

Los Gatos High School Agroecology Class Internship

2 and 5 unit internships

GENERAL & CONTACT INFORMATION

Organization: Los Gatos High School Agroecology Class
Date: 11/21/2017 (on file for one year)

Supervisor: Philip Rosenblum, Science Teacher

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Interns needed for: Fall, Winter, Spring



OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

The Los Gatos High School Garden is located in the town of Los Gatos, about a 30 minute drive north from UC Santa Cruz.

The Los Gatos High School Agroecology class is comprised of Juniors and Seniors age 15-18. Each class has about 24 students, more than half of whom are special education students having either an IEP or 504 plan. Each student is assigned a 5'x10' garden plot of their own to work on and experiment with throughout the school year. The class focuses on the cultivation of annual edible and ornamental plants. As each plant goes through its complete life cycle, students have the opportunity to observe and document all of its life stages.

The class meets for an hour and a half every other day, so some weeks on T/TH and on alternating weeks M/W/F. One section of the class meets before lunch (10:30am-11:45 am). We typically meet for a classroom lesson for the first half hour, then walk to the garden for the remainder of the class time. An intern will work during this morning class two to three days a week. Some additional time before or after class for planning and debriefing would be expected.

INTERN RESPONSIBILITIES

The primary responsibility of the intern would be helping students to stay on task both in the classroom and in the garden, as students sow seeds, transplant seedlings, water, weed, install drip systems, take care of the garden rabbits and chickens, and complete written journal and

classroom assignments.

A secondary responsibility would be to add to the course curriculum by designing, teaching, and reflecting upon an engaging hands-on lesson or lessons related to the topic of Agroecology.

Depending on the hours and credits selected, Interns could have the third responsibility of contributing to and improving on some aspect of the school garden. This is very open-ended and could mean anything from creating colorful garden signs to repairing the compost bins to creating a tool organization system.

PREREQUISITES

1. Outline the skills and background information necessary to participate in this internship.
2. Interns would need their own transportation to and from the school site.
3. Some experience working with special needs students or at-risk youth is desirable but not necessary.
4. Completion of one or more agroecology related classed or gardening experience is also desirable, but not necessary.