Internship Descriptions for the Student Farm

ECOLOGICAL GARDEN (EG)

General Ecological Garden Internship* - EG
Interns participate in all aspects of garden maintenance in the Ecological Garden. They:

- dig garden beds
- sow seeds and transplant seedlings
- care for perennial herbs and fruit trees
- maintain the garden-scale composting system
- maintain paths
- care for the flock of laying hens
- manage weeds
- help control pests
- fertilize and irrigate plantings
- harvest produce
- contribute to overall garden planning

A minimum of 3 hours per week are required. More than three hours/week are recommended.

Worm Compost Management Internship* - EG
This internship involves taking primary responsibility for monitoring, feeding, harvesting, and repair of the two vermicompost systems in the Ecological Garden. These are the 4’x 8’ covered wooden box and the black plastic can of worms both located on the south side of the fieldhouse and chicken yard. Intern would work with EG leads as well as any EG interns and volunteers as needed.

Responsibilities are the following:

- gain understanding of both vermicompost systems
- each week obtain food waste from MG packing shed and/or Project Compost to feed systems
- maintain appropriate moisture levels
- harvest finished compost and use in EG
- paint and reinforce the wooden box top
- resecure latches for the wooden tops

This internship requires 1-3 hours weekly. This can be done along with general EG garden responsibilities.

Aerobic Compost Management Internship* - EG
This internship involves taking primary responsibility for monitoring, maintaining, and harvesting of the aerobic composting system in the Ecological Garden. Intern would work with EG leads as well as any EG interns and volunteers as needed to manage the three-bin system on the north side of the garden.

Responsibilities are the following:

- gain understanding of Ecological Garden aerobic compost system
- work with EG garden crew to manage garden waste for aerobic composting
- each week obtain food waste from MG packing shed and/or Project Compost to feed system
- harvest chicken manure from chicken coop and add to aerobic system
- maintain appropriate moisture levels

*Type A Internship - Specific responsibilities that are ongoing regardless of intern/volunteer interest or involvement
**Type B Internship - Specific Student Farm project-based internships that need to be done
• harvest finished compost and use in EG

This internship requires 1-3 hours weekly. This can be done along with general EG garden responsibilities.

**Medicinal and Culinary Herb Management Internship* - EG**

This internship involves taking primary responsibility for maintaining herbs growing in the Ecological Garden. These are concentrated in our medicinal herb raised bed and the culinary herb garden but also includes herbs in other locations in the EG. Intern would work with EG leads as well as any EG interns and volunteers as needed.

Responsibilities are the following:

• familiarize yourself with medicinal and culinary herbs in the EG
• care for herbs as needed by weeding, pruning, dividing, mulching, fertilizing, transplanting, and managing for pests
• maintain irrigation systems on herbs and check periodically for functioning
• propagate and/or obtain new herbs to supplement/diversify existing beds as necessary
• help maintain labels and databases for these herbs

This internship would require 2-3 hours weekly. This can be done along with general EG garden responsibilities.

**Fruit Tree Management Internship* - EG**

This internship involves taking primary responsibility for maintaining the fruit trees growing in the Ecological Garden. Intern would work with EG leads as well as any EG interns and volunteers as needed.

Responsibilities are the following:

• familiarize yourself with the fruit trees in the EG
• care for fruit trees as needed including weeding, pruning, mulching, fertilizing, and managing for pests
• maintain irrigation systems on fruit trees and check periodically for functioning
• develop an annual maintenance schedule for each of the garden’s fruit trees
• help maintain labels and databases for the fruit trees
• during winter quarter this internship will involve a fair bit of annual pruning

This internship would require 3-6 hours weekly during winter quarter, 1-3 hours during other quarters. This can be done along with general EG garden responsibilities.

**Vegetable Crop Management Internship* - EG**

This internship involves taking responsibility for annual vegetable crop planning and management in the Ecological Garden. Intern would work with EG leads as well as any EG interns and volunteers as needed.

