



MSc Researching Holistic Approaches to Agroecology

- **Are you interested** in wider issues of sustainable food production?
- **Are you engaged** in a sustainable agricultural initiative or do you wish you were?
- **Could you help to grow** a network of researchers working across a range of holistic approaches?

This course enables you:

- To network and learn with others who share an interest in the future of our planet.
- To carry out research in an area of your choice, such as organic or biodynamic approaches to farming or viticulture, permaculture, urban agriculture, or community supported agriculture.
- To communicate your findings widely.

Course content and delivery:

Starting in January 2015 this course will be delivered **part time** over **three years** by **distance learning**. The course modules include:

1. Holistic Science
2. Research Methods and Research Design
3. Sustainable Practice
4. Communicating Holistic Approaches
5. The Dissertation (where you undertake your own research project)

Delivery is taking place on our Virtual Learning Environment. One week intensives are offered twice each year to support your learning. Locations include: the Field Centre in Gloucestershire, UK; Emerson College in East Sussex, UK; and the Goetheanum in Dornach, Switzerland, where you can visit farms and take part in an exciting programme of workshops and talks from international speakers.

You will be supported on your journey to becoming a researcher by experienced academics and practitioners. This course is currently undergoing accreditation with the **University of Coventry**.

Course Aims:

1. To broaden students' understanding of different holistic approaches to sustainable food production systems in a local and global context.
2. To challenge students to become flexible, intuitive and independent in their enquiry, not only in how they do things but also in what and why they do things, and to address the role of ethics in research and in global food systems.
3. To develop graduates with the knowledge, confidence and skills to critically interrogate the results of research into sustainable agriculture and food production, and to design and carry out their own research using theoretical and reflective frameworks appropriate for a holistic view of nature and the human being.
4. To develop graduates who can communicate their own research findings, the ideas underpinning holistic land-based practices, and the benefits of sustainable approaches to a range of stakeholders and other audiences.
5. To grow and support a developing community of practice who will develop new practices and new ways of thinking in agriculture and food production, generate new findings, share evidence-based best practice, and support new sustainability initiatives.

Course Leadership:

Dr Isis Brook, Head of Faculty for Agroecology and Transdisciplinary Studies
Jonathan Code, Education and Research Coordinator

For more information contact:

Jane Tyler, Faculty Administration Manager

Email: Jane.Tyler@crossfieldsinstitute.com

Phone: +44 (0) 1453 808118

Web: www.crossfieldsinstitute.com

Crossfields Institute
Stroud House
Russell Street
Stroud
GL5 3AN
UK

