



## 404-1 Towards a Local, Sustainable Food Supply: An Innovative Curriculum for Diversified Agriculture.

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West Virginia University at Parkersburg (WVU-P) has initiated an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) and a Certificate program in Diversified Agriculture and both were approved in Fall 2012. We feel this program is important because fundamental changes have occurred among agriculture science students over the past six decades in the United States. Many students are not only dedicated to produce food but also are concerned with environmental issues such as carbon footprints, water and air pollution, and soil erosion, among others. This program focus is on locally grown and sustainable food production, with an academic emphasis on plant and soil sciences using classroom, laboratory, and hands-on field experience coupled with a summer internship with a local grower. Our program seeks to reflect changes that have occurred in American society, demanding that Agricultural professionals have communication, entrepreneurial skills and ethical behavior. Biology, Chemistry, English and Mathematics (College Algebra) are important parts but six credits (Entrepreneurship 200 and 206) from the Business Division are included. The program provides basic science coursework to students. They may continue on to a four-year degree at a Land Grant University after completing 60-61 credits during a two-year AAS program and enter with junior status. Students can select additional electives to satisfy other core requirements. Students will work closely with an advisor so that specific baccalaureate program requirements are satisfied. It is anticipated that many of our AAS or Certificate graduates will opt to start their own small farm operation or sustainable food supply business. Our curriculum seeks to provide students with a broadly based education for the evolving professions in agricultural science. Our goal is to reach out to enthusiastic students with an idealist vision of a Twenty-first Century career in sustainable agriculture. This program will work closely with a simultaneously approved Culinary Arts program.

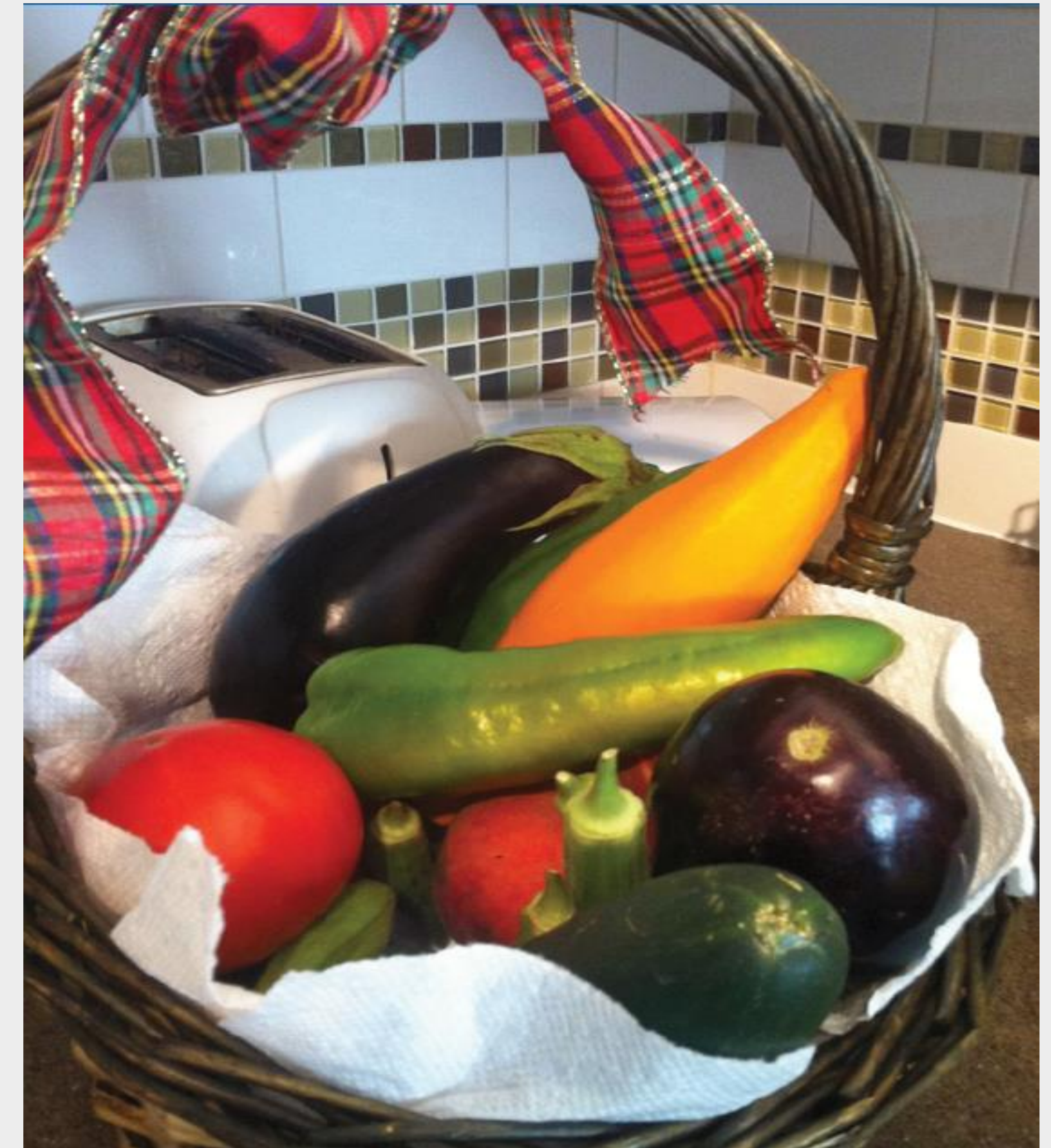


Photo Juliana Guedes

### What Students will learn in Diversified Agriculture?

- Understand how to examine local food production how from a historical And cultural perspective at local, regional, and national levels.
- How these systems are established, managed, and marketed in the current economic and social contexts.
- Understand the ecological principles and systems upon which "best practices" in sustainable local food production are based.
- Use the college plots, regional farmers, and food system professionals as critical components of their education in developing skills both in specific farm/food enterprises and in the management of diversified Agriculture.



#### Associate in Applied Science Diversified Agriculture

List of Courses:

Course code	Name	Credits
• DAGR 111	Professions in Agriculture	1
• DAGR 112	Principles of Soil Science	4
• DAGR 113	Greenhouse Management	3
• DAGR 114	Agroecology	3
• BIO 101	General Biology	3
• BIO 103	General Biology Lab	1
• CHEM 111	General Chemistry	4
• CHEM 111L	Chemistry Lab	0
• MATH 126	College Algebra	3
• ENT 200	Entrepreneurship	3
• ENT 206	Management and Marketing	3
• ENGL 101	English Composition I	3
• ENGL 102	English Composition II	3
• CS 101or Higher	Intro. to Computing	3
• DAGR 201	Vegetable Crops	1
• DAGR 202	International Agriculture	3
• DAGR 203	Forage Crops	3
• DAGR 280	Summer Internship	8
• *Electives listed below chose 2		60- 61
<b>Total</b>		

- Choose 2 electives from the list below  
 BIOL 200 Microbiology  
 BIOL 212 Botany  
 BIOL 211 Zoology.  
 MATH 211 Statistics