



## UBC Farm / Centre for Sustainable Food Systems

### Seed Crop Grower – LFS 496 Summer Term 2023

**Mentor:** Andrew Ehlert

**Position Location:** 3461 Ross Drive, Vancouver, British Columbia V6T 1W5

**Hours:** 6 months at 9 hours per week. Starting May 2023

**Credits:** 6 credits

#### Course 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

The Seed Crop Grower student would be involved in all of the activities relating to growing seed crops. This includes planting, trellising and harvesting seed crops as well as processing the seed into its usable form after harvest. As goals the intern will progress from learning to do the work to standard, then perform it at a pace acceptable in a farm workplace, and finally to use their creativity to improve the processes by which they're performing the work.

#### Learning Goals

- The student will learn to plant, trellis, manage weeds, harvest, thresh and winnow to the standards of a working farm
- The student would work towards developing the knowledge and skills that form the basis of agriculture in general and seed crops more specifically. This would include learning the day to day workings of a farm and a scientific understanding of how seed crops grow
- The student will be well versed in growing a wide variety of crops as well as seed saving and breeding

#### Qualifications

- Must be a UBC student intending to register for LFS 496 for Summer 2023 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, ecology, or related fields preferred
- Willing to work outdoors in all weather conditions
- Able to follow policies and procedures to ensure participant and staff health and safety

## **How to Apply**

Submit a resume and cover letter to [andrew.ehlert@ubc.ca](mailto:andrew.ehlert@ubc.ca).

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.

Application deadline **March 31st, 2023**.

## **About UBC Farm and CSFS**

### **The Centre for Sustainable Food Systems**

The Centre for Sustainable Food Systems (CSFS) comprises the research, teaching and cultivation activities at the UBC Farm, as well as sustainable food systems research and teaching that takes place elsewhere, be it across UBC campus, British Columbia, Canada, or around the globe. CSFS associate members work on the development of innovations in agroecosystem management for food security and ecosystem services, while honouring, respecting, and protecting diverse ecosystems and knowledge pathways within Indigenous and agrarian food systems.

### **The UBC Farm**

The UBC Farm is the Centre for Sustainable Food System’s main research, teaching and learning space, located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the hən̓q̓əmiñəḥ̓-speaking xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) people.

Situated within a 90-year-old coastal hemlock forest, the 24-hectare UBC Farm was started by students in 2001 and since then our integrated organic farm and forest ecosystem has become a key part of the UBC’s agroecology research and education as well as an important Vancouver food hub. The UBC Farm features cultivated annual crop fields, perennial hedgerows and orchards, pasture, Indigenous-led gardens, and forest stands.

The Farm is organically managed, and UBC Farm produce is certified organic through NOOA. We cultivate over 200 varieties of fruits, vegetables, and herbs, and also feature honey beehives and egg-laying, open-pasture hens.

Learn more at <https://ubcfarm.ubc.ca/>.



**UBC FARM**  
Centre for Sustainable Food Systems