



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Land and Food Systems

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS 2021



Indigenous Research Partnerships

INDIGENOUS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (IURE) AT X^wCICƏSƏM GARDEN, UBC FARM

x^wcicəsəm Indigenous land-based Summer Internship at UBC Farm

The Indigenous Research Partnership at the Faculty of Land and Food System invites applications for internship positions at the [x^wcicəsəm: Indigenous Health Research and Education Garden](#).

IURE is based at x^wcicəsəm Garden at UBC Farm and collectively led by a group of Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers, community members, students, and Indigenous Faculty. Interns participate in on-going research projects with faculty, graduate students, and community members. They participate in planning, designing, implementing pilot-scale research projects, and assist in data collection using qualitative and quantitative methods and Indigenous methodologies. Students learn about Indigenous research, frameworks, research methodologies, land-based pedagogies, research ethics, and Indigenous Community protocols for reciprocal and productive community engagement.

The Garden is located on the unceded lands and waters of the [x^wməθk^wəyəm \(Musqueam\)](#) people at the [UBC Farm](#). The Garden aims to serve educational, and research needs related to Indigenous knowledge and its intersections with other ways of knowing emphasizing on teaching, learning, and research. Rooted on Indigenous land-based practices, the Garden is guided by the principle that ‘food is medicine.’ It follows the research ethic framework of the “4R’s (respect, relevance, reciprocity, and responsibility) and a holistic understanding of health and wellness.

Our focus is on Indigenous food sovereignty, food security, land-based health and wellness, and traditional plant knowledge while increasing participants’ access to traditional and non-traditional plants/food knowledge and practices. In addition to its international, community-based research and Indigenous land-based teachings, the Garden engages with numerous regional Indigenous schools, communities, and organizations. The Garden hosts research and education programs, supports UBC courses, and collaborates with community organizations, schools, and foundations initiatives. Garden volunteer working sessions are held weekly from the planting to the harvesting (May to Nov) season.

Interns will gain skills and experiences on Indigenous land-based research and community-engaged practices through gardening, plant knowledge, and community engagement while working alongside traditional knowledge holders. The Intern will collaborate with the land-based community planner to plan, maintain, plant, harvest and process medicinal and food plants growing in the Garden during weekly work sessions, workshops, and other land-based activities implemented at the Garden.

Interns are expected to enroll in a directed studies APBI 490 course for 3 or 6 credits in the Faculty of Land and Food Systems, regardless of their degree program. By the end of the 12-week internship, students will be eligible to receive course credit towards their UBC degree, pending their respective faculty programs' approval. Flexibility learning is also a consideration of the complete the required time of the internship.

Interns Responsibilities

The Intern will work alongside the land-based community planner on the following tasks and responsibilities:

- Support documentation and dissemination of land-based activities through the garden online social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, Newsletter).
- Support knowledge keepers and Elders during land-based activities.
- Support regular garden maintenance by weeding, planting, watering, harvesting, and processing of food and medicinal plants (subject to COVID19 UBC Farm policies)
- Co-supervise and work alongside volunteers during garden sessions (subject to COVID19 UBC Farm policies)
- Support research data collection when necessary.
- Support the coordination, promotion, and evaluation of workshops or tours throughout the growing season (subject to COVID19 UBC Farm policies).
- Update and maintain garden online event/activity calendar.

Preferred Qualifications

- UBC undergraduate or graduate students eligible for directed studies (must not have completed 12 credits of directed studies, or get special permission from their home program).
- Interested in Indigenous health and wellness, Indigenous knowledge, Indigenous food sovereignty, food security, gardening, or related topics.
- Some experience in conducting literature reviews, implementing qualitative and quantitative research, and information technology.
- Eager to gain research experience, education delivery, communication skills, and biocultural diversity.
- Ability to work both in a team and individually with minimum supervision.
- Comfortable with and physically able to work outdoors in variable weather conditions.
- Awareness of and sensitivity to Indigenous worldviews, cultural diversity, histories and contemporary issues impacting Indigenous people.

Position Details

- This is an unpaid internship.
- Interns should commit 6-9 hours per week for three credits, or 12-18 hours per week for six credits from May 4 to August 31, 2021. We will considered other arrangements.
- A flexible schedule will be determined with the candidate after the selection process.
- Dr. Eduardo Jovel, LFS faculty member, will supervise the Direct Study. The terms of supervision and deliverables will be negotiated on an individual or team basis.

How to apply

Submit a current CV and a brief cover letter (max. 700 words on Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF) that includes and outlines:

1. Personal/professional background information;
2. Areas of focus, interests, objectives and goals; and
3. Intentions and expectations of working with us.

Please email your application to indigenousgardenlfs.ird@ubc.ca (cc: wilson.mendes@ubc.ca; eduardo.jovel@ubc.ca)

Applications must be received by Sunday, April 22, 2021.

The IURE is supported by the PURE Program UBC Provost and Vice-President Academic, the Vice-President Research and Innovation.

