

# Urban Environmental Education

**REGISTER NOW!**

Online Course—Announcement and Syllabus

February 10—March 9, 2014



**Format:** Online professional development course for educators and leaders from the U.S., Canada, and Mexico

**Dates:** February 10–March 9, 2014 (4 weeks). Estimated workload: 6 hours per week.

**Course tuition:** Free.

**Registration:** Registration is open for up to 30 educators, until the course is full.

**Website, registration form:** <http://tinyurl.com/UEE-2014>

**Course facilitator:** Alex Kudryavtsev, PhD ([ak383@cornell.edu](mailto:ak383@cornell.edu)), Department of Natural Resources, Cornell University.

**Technical questions:** [admin@eelearn.net](mailto:admin@eelearn.net)

## Course Overview

This online course will increase your capacity to use educational programs for social and environmental change in cities. Designed for professional development of educators and youth development professionals, it will provide a survey of different approaches to urban environmental education (EE), and cover conceptual frameworks and outcomes of urban EE. Participants will network with each other, and review and share diverse educational practices related to civic ecology education, outdoor adventure, environmental and social justice, youth development, citizen science, and restoring degraded green spaces. These practices will be connected to research in EE, environmental psychology, social-ecological resilience, and other interdisciplinary studies. In this course you will: (1) Assess and discuss a variety of approaches and outcomes of EE in cities, (2) Review and apply EE frameworks to your own practices, (3) Refine and present environmental learning experience from your own work, and (4) Expand your network of peers working on EE in cities.

## Course Format

This is a 4-week online course. Participation will require about 6 hours of work per week. The course online platform is powered by Google Apps for Education. Each week, participants will network with each other, read publications, watch short videos, and write short reflections. Participants will have access to various urban EE publications, curricula, and other materials. The final assignment is creating a one-page lesson or activity plan based on your experience, current research, and the EE Guidelines for Excellence. You can also complete an alternative final project useful for you and other educators. Upon completion of the final project, participants receive a certificate. We suggest that educators take only one online course at a time. This course will be offered again in the future.

## EECapacity

This course is offered by the Cornell University Civic Ecology Lab and partners through EECapacity (<http://eecapacity.net>), the EPA-funded national environmental education training program.

## Preliminary Syllabus

Due dates each week are Saturdays. The syllabus can change, watch for updates each week.

- Week 1: Introduction** 2/10–2/16 (1) Watch an intro video, (2) Get familiar with the course technology, (3) Post your welcome message, (4) Call at least two other course participants, (5) Read an urban EE review paper, (6) Post weekly reflections; list and explain the goals of your program.
- Week 2: Practice** 2/17–2/23 (1) Watch four urban EE videos of your choice, (2) Read two urban EE narratives of your choice, (3) Review available curricula related to urban EE, (4) Post reflections; you can share any other resources related to urban EE that you know about.
- Week 3: Research** 2/24–3/2 (1) Select and read two research papers most related to your work, (2) Download urban EE materials for future reading, (3) Become familiar with final projects / lesson plans from past courses, (3) Post reflections on research articles; share ideas for your final project.
- Week 4: Final project** 3/3–3/9 (1) Call two other course participants, discuss your final project, (2) Submit your final project (lesson plan); you can also post your lesson plan on the Urban EE Collective Facebook group.