



CSUDH Campus Urban Farm Docent Online Training Syllabus

(Campus Urban Farm Docents)

Development of this training program was the result of generous funding by Shell Oil in 2020-2021.

The following contains the planned activities for the eight lesson training course at the CSUDH Campus Urban Farm to train prospective Campus Urban Farm docents. Topics covered will give prospective docents the skills required to effectively lead tours at the Farm, take a leadership role in Farm management and maintenance, and engage visiting groups in educational activities. The lessons include activities designed to engage prospective docents in projects that reinforce the concepts covered.

Assignments: Self-guided homework and activities associated with the lessons are provided via Google Forms to help reinforce learning concepts (these are optional and not graded). A **final exam** will be administered via Google Forms at the end of the course.

- A passing grade of 80% on the **final exam** will automatically certify you as a Certified Campus Urban Farm Docent

Questions? Contact:

- Campus Urban Farm Intern (dhurbanfarm@gmail.com)

Lesson 1: Campus Urban Farm Virtual Tour & History

Instructions and Activities:

- 1) Introduction to Campus Urban Farm docent program:** Explanation of training requirements and the different tiers of expertise achievable through the Campus Urban Farm docent program:
 - a. **Review PDF here:** https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Y4IJLQuRRsXjkWOr_0V_-TD2fAEVR18B/view?usp=sharing
- 2) Review the Five W's (9 minutes):** Review presentation on background and history of the Campus Urban Farm, as well as identification and explanation of key Farm areas and elements to cover during tours.

a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/iMj91Kt1RI8>

i. Youtube video on how to walk to the Farm from NSM:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJK0daV9AVg>

3) Review Campus Urban Farm Elements and Areas (20 minutes): Review walkthrough of the Campus Urban Farm and features.

a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/Qxx9AZoswbw>

Homework Assignments-

- Review Farm map and feel free to take notes or fill in your own blank copy of the map highlighting the elements you find interesting
 - Farm Map: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UQOy3Svb1daoz-ewm5Ga8jaLsTSfRqS/view?usp=sharing>
 - Blank Map (template): <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LLVzS4I5UHI8CtYNbsUaA04V9NjcXrC7/view?usp=sharing>
- Review Demonstration Bed Videos:
 - Native American Bed (5 minutes): <https://youtu.be/g9hBEIf0kWQ>
 - Succession Bed (8 minutes): <https://youtu.be/k8O2So03LOA>
 - Will review Three Sisters Bed in Lesson 4
- Optional: Review Native Plants 101 (12 minutes) in order to explain benefits of native garden surrounding Campus Urban Farm (<https://youtu.be/-Xme3d9VYe0>)
- **Based on your map, write out an “elevator” speech (2-3 paragraphs) providing a brief 1-2 minute overview of the Campus Urban Farm.**
 - Submit here: <https://forms.gle/8vtKt9zsjnHF1h9t7>

Course 2: Compost & Soil

Instructions and Activities:

- 4) Composting 101 (16 minutes):** Identification and explanation of key composting concepts and Farm compost projects and styles.
- a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/-GBqUY8Lyig>
- 5) N-P-K Review (7 minutes):** Cover presentation on N-P-K concepts and how these nutrients are present in compost/fertilizer to support plant production.
- a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** https://youtu.be/SIIUNGHfu_k

Homework Assignments-

- Review/take online campus Recycling Quiz and test your knowledge:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf3oFdk4_FifwFOUugOpE5YX4QWnKPiFAifOiKo7Z5Vhdkxig/viewform
- Review Vermicompost 101 video (9 minutes): <https://youtu.be/MquKvX1cpPU>
- **Compost Tracking Activity: Log the items you throw away for one week. List what items would've made appropriate compost for the Farm vs. the commercial campus compost service.**
 - Submit here: <https://forms.gle/KVYTYgQjPcxRu7TH9>

Course 3: Garden Skills

Instructions and Activities:

- 6) Review Garden Ergonomics 101 presentation (7 minutes):** Review of ergonomics in a garden environment and stretching activities to prevent injury.
 - Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/yMO45LAB4ko>
- 7) Review Garden Tools 101 presentation (9 minutes):** Review presentation on general garden tools and their common uses.
 - Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/4jljNDm2X6E>
- 8) Review Power Tools 101 video (3 minutes):** Review video on power tools specifically at the Farm and how to use them safely.
 - Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/QvQTYtIU1mo>

Homework Assignments-

- **Find an example of a garden tool at home (or pick one from the presentation) and practice/review the techniques covered. Write a short 1-2 sentence review covering which tool you picked and tips for staying safe while using it. Also write a review for your favorite/most relaxing stretch.**
 - Submit responses via Google Form here:
<https://forms.gle/GHtKRWviWr6Kj3mn9>

Course 4: Crop Production

Instructions and Activities:

- 9) Review Urban Gardening presentation (20 minutes):** Review presentation on urban gardening techniques (how to choose what to plant, succession planting and easy crops to grow at home in small areas) as well as the concept of pollinators and companion crop planning.

