

VanDusen Botanical Garden Association

LFS 496 Teaching Garden Assistant – Winter Term 2 2023

Mentor: Chantal Martin From VanDusen Botanical Garden Association

Position Location: 5151 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC V6M 4H1

Hours and Credits: 117 hours, January 9, 2023 - April 13, 2023 (3 credits)

Background

The Career Development Course aims to engage UBC students with their local food system and create opportunities to experience the working environment of a food sustainability focused organization. Students work alongside their mentor, 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.

Position Details

As part of the environmental education program, VanDusen Botanical Garden Association is building a new Teaching Garden that will allow students to gain hands-on experience in the garden. The Teaching Garden is set for construction in 2023, with programming beginning in the Fall. As a Teaching Garden Assistant, you will prepare for the opening of the Teaching Garden by developing appropriate education programs for Teaching Garden participants and schools who come for field trips at the facility. You will co-facilitate current educational courses and programs that the Education department offers.

Specific Duties

The Teaching Garden Assistant student will perform the following tasks:

- Work with the Teaching Garden Coordinator to identify optimal food crops to grow, and create a list of the best food crops to grow each month.
- Work with the Education Team to develop educational programs on food systems.
- Co-facilitate educational courses and programs in the Teaching Garden.
- Research food system activities.
- Assist in creation of resources for K - 12 teachers on activities for their gardens, which they can practice in the Teaching Garden.

Learning Goals

- Growing food in raised beds
- Research skills
- Working with the public
- Educational programming skills
- Working with community partners

Qualifications

- Must be a UBC student intending to register for LFS 496 for Winter 1 term
- Must pass a criminal record check for working with children and vulnerable populations
- Interest in and willingness to learn about urban farming, community education and nonprofits
- Education and/or experience in gardening, farming, cooking, ecology, or related fields preferred
- Experience with Google Suite, Microsoft Suite, and Social Media platforms
- Willing to work outdoors in all weather conditions
- Able to follow policies and procedures to ensure participant and staff health and safety
- Flexible to travel to VanDusen Botanical Garden on Oak Street

How to Apply

Submit a resume and cover letter to cmartin@vandusen.org.

All applications should clearly refer to the "LFS 496 Career Development Course" when applying.

The cover letter should include an introduction, share why you want this position, and what you hope to gain from the position if accepted. Cover letters should be no more than 500 words.

Applications deadline November 27, 2022 at 11:59 p.m

About The VanDusen Botanical Garden Association

The Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association (VBGA) and the City of Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation (Park Board) are joint operating partners for VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory. The Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association (VBGA) is a charitable not-for-profit, incorporated under the BC Societies Act. Our mission is to engage people of all ages and walks of life in the importance of biodiversity to our lives, and to foster a lifelong love of plants and gardens by virtue of their participation in our programs and services. While the Park Board

oversees the Gardens facilities and collections, VBGA is responsible for education, volunteers, membership and fundraising.

Learn more at <https://vandusengarden.org/>.