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.

Did you know?

Two-thirds of ecosystems in the world have been converted or are managed to provide food, fuel, or fiber

44% of the land in the United States is under cultivation, and yet over 12 million children suffer from hunger 1 in 7 households suffer from food insecurity

By 2050, the world’s population is expected to increase by 2 to 3 billion. There is considerable research and debate on whether we can sustainably feed humanity.

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