellow Position Description

JANUARY-DECEMBER
COURSE CREDIT + STIPEND

FIRST-YEARS, SOPHOMORES, AND JUNIORS ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY







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Agroecology Fellow Position Description

Sustainability Fellows are ambassadors of environmentalism and sustainability to the Ursinus community. Fellows are passionate about work that makes a positive impact on the planet and our communities, as well as their own personal growth and professional development. Through this position, Fellows will develop critical thinking and leadership skills that will assist you in whatever you choose to do after your time at Ursinus.

Like all Sustainability Fellows, Agroecology Fellows are expected to participate in a weekly 1-credit course, taught by the Director of Sustainability, participate in First Year Move-In, Sustainable Move-Out, and Office of Sustainability events and projects throughout the semester. Additionally, Fellows meet with the Director of Sustainability one-on-one at least twice a month to discuss project implementation and provide feedback. Fellows who complete all requirements of their position and maintain professionality are eligible to receive a stipend for each semester that they are in the program, as well as a green cord for graduation.

All Fellowships are two semesters long. The Agroecology Fellowship runs from January-December, or the length of one calendar year. This unique structure allows for the Fellowship to correspond with the growing cycle, as well as one of the most important components of the Agroecology Fellowship - all Agroecology Fellows must reside on campus (or within commuting distance) during the summer of their Fellowship. During this time, Agroecology Fellows will plant, manage, and harvest food and native plant species at the campus farm and the Food Forest. Fellows receive a monetary stipend to cover living expenses during this time, as well as free on-campus housing.

Agroecology Fellows, guided by the Director of Sustainability, and Faculty from the Environmental Studies Department will plan, plant, manage, harvest, and winterize various aspects of the campus farm and food forest. Fellows will gain experience doing tasks such as soil sampling and nutrient analysis, tilling, weeding, creating a planting plan, undergoing food safety training, selling produce, educating members of the campus, and keeping inventory, among other duties. Agroecology Fellows are also responsible for managing volunteers, who come on several scheduled volunteer or stewardship dates each semester. These groups include members of Greek organizations, athletic teams, first-year students, ENV100 students, and others.

In addition to the benefits and responsibilities mentioned above, Agroecology Fellows often receive opportunities to coordinate volunteer events among campus groups, interact with alums, and have been interviewed for Ursinus Magazine and The Grizzly in the past. Students interested in the Food Studies Minor can use the Agroecology Fellowship for their applied learning experience.

Requirements

- Enrolling in a 1-credit Spring Semester and 1-credit Fall Semester Sustainability Fellows Course
- Basic agricultural experience is a plus (weeding, tilling, planting, etc.)
- Willingness to learn from and collaborate with others
- Interest in organic, natural, or agro-ecological methods of food production
- A current first-year student, sophomore, or junior
- Willing to work outdoors and lift moderately weighted items
- 2.5 GPA
- Available to work on campus through the summer
- Available to volunteer during Orientation Week, the week of graduation, and Earth Week in the Spring
- Familiarity with commonly used computer programs such as Microsoft Word, Google Docs, and Zoom