

Sustainable Food and Farming

Red Wing and Winona Campus

OVERVIEW

If you're seeking a personally fulfilling career with sustainability in mind, consider Sustainable Food and Farming at Minnesota State College Southeast in Winona.

In Southeast Minnesota and nearby Wisconsin, tall limestone bluffs rise above the Mississippi River while creeks and rivers wind their way through steep valleys. This fragile landscape demands special care when used for agriculture, posing unique challenges and opportunities for farmers. That's why Winona, MN, is an exceptional location for studying sustainability.

The **Sustainable Food and Farming** program at MSC Southeast is a two-year Associate of Applied Science degree. Course work revolves around four main areas: general education, small business skills, agriculture technical science, and agriculture trade skills.

In Sustainable Food and Farming, all aspects of agriculture are considered with economic prosperity, social responsibility, and environmental stewardship in mind.

- **Economic prosperity:** Business and marketing classes will prepare you for managing a small business enterprise or farm successfully. Practical, hands-on training in maintenance and use of farm equipment is part of the curriculum.
- **Social responsibility:** Learn how small farms can promote healthy rural communities while remaining independent and contributing to a vibrant local economy.
- **Environmental stewardship:** Understand agricultural systems that utilize biodiversity, restoration, and permaculture design while preventing water contamination and soil loss.

Your studies conclude with practical experience working on a farm or other agricultural/food production setting, where you will be involved in all aspects of operations, from business planning to physical labor. Expect to get your hands dirty as you learn from an established mentor what it takes to succeed in running a sustainability based farm!

MAJORS WITHIN

Sustainable Food and Farming, AAS	60 credits
Farm Maintenance, Certificate	16 credits
See back for program plan	



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Developed in cooperation with national and regional experts in the field of Sustainable Agriculture

Teaches practical, hands-on skills such as welding, basic construction, and Class B CDL training

Includes marketing and business planning as an integral part of the curriculum

Practicum in the field provides opportunities for critical thinking and problem solving in the agricultural setting

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Farm owner or manager
 Direct marketing of natural, locally grown foods
 Small business management
 Natural resources manager

JOB PLACEMENT

TBD

PROGRAM COSTS - estimated tuition

Sustainable Food and Farming	\$11,675
Farm Maintenance	\$3,113
(does not include books or supplies)	



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Sustainable Food and Farming - Associate of Applied Science Proposed Program Plan

Sustainable Food and Farming - AAS

Course No.	Course Name	Credits
First Semester (Fall)		
AGRI 1100	Farm Safety	2
CARP 1115	Emerging Construction Technologies I	2
BUSN 2000	Small Business Development	3
BIOL 1240	Introduction to Agroecology	4
ACCT 2201	Financial Accounting	4
Semester total		15
Second Semester (Spring)		
BIOL 2240	Soil Science	4
MATH 1240	Intro to Statistics	3
BUSN 2225	Principles of Marketing	3
AGRI 1202	Animal Science	3
WELD 1442	Individualized Welding Skills	2
Semester total		15
Third Semester (Fall)		
CHEM 1122	Environmental Chemistry	3
DESL 1200	Introduction to Diesel Technology	2
BUSN 2210	Legal Environment of Business	3
ELEC 1202	Intro to DC Electricity	2
ENGL 1215	College Writing I	3
AGRI 2200	Crop Science	3
Semester total		16
Fifth Semester (Spring)		
Goal 6	Any MnTC Goal 6 Elective	3
ECON 1405	Personal Finance	3
AGRI 2599	Agriculture Practicum	3
BUSN 2220	Principles of Management	3
TRDR 1300	Straight Truck Proficiency	2
Semester total		14
Required Credits		60

Farm Maintenance - Certificate

Course No.	Course Name	Credits
Fall		
AGRI1100	Farm Safety	2
BIOL1240	Introduction to Agroecology	4
CARP1115	Emerging Construction Technologies 1	2
DESL1200	Introduction to Diesel Technology	2
ELEC1202	Introduction to DC Electricity	2
TRDR1300	Straight Truck Proficiency	2
WELD1442	Individualized Welding Skills Lab	2
Total Required Credits		16

Program graduates will be able to:

1. Demonstrate safe and effective use of a variety of agricultural equipment
2. Incorporate principles of soil science, crop science, and animal science into an agricultural system
3. Design small-scale diversified farming systems which account for long-term, short-term, and seasonal production
4. Implement integrated farming practices that promote healthy soil, ecologically sound nutrient management, and sustainability
5. Develop a sound business plan for a family farm or small-scale agricultural operation
6. Understand the economic, social, and environmental impacts of agricultural practices in Southeast Minnesota