

**SUAG 153 Course Outline as of Summer 2025****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: SUAG 153      Title: CSA  
 Full Title: Community Supported Agriculture  
 Last Reviewed: 2/8/2021

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	2.00	Lecture Scheduled	1.50	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	26.25
Minimum	2.00	Lab Scheduled	1.50	4	Lab Scheduled	26.25
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 52.50

Total Student Learning Hours: 105.00

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly: SUSAG 153

**Catalog Description:**

This course will address aspects of crop management, production, and marketing as it relates to the development and operations of a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm model. Students will gain hands-on experience through direct participation in crop production, harvesting, and packing at Shone Farm. This course will also prepare students for the California Food Handlers Exam.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:****Recommended Preparation:****Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: This course will address aspects of crop management, production, and marketing as it relates to the development and operations of a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm model. Students will gain hands-on experience through direct participation in crop production, harvesting, and packing at Shone Farm. This course will also prepare students for the California

Food Handlers Exam. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended:

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit:

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:

<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Analyze the CSA model for operational efficiency.
2. Demonstrate understanding of harvesting, packaging, and storage methods appropriate to in-season crops.
3. Identify and analyze potential markets in the community.

**Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Compare and contrast different operational and marketing models of Community Supported Agriculture.
2. Identify field management techniques necessary to bring a crop to full production.
3. Build and strengthen skills in harvesting, packaging, and postharvest techniques of in-season crops.
4. Demonstrate final harvest methods of in-season crops.
5. Discuss various crop rotation and planning needs for seasonal progression of crops.
6. Generate content for and discuss the utility of a customer newsletter for farms.

**Topics and Scope:**

- I. Overview of CSA
  - A. History of CSA
  - B. Shone Farm CSA
  - C. CSA models
- II. Regulatory Requirements of a CSA
  - A. Food Safety requirements

- B. County and State permitting requirements
- III. CSA Infrastructure
  - A. Packhouse design
  - B. Box storage and delivery options
  - C. Pricing and billing structures
- IV. Review of Processes Necessary to Bring CSA Crop to Necessary Production Levels
  - A. Supplies and equipment necessary for CSA operations
  - B. Seasonal planning considerations to meet CSA crop demand
  - C. Weekly planning and forecasting
  - D. Overview of seasonal crop rotation procedures appropriate to the CSA model
- V. Demonstration of Various Crop Harvesting Techniques
  - A. Crop specific harvest methods
  - B. Appropriate use of specific harvesting tools
- VI. Demonstration of Various Crop Postharvest and Packing Techniques
  - A. Crop specific postharvest requirements
  - B. Crop specific preparation and packing requirements
- VII. Maintaining Customer Relations
  - A. Weekly newsletters
  - B. On-farm events and/or promotions
- VIII. Review of the Overall Effectiveness of the CSA Operation
  - A. Crop production
  - B. Postharvest handling practices
  - C. Marketing
  - D. Financial viability

Concepts presented in lecture are applied and practiced in lab.

**Assignment:**

Lecture Related Assignments:

1. Food Handlers Card application exercises
2. Develop a CSA model plan
3. Quizzes (5 – 10)
4. One midterm and 1 final

Lab Related Assignments:

1. Weekly harvest, postharvest handling, packing skills activities and demonstrations
2. Weekly lab activity journals

**Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Weekly lab activity journals, CSA model plan
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Writing 25 - 35%
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**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Food Handlers Card application exercises

Problem solving  
10 - 25%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Harvest, postharvest handling, packing skills activities and demonstrations

Skill Demonstrations  
20 - 35%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Quizzes, midterm and final

Exams  
30 - 40%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

None

Other Category  
0 - 0%

**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

Instructor prepared materials