

The background of the top half of the page features silhouettes of three people—two men and one woman—standing in a field. They are positioned against a bright, low sun that creates a strong lens flare and a warm, golden glow. The people are wearing caps and work clothes, suggesting they are farmers or agricultural workers. The overall mood is one of collaboration and hard work in a natural setting.

**PROFESSIONAL
CERTIFICATE**

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

*BLOOM A CAREER
FROM A SINGLE SEED*

Immerse yourself in farming, from history to growing to cultivation to business planning, and prepare to dive hands first into an agricultural career with upward growth and dedication.

- Agricultural history at the local and national level, including small and large farming techniques, and challenges and career opportunities in agriculture
- Soil maintenance and care, including fertility, irrigation, and organic/conventional fertilizers
- Proper cultivation practices, including harvesting, food safety, and regulations
- Business development aspects from an agribusiness focus, including planning, laws, inventory management, loans, and your role as an entrepreneur

Make your mark. Enroll now.

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UCR | Extension
Professional Studies

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

“My experience at UCR Extension was great. The instructors I had worked in industry, not just academics, and were able to share “real-world” scenarios for the assignments. I took “real-time” experiences back to the office, and implemented the new knowledge immediately.”

— Tracy Trettin
Administrative Operations
Manager
UCR School of Medicine

TEND AND GROW YOUR AGRIBUSINESS CAREER

While a farming career might seem like a job of the past, the agriculture industry is growing with the new trend toward healthier eating and better, greener growing standards. Be a part of the next generation of farmers or move into an agricultural career and help advance the quality of farm-fresh ingredients, handling, storage, and selling.

Begin by learning about the history of agriculture, the differences in small and large farming operations, and job opportunities in the industry. Take your knowledge out into the field, literally: Understand the different types of soil and what impacts its quality, including testing, compost, mulch, and irrigation. Plant your own seeds of various plants, including vegetables and specialty crops, and learn first-hand how weather changes, pests, and weeds affect your plants' quality and growth. When your plants are ready, discover cultivation best practices, such as harvesting, food safety, regulations, and refrigeration. Learn how to make your finished products work for you through business planning, record keeping, permits, budgeting, marketing, and more. With your breadth of farming practices and agricultural know-how, be ready to enter an agribusiness career or start your own farm knowing your experience gives you an advantage.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Historical background of agriculture in California and the US
- Small and large farming techniques and challenges and opportunities in agriculture
- Types of soil and care, such as soil testing, fertility, and plant nutrient requirements
- Techniques in growing various plants with naturally occurring challenges, such as seasonal changes and pest management
- Farm cultivation practices, including care of seedlings, harvesting, processing, food safety, and refrigeration
- Practical application of agribusiness management, such as business planning, record keeping, accounting, and billing

WHO CAN BENEFIT

This program is designed for individuals with an interest in urban farming or a career in agriculture. This includes those wanting to start their own business or interested in organic food supply, sustainable and local food sourcing, landscape and nursery production, irrigation, pest control and management, parks management, school garden maintenance, agroforestry, or land and water restoration.

ADMISSION

Take the course to complete your UCR Extension certificate. Whichever you choose, you will gain the personal power that comes through learning new skills. Be assured that you are receiving education that is backed by the UC tradition of excellence.

HOW TO EARN THIS CERTIFICATE

Individuals must complete a total of 18 quarter units, with a grade of C or better.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE TRAINING PROGRAM
18 UNITS

- This program can typically be completed within 10 months.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Prices, requirements and courses are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information:
Phone: (951) 827-4105
Email: prodev@ucx.ucr.edu
Website: extension.ucr.edu