Responsibilities are the following:

• gain understanding of crop planning, crop rotation & crop requirements
• considering the programmatic needs of the Ecological Garden, develop seasonal crop plan including planting, transplanting and harvest schedule
• ensure sowing and transplanting schedule is upheld
• coordinate the acquisition of seeds and or other necessary materials as needed
• oversee pest management in the vegetable crop beds, particularly monitoring and protection from vertebrate and insect pests

*Type A Internship - Specific responsibilities that are ongoing regardless of intern/volunteer interest or involvement

**Type B Internship - Specific Student Farm project-based internships that need to be done
This internship would require 3-6 hours weekly. This can be done along with general EG garden responsibilities.

**Native Plant Information Cards Project Internship** - EG
This internship involves finishing a project that was started by previous interns and volunteers. Intern would produce info cards that can be used in the garden by interns, volunteers, and docents to provide information about the native species planted in the EG. All content, design and layout for these has been completed.

Responsibilities are the following:
- familiarize yourself with native plantings in the EG
- complete final review and edits on existing content
- produce cards using in-house lamination process
- develop means of introducing and using the cards with EG interns
- develop means of introducing and using the cards with Kids in the Garden interns
- facilitate link to these materials from Student Farm website

This internship would require 3 hours weekly for one quarter.

**Plant Labeling and Database Management Internship** - EG
This internship involves contributing to an ongoing project that was started by previous interns and volunteers. Intern would produce labels that can be used by visitors, interns, volunteers, and docents to identify perennial species planted in the EG.

Responsibilities are the following:
- familiarize yourself with perennial plantings in the EG
- update plant database
- develop sustainable interface between database and label template
- produce labels using lamination process
- make plant label holders as needed
- develop simple how-to EG database and garden labeling for SF students and staff

This internship would require 3 hours weekly for one quarter.

**MARKET GARDEN (MG)**

**General Market Garden Internship** - MG
The intern will participate in all aspects of production and harvest in the Market Garden. They will:
- harvest produce for CSA and UC Dining Service
- sow seeds in green house
- transplant in field
- cultivate weeds
- apply and remove row covers
- help control pests
- fertilize and irrigate crops

*Type A Internship - Specific responsibilities that are ongoing regardless of intern/volunteer interest or involvement
**Type B Internship - Specific Student Farm project-based internships that need to be done
A minimum of 3 hours per week are required, and should be split between harvest and non-harvest days. More than three hours/week are recommended. Along with field hours, a journal must be kept.

**Green House Internship** - MG
The green house intern will learn and take responsibility for the full range of activities in the Market Garden green house. These include:

- preparation of seed flat mix
- sowing seeds
- fertilizing plants
- pest and weed control
- crop planning
- growing crops in the green house
- irrigation

Six hours/week are required, either in two 3 hour days, or three 2 hour days. This will provide enough hours for two internship units.

**Pest Management Internship** - MG
The intern will focus on pest management problems in the Market Garden fields and green house. Duties will include:

- monitoring fields and green house for pests
- maintaining sticky traps in greenhouse for fungus gnat adults
- spraying predatory nematodes in green house
- locating and trapping gophers and squirrels
- implementing strategies to control weeds—hoeing, mulching, flaming
- applying organically approved pesticides, if needed

Training will be provided for all of these activities. A minimum of 3 hours per week are required, and should be split between two days each week. Along with field hours, a journal must be kept.

**CSA Internship** - MG
The intern will participate in all aspects of the Student Harvest CSA. Duties include:

- harvesting for the CSA
- planting for the CSA
- writing the weekly letter for the CSA
- learning about and helping with the CSA database
- maintaining CSA equipment and supplies
- learning about and helping to plan for the CSA
- learning about and helping with the renewal process

This internship requires at least 3 hours/week, and 6 hours is preferred. The intern must work more than one quarter, an entire year is preferred. A journal is also required.

**Crop Production Internship** - MG
The intern will plan and grow a vegetable crop that will be integrated into Market Garden sales to the CSA, Farmers Market, Coffee House or the UC Davis Dining Services. Activities include:

- crop planning
- land preparation and fertilization
- sowing seed and/or transplanting
- irrigation
- pest management

*Type A Internship - Specific responsibilities that are ongoing regardless of intern/volunteer interest or involvement
**Type B Internship - Specific Student Farm project-based internships that need to be done
• harvest
• sales
The intern needs to work 6 hours/week and may need more than one quarter to complete the crop production process. A journal is also required.

