**Course Name: Urban Agriculture**

**Number of credits: 2 ECTS**

**Period: Fall/spring semester (Ask Swati ma’am)**

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| Coordinator | **Prof. Aditi Mali** |
| Credits | 2 ECT |
| Lecturers | **Prof. Aditi Mali** |
| Level | Online course open for all |
| Host institution | Nirma University |
| Course duration | 14 Days |

**Summary**

*This 2 ECTS course will be taught by Prof. Aditi Mali online. This course is for any habitat building students or professionals like architects, urban planners, civil engineers, interior designers, urban designers and more. This course will introduce the concepts, benefits and practical uses of urban agriculture to create more resilient cities and settlements. The students will learn and have a hands-on with one of the most impactful climate change and food security mitigation approaches by exploring their own neighbourhoods and giving solutions for a better tomorrow! Grow Local, Eat Local.*

**Target student audiences**

Open for all (online course)

**Prerequisites**

Open for all

**Aims and objectives**

This course aims to reflect upon, rethink, and redefine our current food systems in cities through urban agriculture. Through this course, the participants will be able to integrate urban agriculture on any scale and in a wide variety of domains like single units, green buildings, neighbourhood space, cityscapes and more. The main objectives are:

* To create awareness and sensitise participants towards the importance of sustainable food systems.
* To redefine and recreate their narrative of the food supply.
* To provide innovative solutions to ease kitchen gardening at the household level, neighbourhood level and city level.
* To put forward possible ways to counter situations like food shortage in the pandemic, climate change impacts etc. through urban agriculture.

**General learning outcomes:**

By the end of the course, successful students will:

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| --- | --- |
| Knowledge | * Learn through best practices in cities incorporating urban agriculture into their design palate and understanding
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| Comprehensive | * Discuss and gain insights into urban food systems and supply chain
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| Application | * Apply the learnings and principles in designing the habitat
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| Analysis | * Investigate and analyze a diversity of urban agricultural systems also exploring the
* need for indoor agriculture
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| Synthesis | * Incorporate the learnings and principles in designing new habitat
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**Overview of sessions and teaching methods**

The course will make most of the interactive and self-reflective methods of teaching and learning and, where possible, avoid standing lectures and presentations.

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| **Learning methods** | * Video presentations
* Group discussions, debates etc
* Interviews, surveys, group work, written articles/essay
* Project Based Learning
* Literature review
* Stakeholder analysis/client consultancy
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| **Course outline** | **Unit 1: Introduction to Urban Agriculture (Day 1 – 5)*** Understanding of Agriculture
* Understanding of Urban Agriculture
* Understanding Organizational framework
* Virtual Farm visits to different scale of farms in different cities
* Growing microgreens – to be consumed as Salad lunch day on later in the week once they are ready

**Unit 2: Case Study and Analysis (Day 6 – 9)*** To case study research, analysis, discussions, make a video of the analysis of various cities and agri-businesses

**Unit 3: Build a narrative on the food supply chain and give solutions to incorporate urban agriculture in their neighbourhood. (Day 10-14)*** Find out the food supply chain of your own neighbourhood by surveys of consumers, shopkeepers, wholesalers; FGDs etc
* Map your neighbourhood and identify spaces where urban agriculture can be practised and where it is existing already practised
* Propose ways and methods to incorporate urban agriculture in the given spaces through physical planning, policies, incentives, community participation etc
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**Literature**

1. Rich food, smart city: how building reliable, inclusive, competitive, and healthy food systems is smart policy for urban Asia by Gayatri Acharya, Emilie Cassou, Steven Jaffee and Elyssa Kaur Ludher
2. Public Policies and Food Systems in Latin America by Jean-François Le Coq, Catia Grisa, Stéphane Guéneau, Paulo Niederle.
3. Cities and Agriculture: Developing Resilient Urban Food Systems (2015) by RAUF
4. Urban Agriculture Magazines all editions by RAUF
5. Second Nature Urban Agriculture: Designing Productive Cities Ed by André Viljoen and Katrin Bohn
6. Creating Urban Agricultural Systems: An Integrated Approach To Design Gundula, Proksch
7. Carrot City: Creating Places For Urban Agriculture by Mark Gorgolewski, June Komisar and Joe Nasr
8. Designing Urban Agriculture: A Complete Guide to the Planning, Design, Construction, Maintenance and Management of Edible Landscapes Hardcover by April Philips.
9. Urban Agriculture by Aubry, Christine, Duchemin, Éric, Nasr, Joe.
10. Creating Urban Agricultural Systems An Integrated Approach to Design By Gundula Proksch.
11. Sustainable Urban Agriculture and Food Planning by Rob Roggema.

**Course workload**

The table below summarizes course workload distribution:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activities** | **Learning outcomes** | **Assessment** | **Estimated workload (hours)** |  |
| **In-class activities (60 hours)** |  |
| Lectures | Understanding theories, concepts, methodology and tools | Class participation | 20 |  |
| Moderated in-class discussions as well as tutoring and consulting | Understanding various policy and management contexts and common problems in communication in Urban Agriculture | Class participation and preparedness for discussions | 25 |  |
| In-class assignments | Understanding various policy and management contexts and common problems in communication in Urban Agriculture | Class participation and preparedness for assignments | 15 |  |
| **Independent work (12 hours)** |  |
| Individual presentation | Ability to interpret data, to analyze the audience, and use the concepts, and tools, for understanding Urban Agriculture | Quality of individual presentation | 12 |  |
| ***Total*** |  |  | ***72 hours*** |  |
| **Evaluation** | Pass or Fail |