

CIVIC AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS



What is it?

The Civic Agriculture and Food Systems minor embodies a commitment to developing and strengthening an **economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable agriculture and food system**. This interdisciplinary minor provides students with knowledge and skills to promote academic enhancement, personal growth, and civic engagement through reflection and **experiential practice to address and solve 'real-world' problems**. The minor provides opportunity for interdisciplinary and community-based learning, and active engagement in and outside the classroom.

Why do it?

Minor cornerstones:

- Food security/sovereignty
- Civic engagement/democratic participation
- Strong local economies
- Ecological stewardship
- Healthy people/communities
- Collaborative teaching and experiential learning



Who is it for?

The Minor is directed for students in any major interested in the minor cornerstones, looking to integrate knowledge and skills in civic agriculture and food systems into personal, civic and professional practice.

Pathways Core Concepts

- 1a - Advanced/Applied Discourse
- 3 - Reasoning in the Social Sciences
- 4 - Reasoning in the Natural Sciences
- 6d - Critique and Practique in Design & the Arts

Pathways Integrative Concepts

- 10 - Ethical Reasoning
- 11 - Intercultural and Global Awareness

PATHWAYS MINORS

CIVIC AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

Requirements

The 18-credit Civic Agriculture and Life Sciences Pathways minor has four required Agriculture and Life Sciences courses (3 credits each).

Required courses

ALS 2204 Introduction to Civic Agriculture

ALS 3404 Ecological Agriculture: Theory and Practice

ALS 4204 Concepts in Community Food Systems

ALS 4214 Capstone: Civic Agriculture and Food Systems

Elective courses

Students select the remaining six credits from a list of cross-disciplinary College of Agriculture and Life Sciences departmental courses that complement the minor. Consult the complete list at [\[link\]](#).



“The minor challenged my understanding of the world around me and encouraged a more thoughtful, transformative way of thinking. With the support of the Civic Ag Learning Community, I now realize my passions for food justice and for community development work.”

Caylin Stewart, Ag Leadership & Community Education, May 2018

www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/minors

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PATHWAYS TO GENERAL EDUCATION