- a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/Z5UdtX27L0I>

Homework Assignments-

- Review Three Sisters Bed companion planting video (7 minutes): <https://youtu.be/g9hBEIf0kWQ>
- Review Upcycle Container/Scrap Gardening video (5 minutes): <https://youtu.be/F-K6ROxFaic>
- Review following documents in order to complete homework:
 - Common Food Pantry Vegetables: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1s_XUk91N1iYE_53lQoRbmWFIH2HI9k82/view?usp=sharing
 - Warm Season Compatibility Chart: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OkDzp75kHn35T1-A0LzT4xT1HKCr5JxG/view?usp=sharing>
 - Cool Season Compatibility Chart: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/19cnxoaRGo7o-lly8nXHN9R9s-NJH3MR0/view?usp=sharing>
 - Southern California Planting Guide: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mp44Tayf8uhvRzFYaYDPBJdC3DWfsVhX/view?usp=sharing>
- **Crop Planning Activity:** based on the compatibility chart and list of common pantry vegetables, etc. design a theoretical raised bed (4'x4') planting scheme also featuring companion planting for the Campus Urban Farm during the warm season and the cool season respectively.
 - Submit recommended plants here: <https://forms.gle/f6X6VrN1tCinPA2d8>

Course 5: Watering

Instructions and Activities:

- 10) Review Watering Science Presentation (18 minutes):** Review of science behind watering schedule and calculations used at the Campus Urban Farm. Understand the environmental and plant factors that influence how much to water and how often.
- a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** https://youtu.be/G_AY0Pv7d64
- 11) Review Watering Calculations Presentation (10 minutes):** Cover presentation on how to apply water correctly using either a watering can or hose as well as application tips.
- a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/sZx2b-HftNw>

Homework Assignments-

- Review Water 101 video (14 minutes): <https://youtu.be/0svmmIQFbEM>
- Review Farm Watering Schedule (keep open during homework assignment): <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CryyKubv-gHrxstWTDxtOocKSRJQeT2b/view?usp=sharing>
- **Watering Review Assignment: based on the Farm watering schedule, determine how much water to apply in different scenarios.**
 - Submit here: <https://forms.gle/Gr98HQ2QRz1d8NV26>

Course 6: Integrated Pest Management

Instructions and Activities:

- 12) Review Integrated Pest Management Presentation (12 minutes):** Review of Integrated Pest Management and introduction/IPM solutions to the types of pests potentially found at the Farm.
 - a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/tmj-fzGZMAY>
- 13) Integrated Pest Management/Green Cleaning Home Activities (11 minutes):** Review of potential DIY solutions for applying integrated pest management and reducing your reliance on chemical cleaners in a home setting.
 - a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/Nt5VybEqC-A>

Homework Assignments-

- **IPM/Green Cleaning Assignment: Try one of the integrated pest management or green cleaning activities at home. Write a review on your favorite and whether you found it effective or not.**
 - Submit here: <https://forms.gle/kJcGpLvRTysF431K6>

Course 7: Group Facilitation & Administration

Instructions and Activities:

- 14) Food 101 Presentation (30 minutes):** Review presentation covering the importance of food from a sustainability perspective as well as the local and regional issues surrounding food and food access.

- a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/AjMU4Rnlwf0>

15) Group Facilitation & Administration Presentation (24 minutes): Review presentation covering the different groups that visit the Farm and the necessary protocol for accommodating them. Also learn more about roles and responsibilities for the different roles that support the Farm.

- a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/YOu9O6iXgiM>

16) Common Q&A Game Activity: Review the FAQ's below and have a friend or family member test you by asking these questions one at a time. Practice your responses as if talking to a Farm visitor.

- o Top FAQs: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1la7nIU97FxoVuzm6r0VNZ0t5X-L63EUQ/view?usp=sharing>

Homework Assignments-

- Review Communications 101 video (21 minutes): https://youtu.be/f0Ts6Y_N4Po

Course 8: Crop Identification & Troubleshooting

Instructions and Activities:

17) Plant ID & Care Presentation (18 minutes): Review presentation on identifying common crops at the Farm, pruning guidelines, and learning how to harvest them.

- a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/wB9tXqBKte0>

18) Herbs 101 Presentation (10 minutes): Review presentation on herb specific identification and care as well as harvesting.

- a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/OrexGUeEt9A>

19) Plant Problems Presentation (13 minutes): Review presentation on common plant problems and how to rectify them.

- a. **Recorded Youtube Presentation:** <https://youtu.be/KSYTvm3Ehk>

Homework Assignments-

- **Problem Guessing Game:** Review these five common examples of plant problems and identify what the potential causes might be.
 - o Submit here: <https://forms.gle/ovwjRF2GL6HfnMrX8>
- **Crop Report:** Do in-depth research on one of the crops grown at the Campus Urban Farm and report on what you discover. Include information on growing season, care (e.g. pruning, avoiding bolting, etc.), and how to harvest based on Internet research.
 - o Submit here: <https://forms.gle/1kyzpHYDZfxdvr8c6>

Post-Course Training Completion

After you have completed all eight courses, all docents in training will be expected to take a short final exam solidifying the concepts covered.

Final Exam- Take Here: <https://forms.gle/UcwVrUr91r1CvcxF7>

As long as you pass with an 80% completion score or higher, you will automatically earn a certificate verifying you are a Certified Docent. You may re-take the exam as often as you need to, but we recommend reviewing the course content in detail again before re-taking the exam more than once. Many questions are based on Farm-specific protocols or information discussed verbally during the presentations, and are designed to deter guessing.

Complete the docent training checklist to continue progressing if you want to move onto the higher experience tiers (with an according amount of recognition and benefits).

Docent Training Checklist here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Y4IJLQuRRsXjkWOr_0V_-TD2fAEVR18B/view?usp=sharing

The Farm intern will e-mail all certified docents once a year (after July 1) with instructions for applying to move up to a different tier if you have met the service hour and event support requirements.

Once you advance to a particular tier, you will retain lifetime status at that tier.