

Instructional Staff

Instructional staff are drawn from MSU Extension, MSU departmental faculties, and experts from the private sector and governmental agencies. They include agricultural research scientists, educators, subject matter specialists, agribusiness specialists and social scientists.

Members of our training team have strong expertise and practical experiences in all aspects of agricultural extension. They have participated in and conducted several training programs in both local and international settings.



Application Deadline July 31, 2020

Program Fees Per Participant: \$4,000

Program Fee Includes:
Instruction fee, training materials,
program-related local ground
transportation, lodging and meals at the
program locations in the U.S.

For More Information and Registration
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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



International Short Course in Agricultural Extension

August 2 — 11, 2020



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Organized by:

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

extension.msu.edu



Program Rationale

With the growing global population, shrinking agricultural land base and emerging threats of climate change, agricultural transformation is a high priority globally. Along with research and education, extension/outreach remains a key pillar for global agricultural development and food systems. Despite efforts to strengthen agricultural research, extension and advisory services and systems in most developing countries remain weak, underfunded and disconnected from research and education systems.

Useful technologies, innovative practices in farming and marketing, and reliable information sources are not efficiently reaching farmers and end users to create the desired impacts on farmers, ranchers and entrepreneurs. We must redefine the roles for agricultural extension advisory services and other government-supported services to create a stronger and more efficient system of support for producers. Currently, agricultural extension is driven more by supply than by demand. Producers are expecting evidence-based knowledge, skills and solutions to produce and market quality agricultural products.



Program Description

The land-grant university model of agricultural extension implemented by Michigan State University (MSU) is a unique, globally recognized model of outreach, community service and advocacy.

The MSU Extension team in collaboration with International Programs in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources will offer a 10-day short course in agricultural extension to share experiences, information and best practices in the planning, design, implementation management and evaluation of agricultural extension programs serving local farmers and communities.

This fee-based course will be offered annually during the crop-growing season. It will provide training to Extension specialists, innovative farmers, agriculture consultants, policymakers, regulators, scientists and academicians as well as representatives from the private sector and international nongovernmental organizations.



The course will combine conventional learning methods with emerging technologies including site visits to research stations, county Extension offices, local farms, companies, and markets operated by both public and private sectors.

This program is designed for participants to learn and better understand the important role of agricultural extension advisory services to enhance crop production, crop management practices, irrigation and farm management using advanced information and communication technologies, advanced agricultural machineries, robotics and automation.

Participants will receive a certificate of participation after completing this course.



Program Components

- Key concepts in agricultural extension
- History and evolution of agricultural extension systems worldwide
- MSU Extension model for working in agriculture, agribusinesses and youth empowerment
- Use of logic models to conceptualize needs assessments, inventory resources, materials needed, delivery methods and impact
- Policy issues in agricultural extension and technology transfer
- Approaches and models used in agricultural extension worldwide, including case studies of public and private extension
- Research, extension and farmer linkages
- Design and management of agricultural extension systems
- Use of information and communication tools in agricultural extension
- Information resources and training tools in agricultural extension
- Visits and discussions with state and federal agencies supporting the agricultural sector
- Field visits with Michigan farmers