

Coming Soon!

Urban Agriculture Courses

Urban agriculture is increasingly recognized for its potential contribution to urban poverty alleviation, urban food security, productive reuse of urban wastes, urban greening, local economic development, and community development, among others. In response to an increasing demand for training in urban agriculture, Ryerson University's G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education and Centre for Studies in Food Security (www.ryerson.ca/foodsecurity) are developing a portfolio of distance education courses on urban agriculture in partnership with ETC-Urban Agriculture (www.etc-urbanagriculture.org) and the international network of Resource centres on Urban Agriculture and Food security (RUAF) (www.ruaf.org).

In order to help students develop their capacity to address global problems, four new courses on urban agriculture are being developed as elective offerings of The Chang School's Certificate in Food Security.

In response to high student interest, the first of these courses - 'Understanding Urban Agriculture' (CVFN 410) - will be offered for a second time in May 2008, while the second

course - 'Dimensions of Urban Agriculture' (CVFN 411) - will be offered from September 2008 onwards.

Who should enroll in these courses?

Recent reports by United Nations agencies have highlighted the practice of urban agriculture and its significance, constraints, and potential. Furthermore, many cities have issued new regulatory provisions and fiscal measures, and are creating municipal programs to support urban agriculture. The demand for professionals with urban agriculture training has never been greater.

The Chang School's new urban agriculture courses will appeal to a diverse group of individuals and organizations across the globe:

- students interested in urban agriculture and its policies
- researchers and professionals working in social services, public health, environmental studies, international development, food aid, poverty alleviation, and other fields
- non-governmental organization (NGO) and government staff in related fields

Our Instructors

The Chang School's instructors bring a wealth of experience and up-to-date knowledge to every course. Our food security instructors are internationally recognized. Having lived and worked around the globe, they understand the challenges of implementing urban food security projects and policies; bring together

Looking Ahead: Future Course Offerings

The Chang School is developing two additional urban agriculture courses:

- Urban Agriculture Types (CVFN 412)
- Urban Agriculture Policy-Making (CVFN 413)

These courses will deepen your knowledge and skills to effectively design, implement, and evaluate urban agriculture projects, programs, and policies.

- ➔ To express your interest in and support of the development of these new urban agriculture courses, and to help us get a better sense of your continuing education needs, please visit www.ryerson.ca/ce/foodsecurity to complete the "Urban Agriculture Expression of Interest" form.

backgrounds in urban planning, architecture, agronomy, and ecology; and have coordinated several regional training activities in urban agriculture spanning several continents.

Our Expertise

Ryerson University's Chang School is Canada's leading provider of university-based continuing education for adults. We are leaders in flexible learning options, offering more than 1,100 professionally relevant courses to individuals and organizations.

Our partners, ETC-Urban Agriculture and RUAF, have worked over the past 10 years to assist local and international actors in the participatory design, implementation, and evaluation of effective policies and action programs on urban agriculture.

Urban Agriculture Course Design

In a unique online learning environment, students will participate in group discussions and complete assignments and exams. You will be supported by instructors and a technical help desk, and will have access to an online library and resource centre. These distance education courses are designed in such a way that they can be accessed with low-speed Internet connections. To balance theoretical learning with practical applications, the course curriculum will include a variety of well-documented examples and case studies from different continents.

Urban agriculture courses can be taken individually or as part of the current Certificate in Food Security.

How to Enroll - Canadian Students

Visit www.ryerson.ca/ce and see *Enrollment* for details. New students can enroll in person (350 Victoria Street) or by mail, while returning students can enroll in person, by mail, or online.

How to Enroll - International Students

For international student enrollment details, please e-mail food@ryerson.ca.

Spring/Summer 2008 Courses

Understanding Urban Agriculture (CVFN 410)

Duration: 42 hours Fee: \$456 (CDN)

Schedule: May 10-August 9, 2008

Millions globally practise urban agriculture, with governments and civil society organizations increasingly promoting it to enhance urban food security, health, community building, sustainable livelihoods, and environmental management. This course expands the understanding of urban agriculture, its main types and dimensions, its potential impacts, the constraints and opportunities facing it, the stakeholders involved in it, the historical contexts shaping it, and the local, regional, and international development trends bearing on it.

Dimensions of Urban Agriculture (CVFN 411)

Duration: 42 hours Fee: \$456 (CDN)

Schedule: September-December, 2008

This course describes the dimensions (functions, roles, benefits, potential risks) of urban agriculture and how these complement, supplement, compete with, substitute for, or undermine those provided by other land uses, sectoral activities and actors. The main dimensions covered are: health and food security, socio-cultural dimensions, economic dimensions, and environmental dimensions. Selected well-documented case studies will be used throughout the course to highlight each dimension separately, before bringing them all together.

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For More Information

To discover where learning can lead you, and for general course enrollment and scheduling details, please visit www.ryerson.ca/ce or contact a Chang School Information and Program Support Representative.

Phone: 416.979.5035

E-mail: ce@ryerson.ca

For specific course information and details on the Certificate in Food Security, please visit www.ryerson.ca/ce/foodsecurity or contact Reg Noble, Academic Coordinator, Food Security.

Phone: 416.979.5000, ext. 4564

E-mail: food@ryerson.ca

Discover Where Learning Leads

The G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education

Ryerson University
350 Victoria Street
Toronto, Ontario M5B 2K3
Canada

416.979.5035 / ce@ryerson.ca

www.ryerson.ca/ce