



**LA 429/529 Civic Agriculture**  
**Winter 2023 CRNs 22868 & 22882**  
**Monday/Wednesday 10:00 – 11:50**  
**106 Friendly • 4 Credits**  
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**(Winter Office Hours by appointment)**  
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*The question before us, then, is an extremely difficult one: How do we begin to remake, or to make, a local culture that will preserve our part of the world while we use it?* **Wendell Berry**

**Introduction** – As the realization that the state of our industrialized food system is neither healthful nor sustainable becomes more self-evident, and that food is the primary defining element shaping how and where we live, communities of all scales are seeking to re-embrace the skills and sensibilities that once defined civilized food production and consumption. Simultaneously, forward-looking thinkers are united in the desire to re-discover and re-develop new methods in which to construct food systems so that they fit into a modern, responsible and more sustainable social paradigm. Civic agriculture is the embodiment of these concepts.

**Course structure** – This course is intended to be a place-based, experiential model of learning where students will identify - and contribute to the actual development and enhancement of – the complex set of constituents and recognized tactics that are required to design, create and maintain a socially responsive, responsible and equitable local food system. Working alone and in teams, students will research, develop and implement various strategies geared toward repairing the damaging effects of industrialized food production and distribution, within our local community.

Course work will be organized around weekly lecture/seminar presentations, supported by interpretive activities, along with guided and individual field-work. Course activities will consist of discussions, field trips, possible guest interaction, project critiques and audio-visual presentations. Students will be expected to participate in regular seminar discussions and will earn credit for this contribution. Assignments will include essays, multimedia creations, and class presentations. Students should expect to perform individual and team field investigation, the results of which, will be shared with the general group. Assigned readings from the two required textbooks will be supplemented by additional required weekly reading and assigned projects.

For further information contact Harper Keeler @ [hkeeler@uoregon.edu](mailto:hkeeler@uoregon.edu)