

Dakota County Technical College

LAHT 1700: Introduction to Sustainable Food Systems

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

This course explores agricultural systems from early history through current practices and beyond with an emphasis on emergent trends in urban agriculture and local food production. Students will gain an historical perspective in the development of agricultural systems, the socioeconomic influences driving our modern day food systems and its impact on human health and the environment. The emphasis of this course will be on the exploration and investigation of current methodologies in urban agriculture through research of case studies allowing students the opportunity to sharpen research skills while focusing on areas of particular interest.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/26/2013 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. To become advocates of sustainable food systems
2. To demonstrate critical thinking and communication skills while performing scholarly research
3. To gain a historical, world-view perspective of agricultural systems
4. To gain an understanding of current practices and issues in urban agriculture through exploration, analysis, and assessment of contemporary urban farming operations
5. To gain an understanding of the health and nutritional implications of modern-day agriculture
6. To understand the drivers behind the Local Foods movement
7. To understand the environmental consequences of modern-day agriculture
8. To understand the need for food production in urban areas in the context of current events and contemporary issues
9. To understand the reasons why agricultural systems of the past either thrived or failed
10. To understand the socioeconomic drivers behind modern-day agricultural systems

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted