

Student Internship



Faculty of Land and Food Systems
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Centre for Sustainable Food Systems

Position Title: Organic Farm - Biodiversity & Orchard Intern

Background

Located on unceded Musqueam territory, the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems (CSFS) at UBC Farm is a unique research center that aims to understand and fundamentally transform local and global food systems towards a more sustainable, food secure future. The CSFS at UBC Farm is a living laboratory committed to finding solutions to both local and global challenges facing food systems sustainability and translating solutions to improve personal, community, and environmental health.

The Career Development Internship aims to engage UBC students with their local food system and create opportunities to experience the working environment of a food sustainability focused organization. Interns work alongside food systems practitioners and faculty to increase their understanding and knowledge of food systems work, from organic agriculture to food production methods, food-focused community engagement, and business management.

Situated within a 90-year-old coastal hemlock forest, the UBC Farm comprises a mosaic of cultivated annual crop fields, perennial hedgerows and orchards, pasture, teaching gardens, and forest stands. The Biodiversity & Orchard Intern(s) will have the opportunity to learn about a variety of farm management tasks including: updating and improving the UBC Farm hedgerow systems, inventory and mapping invasive species; and assisting with the apple harvest (recording, quality control, and taste test).

Interns are expected to enroll in the Career Development Internship course (LFS 496) for 6 credits in their respective programs. At the end of the 26-week internship, students will be eligible to receive course credit towards their UBC degree.

Duties

The Biodiversity & Orchard Intern(s) will work alongside the UBC Farm team on the following tasks:

- Update the hedgerow species chart
- Update the invasive species management plan and map using GIS PRO
- Map hedgerow systems currently missing from our data base on GIS PRO
- Management and maintenance of all hedgerow systems on-site
- Harvest the 65 varieties of apples
- Collect data related to harvest and grading of apples
- Maintain records of production for the orchard

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Tel: 604.822.5092, Fax: 604.822.3280, 2357 Main Mall, Vancouver, BC, V6T 1Z4

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www.landfood.ubc.ca/ubcfarm

STUDENT INTERNSHIP POSTING	DATE	PAGE NUMBER
Organic Farm Biodiversity & Orchard Intern	January 15, 2019	2

Preferred Qualifications

- UBC student eligible for LFS 496.
- Basic plant identification skill (APBI/BIOL 324 an asset)
- Capable of using Excel to collect and organize data
- Comfortable learning new software (experienced with GIS Pro an asset)
- Willingness to learn and desire to gain experience
- Ability to work both in a team and individually setting
- Capable to work fast while staying detailed-oriented

Position Details

- Preference will be given to students who are available from May to December (6 credits over two semesters—May to August & September to December— for a total of 252 hours, or average of 9 hours per week).
- Students who are only available from May to August (3 credits, or an average of 9 hours per week) will be considered. Due to the nature of seasonal farm tasks, their internship will likely focus on biodiversity.
- Students who are only available from September to December (3 credits, or an average of 9 hours per week) will be considered. Due to the nature of seasonal farm tasks, their internship will focus on orchard management.
- Flexible schedule to be determined with the candidate
- This is an unpaid, for credit, internship

How to apply

- Apply by submitting one Adobe PDF document combining a cover letter and résumé.
- The cover letter should be maximum 500 words, state which internship position you are applying for, and what you hope to gain from such an experience or how you feel this experience would contribute to your overall learning and education at UBC
- **Email:** Mel Sylvestre, sylvestre.melanie@ubc.ca
- All applications should clearly refer to "Career Development Internship"
- Applications deadline **February 24th 2019**
- Please no phone calls
- More information about the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems at UBC Farm can be found at www.landfood.ubc.ca/ubcfarm

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