

12-WEEK SYLLABUS

Urban Agriculture Curriculum

A 12-week hands-on course from soil to capstone. Designed for schools, community groups, and workforce programs.

Global One Urban Grower Certificate · Kansas City, MO

Program overview

The Global One Urban Agriculture Curriculum is a 12-week, 36-hour program that takes a beginner from their first soil test to leading their own garden project. Each week combines a 90-minute classroom session with a 90-minute hands-on lab on one of our production farms.

Students who complete all 12 modules and the capstone earn the Global One Urban Grower Certificate — recognized by our workforce partners across the Kansas City metro.

Learning outcomes

- Plan a productive urban garden appropriate for a specific site and climate
- Build and maintain healthy soil using organic, no-till practices
- Manage pests and diseases without synthetic chemicals
- Harvest, wash, and store produce for household use or small-scale sale
- Teach and lead others in a community garden setting

The 12 modules

Week 01 — Soil & Site Science

Testing pH, texture, and organic matter. Reading a site for sun, water, and access. Amending urban soils safely.

Week 02 — Seeds & Propagation

Reading a seed packet. Starting seeds indoors under lights. Transplanting, hardening off, and direct sowing.

Week 03 — Bed Building

Raised beds, in-ground rows, and lasagna beds. No-till principles and why we don't rototill.

Week 04 — Season Extension

Row covers, low tunnels, cold frames, and greenhouse basics for KC's Zone 6b climate.

Week 05 — Water & Irrigation

Drip systems, soaker hoses, rainwater harvesting, and reading a plant's water needs.

Week 06 — Pest & Disease IPM

Integrated pest management the organic way. Identifying friends vs. foes in your garden.

Week 07 — Companion Planting

Polyculture design, three-sisters plantings, and building pollinator habitat inside your beds.

Week 08 — Harvest & Post-Harvest

Timing your harvest. Wash-pack basics. Cold storage without a walk-in cooler.

Week 09 — Composting

Hot piles, cold piles, worms, and how to build a system that fits your household or farm scale.

Week 10 — Business of Growing

Pricing produce, farmers markets, wholesale, CSA, and grant sources for urban growers.

Week 11 — Community Facilitation

How to lead a volunteer day, teach a first-timer, and run a neighborhood garden meeting.

Week 12 — Capstone Project

Design and pitch your own urban ag project. Real projects get seed funding from our micro-grant program.

Assessment

Students are assessed on weekly lab participation (40%), a portfolio of six garden-plan and journal entries (30%), and a final capstone presentation (30%). A passing score of 70% earns the certificate.

Cost & registration

Program tuition is \$0 for community members. Schools and workforce partners contract at \$2,400 per cohort of 12–20 students, which includes all materials and a permanent installation on-site.

To register or partner your organization, contact us at hello@globaloneurbanfarming.org or visit globaloneurbanfarming.org/curriculum.