# Teaching Assistantship for APBI 260 Agroecology 1: Introduction to principles and techniques

Instructor: Sean Smukler

# Course Overview:

The course introduces the biophysical and socioeconomic factors affecting systems management and production in select agroecosystems. The course consists of two hours of lecture per week, 8 three-hour labs at the University of British Columbia Farm and weekly three-hour problem-based learning (PBL) discussion sessions.

# Description:

A team of teaching assistants (TAs) help with various aspects of course delivery for 15-80 hours per term depending on the TA’s role. The lead TA will assist the instructor in organization and facilitation of course and leadership of TA team. TAs will lead a field-based laboratory on agriculture and environment assessment. They will also facilitate PBL discussion sessions. TAs will give feedback on PBL performance to learners, participate in teaching team meetings, grade learning issues and PBL reports, attend student presentations and provide feedback within an indication of possible grades (to Instructor). TAships are also available for grading only for fewer hours. Perform other duties as required. Student not familiar with the labs or PBL will be required to attend a half day training in preparation for course.

# Minimum qualifications & skills

**Education**: Must have field research or work experience. Undergraduate degree in an Agricultural Sciences program preferred; Science and Arts programs may be eligible. Major in Sustainable Agriculture and Environment, Agroecology/Agricultural Science, Applied Biology, Environmental Science, Ecology, or Natural Resource Management an asset. **Experience**: Facilitation or leadership experience preferred. Experience with PBL an asset. **Skills**: Excellent English language and communication skills, including active listening skills. Effective interpersonal and organizational skills. Ability to work in a team environment.