Growing a Civically Engaged Curriculum: The Evolving Story of the Civic Agriculture and Food Systems (CAFS) Minor

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1. Growing a Civically Engaged Curriculum: The Evolving Story of the Civic Agriculture and Food Systems Minor; S. Clark & K. Niewolny

2. Companion Planting: The Reciprocity of Community-University Partnerships in Civic Agriculture and Food Systems Minor; J. Schwanke, R. Tombes, S. Walker & S. Clark


4. Cultivating Opportunity: Community Action Projects in the Civic Agriculture and Food Systems Minor CAPstone Course; S. Clark & J. Schwanke

5. Assessing Civically Engaged Curriculum: Civic Agriculture & Food Systems Minor at VT J. Helms and S. Clark


8. Mapping the Campus Food System: Assessing Consumer Awareness of VT Dining Services Garden at Kentland Farm; J. Cricenti, S. Clark, H. Scoggins & R. Harris

Panel Discussion
Embodies a commitment to developing & strengthening an economically, environmentally, & socially sustainable agriculture & food systems through building community capacity, using local resources, & serving local markets & citizens.

ALS 2204 Introduction to Civic Agriculture
ALS 3404 Ecological Agriculture: Theory and Practice
ALS 4204 Concepts in Community Food Systems
ALS 4214 Capstone: Civic Agriculture and Food Systems

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Food Security / Sovereignty
Students learn that both having access to enough food and having nutritional, culturally appropriate food both count.

Civic Engagement & Democratic participation
Students work/share dialogue in partnership with community stakeholders to set goals/objectives to design implement and evaluate projects.

Strong local economies
Students form partnerships with local growers participate in the growing of market gardens, CSA, hunger relief organizations.
Ecological Stewardship
Projects preserve/enhance environmental quality; promotes systems-oriented approach to agricultural & natural resource management

Healthy people/communities
Links people & communities with a healthy, accessible food system

Collaborative Teaching
Experiential Learning
Reciprocal learning about the real world; Passing on the gift of knowledge
Dialogue-based in/out class discussion, fieldwork, etc.

2204: Introduction to Civic Agriculture

4204: Concepts in Community Food Systems
Fieldwork – Community Engagement
Companion Planting: The Reciprocity of Community-University Partnerships in the Civic Agriculture and Food Systems Minor

Jenny Schwanke
Hale-YMCA Community Garden

Rial Tombes
VA Tech Dining Services Garden

Sally & J. P. Walker
Glade Road Growing
Our grow plan – the connection between partners and classroom

**Groundwork** – chose a community partner and start fieldwork.

**Cultivation** - Three semesters of building relationships, understanding community capitals & assessing needs

**Harvest** – Implementing the capstone project

**Reseeding** – leaving the project to be furthered by a new cohort of students
One individual’s path from student to community partner
STUDENT GROWTH

Hands on work

Understanding of personal capitals cultivating a relation with community partner

Engaged participant in community development
Mutually Beneficial Companion Planting – Growing Communities, Growing Students, Growing the University