



**CUST 396A/96A**  
**Curriculum Development and Evaluation (3 credits)**  
**Agriculture in the Classroom: Integrating Agricultural Themes across the Curriculum**

**Summer Institute 2008**  
**July 14 – 18, 2008**  
**Times: 8:30-4:30 pm daily**  
**Location: Vernon, British Columbia**  
**School Address: To be confirmed**

**Offered in conjunction with External Programs and Learning Technology at UBC and the BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation**

**Instructor: Mary Gale Smith, Ph.D.**

**Course Description and Assignments**

This course is designed for teachers in the BC school system. to explore practical ways to integrate concepts related to food production and consumption, food safety, agricultural issues, and sustainability across the curriculum at all grade levels. Through active participation, field trips, guest speakers, video presentations, and the like, participants will expand their knowledge of agriculture and food concepts and issues and reflect on their own values and orientations to the topic. Ways to incorporate this new knowledge into existing courses will be explored with ethical defensibility being the guiding principle. The goal is to produce curriculum projects that can be implemented in schools or other settings.

**VALUED ENDS FOR THE COURSE**

The following outcome statements should serve as a framework for your learning during the course. This course will assist you with:

- Understanding all aspects of the food system and related issues.
- Formulating appropriate pedagogical approaches to integrating agricultural content into existing curriculum (i.e., teaching strategies, resource activities, lesson plans and unit plans with the specific intent of infusing food, agriculture, and sustainability concepts and agri-food issues in your subject area(s), grade level(s), or education related setting.
- Developing a reflective and inquiring approach to teaching food, agriculture, and sustainability concepts and issues in your subject area(s) and grade level(s).

As a three-credit program, the BC Agriculture in the Classroom Summer Institute has three components:

- Part 1:** A Pre-Institute assignments (30 %)  
**Part 2:** Participation in the Summer Institute (30 %)  
**Part 3:** A Post-Institute assignment (40 %)

**Part 1: Pre-Institute Assignments (due first day of class)**

1) Reading, Reflecting, and Response Writing

A reading list of 5 articles that discuss Agriculture and Food and appropriate educational approaches will be provided in advance of the course. A specific response format will be outlined.

2) Exploring the Possibilities for Infusing Agriculture in Your Subject Area

Obtain the most current IRP for your subject area and highlighting the possibilities for integrating agricultural content.

3) Preparing a Graphic Representation of Your Participation and Interest in Agriculture. A specific format will be outlined,

**Part 2: Participation Summer Institute**

This includes classroom sessions and field trips. Participants will keep a daily log and work in groups to explore the ways the knowledge gained during the field trips can be used in teaching. A culmination of these explorations and the log will be collected and marked.

**Part 3: Post-Institute Assignment**

Participants will identify a teaching activity or a unit for a specific course and grade level that uses/infuses agricultural content and examples. This teaching activity or unit will be developed so that it can be shared with other teachers. These Agriculture in the Classroom activities or unit plans will be distributed by the BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation. A scoring rubric will be provided (due August 15<sup>th</sup>). Examples from previous summer institute participants are available from British Columbia Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation.