

AGROECOLOGY, ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Agroecology integrates ecological, social, economic, and agricultural principles into research, education, and the practices of our food system and land management. This two-year program provides a broad understanding of the various aspects of ecology and agriculture, with the health and well-being of local populations and the workforce. Courses may include topics that discuss soil nutrient and building, orchard maintenance, vegetable production, native plant propagation, agroforestry, and mushroom cultivation. In addition to the agriculture core courses, there are pathways for business courses to give students the business framework to make their ideas into a successful and sustainable business. Students will have hands-on internship experiences to develop and use the skills that are essential to be a successful vegetable farmer, nursery manager, landscaper, watershed technician, or an entrepreneur.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete a minimum of 90 credit hours with a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 or better. All courses must be completed with a grade of 'C' or better. Twenty-four (24) credits must be completed at Southwestern before the degree is awarded.

Complete the graduation application process one term prior to the term of completion (e.g., spring term graduates must apply during winter term).

PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Apply scientific concepts and practices within the disciplines of ecology, soil science, and plant biology to methods of sustainable farming and ecological land management.
- Employ agroecology principles to support ecosystems and communities.
- Understand the role of the existing biodiversity and design systems to support and enhance and improve conditions.
- Examine principles and examples of successful and viable farms or business and marketing plans.
- Review history, ethics, and trends in agriculture systems.
- Develop hands-on ecological food production and land management skills and assess techniques through field-based instruction and internships.
- Communicate effectively with others, both verbally and in writing.

Math and writing placement are unique to each student and are determined during the admissions and intake advising process. Additional math or writing courses may be required prior to taking the math or writing program requirements in this degree.

Course	Title	Credits
Prerequisites		
Completion of MTH20 or placement into MTH82		
Completion of WR90R or placement into WR115		
Credits		0

First Year		
Fall		
AG101	Introduction To Agroecology	5
AG120	Gardening The South Coast	1
ENV235	Introduction to Soil Science	4
Elective ¹		3
Elective ¹		2
Credits		15
Winter		
BA285	Human Relations in Organizations ³	3
COMM111Z	Public Speaking ²	4
WR115	Fundamentals of Report Writing ⁴	4
PE231	Wellness for Life ⁵	3
Elective ⁶		2
Credits		16
Spring		
AG102	Agroecology II	5
AG150	Applied Plant Biology	3
AG180	Agroecology Internship ⁷	3
BI140	Practical Ecology	3
Credits		14
Summer		
AG103	Agroecology III	5
Elective		3
Credits		8
Second Year		
Fall		
AG201	Horticulture Science	4
BA150	Introduction to Entrepreneurship	3
MTH82	Business Mathematics ⁸	4
Elective ⁶		2
Credits		13
Winter		
AG202	Ecological Pest Management	4
ANTH231	Native North Americans: PNW ⁹	3
NR210	Restoration And Fire Ecology	3
Elective ⁶		2
Credits		12
Spring		
AG203	Plant Ecology Of The Pacific Northwest	4
AG277	Agroecology Capstone	2
AG280	Cooperative Work Experience- Agroecology ⁷	3
Elective ⁶		3
Credits		12
Total Credits		90

¹ Recommended NR211 and BA150 electives.

² COMM100Z, COMM218Z, or COMM219 may be substituted for COMM111Z.

³ BA110, BA120, BA285, PSY100 or higher will satisfy this requirement.

⁴ May substitute for WR121Z.

- ⁵ PE231, HE250, or three (3) credits of PE185 sport/activity courses will satisfy this requirement.
- ⁶ Electives to reach 90 credits. Recommended Electives: Any AG, ENV, NR, GS, G or F course or (FS131, CRT115, GEOG265, WLD100, SPAN101, CIS125S, or FN225). See an advisor for specific elective recommendations.
- ⁷ Internship: Call 541-888-7405 to schedule with the Internship Coordinator one month prior to term.
- ⁸ MTH65 higher excluding MTH211.
- ⁹ May substitute for ANTH 221, 222, 223, or 202, 230, 232.