



## What is the Ohio Sustainable Agriculture Education Network (OSAEN)?

OSAEN is a network of two and four-year colleges and universities in Ohio, that are collaborating to create statewide degree pathways in sustainable agriculture. The goal is to generate new sustainable agriculture degree programs, and to align curriculum among partnering institutions, so that course credits transfer smoothly between programs. The network is supported by a USDA Higher Education Challenge program grant to the Agroecosystems Management Program of The Ohio State University.

An Ohio Board of Regents Transfer Assurance Guide will be created to ensure the transfer of sustainable agriculture course credits (projected for 2018). The long-term goal of the network is to increase access to sustainable agriculture degrees for students from diverse backgrounds, and to provide students with the opportunity to develop skills in leadership, problem solving, systems thinking, entrepreneurship, and food production.

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## What is **sustainable agriculture**?

*In the 1990 Farm Bill, the US Congress defined “sustainable agriculture” as:*

“An **integrated system of plant and animal production practices** having a site-specific application that will, over the long term:

- Satisfy human food and fiber needs;
- Enhance environmental quality and the natural resource base upon which the agricultural economy depends;
- Make the most efficient use of nonrenewable resources and on-farm resources and integrate, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls;
- Sustain the economic viability of farm operations; and
- Enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole.”

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## What do **students learn** in a sustainable agriculture degree?

- The **biology and ecology** of agricultural production
  - The **sociology** of rural communities and food economies
  - The **economics** of food production
  - **Business, entrepreneurship and management** skills
  - How to **grow and raise food and fiber** on a farm!
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## What **kinds of jobs** does this degree prepare students to do?

- Farmer/Farm manager
- Agricultural research technician
- Corporate sustainability
- Policy development
- Environmental and social justice work
- Farm educator

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## What **transferable skills** do students learn, that can serve them in many careers?

- Written and verbal communication
- Interdisciplinary systems thinking
- Problem-solving
- Entrepreneurship
- Management
- Teamwork and collaboration

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## Where can students pursue a sustainable agriculture degree in Ohio?

### CURRENT:

- **Central State University**, B.S. in Sustainable Agriculture
- **The Ohio State University**, B.S. in Natural Resources with a specialization in Sustainable Agriculture
- **Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI), OSU**, A.S. in Sustainable Agriculture
- **Lorain County Community College**, A.A.S (Associate of Applied Science) in Sustainable Agriculture; one-year technical certificate in sustainable agriculture; short-term technical certificate in specialty crops; permaculture design certificate (PDC).

### *MORE OPTIONS COMING SOON!*

- **The Ohio State University**, major and specializations
- **Stark State College**, certificate and associate degree programs
- **Zane State College**, associate degree programs

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## Where can one find **more information**?

<http://amp.osu.edu/index.php/ohionetwork/>

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