Irrigation Internship* - MG
The intern will learn and implement drip, sprinkler, and furrow irrigation techniques in the Market Garden. Activities will include:

• all aspects of setting up and operating a drip irrigation system
• all aspects of setting up and operating a sprinkler irrigation system
• all aspects of setting up and operating a furrow irrigation system
• gaining an understanding of CIMIS evapotranspiration info. and applying it to irrigation
• repair and maintenance of irrigation systems

A minimum of 3 hours/week is required, preferably split over two days during the week. It is usually best to do this internship in the Spring, Summer, or Fall.

Landscape Planning and Maintenance Internship* - MG
The intern will learn how to plant and maintain beneficial insect and edible plant areas for organic farms. Activities include:

• identifying plants that attract beneficial insects and/or are edible
• propagation and planting of beneficial insect landscape and edible plants
• maintaining established landscape plants: includes pruning, weeding, irrigation, and fertilization

A minimum of 3 hours/week is required. Activities can occur any quarter.

Weed Identification Handbook Project Internship** - MG
The intern will identify, collect, and label weeds, and incorporate them into a book to be used by Market Garden participants. Activities include:

• collecting and indentifying weeds at various stages of growth
• preserving weeds for illustration
• creating a book to be used by other students that includes information about weed season, life cycles, growth habit, etc.

This internship requires at least 3 hours/week and can be done one quarter at a time, e.g. “Spring Weeds”, “Fall Weeds”, etc.

Construction Project Internship** - MG
The intern will help construct equipment needed by the Market Garden to improve vegetable production. Possible projects include:

• hoop house construction
• tractor implement construction
• packing shed renovation or improvements
• green house renovation or improvements
• trellis construction

*Type A Internship - Specific responsibilities that are ongoing regardless of intern/volunteer interest or involvement
**Type B Internship - Specific Student Farm project-based internships that need to be done
The intern will work with the Market Garden Coordinator to plan and implement projects. A minimum of 3 hours/week is required. Most projects can be completed in one quarter.

**Seed Saving Project Internship** - MG
The intern will learn about saving seeds from a variety of vegetables and fruits grown at the Student Farm. Activities include:

- seed saving planning
- preparations needed to save seed
- gathering seeds from plants
- cleaning seeds
- storing seeds
- introductory plant breeding

This internship requires a minimum of 3 hours/week. Spring, summer and fall are the best quarters to participate. Some seed saving projects may require more than one quarter.

**EQUIPMENT SHOP (ES)**

**Shop Crew Internship** - ES
Shop Crew interns gain practical experience in general farm operations while supporting the day-to-day needs of the Student Farm. Activities include:

- utilizing and maintaining farm equipment
- general mechanics
- metalworking
- irrigation
- farm construction
- recordkeeping

Interns should expect to be engaged in a diverse array of activities such as maintaining machinery, operating machinery, managing compost production, metal fabrication and repairs, and helping with wood working projects. Interns are required to work at least three consecutive hours one day a week. Previous Student Farm internship experience is preferable, but not required.

**Vineyard Management Internship** - ES
Interns will gain practical experience managing a Certified Organic table grape vineyard. Responsibilities include:

- familiarizing yourself with the table grape varieties in the Student Farm vineyard
- caring for grape vines as needed including weeding, pruning, training, mulching, fertilizing, irrigating, managing for pests and harvesting
- following and making improvements to an annual maintenance schedule for the vineyard
- recordkeeping

This internship requires 3 hours weekly or 30 hours/quarter. Some weekend work may be required.

*Type A Internship - Specific responsibilities that are ongoing regardless of intern/volunteer interest or involvement
**Type B Internship - Specific Student Farm project-based internships that need to be done
Type A Internship - Specific responsibilities that are ongoing regardless of intern/volunteer interest or involvement

**Type B Internship - Specific Student Farm project-based internships that need to be done**