

# SEE-U NYC

## New York City, Hudson and Harlem Valleys, and New Jersey

**6 credits, 6 weeks**

**Summer 2018: July 2–August 10 (tentative)**

**Instructor: Dr. Amanda Caudill, Columbia University Adjunct Instructor**

One of the most pressing challenges humanity faces this century is how to sustainably produce and distribute food to an ever growing, increasingly urbanized population. Nearly two-thirds of the ecosystems of the world have been converted or are managed to provide food, fuel, and fiber for our current population of 7.2 billion people. Over 44% of land in the United States, for example, is under cultivation; yet, over 12 million children in our country suffer from hunger and one in seven households suffer from food insecurity. By 2050, the world's population is expected to increase by 2 to 3 billion people and there is considerable research and debate on whether we can sustainably feed humanity without further jeopardizing the environment.



Blooming Hill Farm, NY

The SEE-U NYC course provides students an opportunity to examine in-depth agroecosystems. The course makes use of the diverse array of farms and food systems in New York City and its surrounding environs. Lectures introduce students to the foundations of ecosystem ecology and conservation, focusing on agroecosystems such as farms, rooftop operations, pastures, grazing lands, orchards, and plantations. The course also covers food systems, or “food to fork” pathways. SEE-U NYC couples lectures at Columbia University's Morningside Campus with field excursions and lab exercises, allowing students to apply ecological concepts to real-world examples of agroecosystems. Field trips are conducted weekly and include visits to urban farms, small rural and peri-urban farms, and local food purveyors and distributors to expose students to the breadth of local and regional agroecosystems and food systems.



Rise & Root Farm, NY

Please visit <http://eices.columbia.edu/education-training/see-u/see-u-agrofood-systems/> for more information about the NYC course and to view an example syllabus, For more information about the SEE-U program and to apply, please visit <http://eices.columbia.edu/education-training/see-u/>. Please email EICES at [eices@columbia.edu](mailto:eices@columbia.edu) with questions.