IU Campus Farm @ Hinkle-Garton

Summer Experience in Sustainable Specialty Crop Production
Special Topics SPEA E400 / Section 13636
3 credits – 12-week summer class

Course Description: This course focuses on the production and distribution of specialty crops (fruits and vegetables) that are grown in the summer/fall on an Indiana market farm. Students will study how to prepare soils, propagate plants, manage crops, harvest, and distribute fruits and vegetables using approaches steeped in sustainability and justice. The class requires participation in a 6-hour per week summer field experience at the IU Campus Farm, including weekly class meetings and experiential learning on the IU Campus Farm, as well as visits to other vegetable operations.

Class Schedule: Monday and Wednesday class meetings (8:00 AM- 10:30 AM before the heat of the day). Class lasts entire summer session. No formal class meeting during the 4th of July week, however, there will be field experience hours required. Students will sign up for an average of 6 hours per week of on-farm field experience. Don’t worry- vacations can easily be scheduled.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Learn how to prepare soils, propagate plants, manage crops, and harvest crops for public distribution.
2. Learn production practices related to the ecological sustainability of specialty crop production.
3. Articulate fundamental issues that bolster a just and ethical local food system.
4. Develop social engagement skills related to food distribution to the public and institutions.

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