

Political urban agroecology in Pittsburgh: Reflections on pedagogical practice

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Course History and Context



Political Ecology/Experiential Learning/Urban Agriculture



Integrating Teaching, Research and Community Engagement

Growing Growers

Formal and informal learning experiences with centering core community of farmers, pairing interested students with BIRM Project Farmers for internships (NE SARE Partnership Grant, ONE22-425)



BIRM Project

Steering Committee and Community of Practice of Women, BIPOC, LGBTQ Farmers. A paid seat at the table

FST 503: Urban Agriculture

Engage in authentic problems of practice with community partners. Mutually beneficial agreements

History

- Hill District Displacement
- Steel Industry
- Coke processing
- Produce terminal
- Heins Corporation Westinghouse
- Railcars
- Whiskey Rebellion

Culture/Social

- Downfall of Hill District
- Black Excellence Experience
- Curious
- Jazz
- Bourdain
- Bradstreet coming back

Politics

- Redlining / Disinvestment
- major immigration
- o f eastern Europeans
- Italian Americans
- Great Migration
- Nepalese
- Somali Bantu

Ecology

- Confluence of Rivers
- Coal Seam
- Environmental Justice legacy
- Heavy metals in Soils
- Topography / Access
- Flood plains

Economics

- Steel Industry
- Shifts in labor markets (Mon Valley unemployment fam.)
- Population Declines
- Tech Jobs (Google, Duolingo, Classmate)
- Ave / Median income?

Organizations

Individuals

Programs / Initiatives

Events

Key Policies /

Dates / Publication

Next Steps 3/17/24

→ Political Ecology of region outline: 3/26/24

→ Presentation / Scope feedback check-in

→ 4/9 Presentation

→ Final 4/25/24 Turn-in



Land Access
Representation
Power/Privilege
White Saviorism
Gentrification



-Strategic
planning
-Asset Based
Community
Development
-Intergroup
Dialogue
-Project
Management
-Narrative Analysis



Practical vs Analytical Skills
Accessibility and Political Ecology
Frameworks

Hatchet and the Seed

Does urban agriculture add up to a
more sustainable livelihood?

Global vs Region Specific Approach

References

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