

# Green Mountain College

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## LIVING THE ENVIRONMENTAL LIBERAL ARTS

### **GMC Block Course Earns Food Studies Award**

GMC's 2006 block course, "[Food, Agriculture and Community Development in the Northeast](#)", recently received the 2009 Food Studies Pedagogy Award from the [Association for the Study of Food and Society](#). The award is given annually to the "teacher of food studies in any discipline ... who uses innovative and successful pedagogical techniques to reach students."

Three faculty members taught the interdisciplinary course: Prof. [Jacob Park](#) (business strategy and sustainability), Prof. [Philip Ackerman-Leist](#) (environmental studies), and Prof. Eleanor Tison. The course also featured John Turenne, a nationally recognized culinary/food industry educator and the former executive chef/director of the Yale Sustainable Food Project, as a visiting faculty member, as well as other notable individuals from private companies, government agencies, and non-profit organizations as guest lecturers. The course challenged students to develop a sophisticated understanding of how food, agriculture, and community development operate as a system. The class visited roughly one dozen area farms and as a final project, created sustainable purchasing guidelines for Withey Dining Hall.

The Association for the Study of Food and Society (ASFS) is a multidisciplinary international organization dedicated to exploring the complex relationships among food, culture, and society. The group hosts an annual conference and publishes a journal titled *Food, Culture and Society*.