

Program Overview

This revision: June 25, 2009

This document is intended to fully describe the **Green Building Professional Certificate Program** and address most of the commonly-asked questions.

What is green building?

Green building is the weaving together of a wide selection of energy-efficient, resource-efficient, and people-friendly practices in the design and construction of our buildings and our communities. Green building also reaches far beyond the realm of the built environment and extends to emerging areas of inquiry such as sustainable agriculture, sustainable business, sustainable communities, and sustainable lifestyles. Green building integrates the understanding of many different academic and applied disciplines into a comprehensive approach to making buildings, communities, developments, and businesses more profitable, more productive, healthier, and more vibrant.

Overview of Program:

The **Green Building Professional Certificate Program** (GBPCP) is a fast-paced program providing an organized, in-depth overview of green building and long-term sustainability. Structured in concert with the broad categories of the LEED® Green Building Rating Systems™, the Program weaves together – through lecture, discussion, assigned readings, DVD’s, in-class exercises, field trips and additional seminars – the full range of concepts, practices and strategies that are considered “best practices” within the world of green building.

Faculty:

The GBPCP is organized and presented by Longview Education Associates’ principals Bruce Hammond, LEED AP and Pete Gang, AIA, LEED AP. Together they created and led Sonoma State University’s highly successful Green Building Professional Certificate Program, from 2004 through 2008 one of the leading green building education programs in the country. As general building contractor and architect, respectively, Bruce and Pete are working professionals engaged in green building practices on a daily basis. Both have been active members of the U.S. Green Building Council since 2001.

In order to provide a balance between depth and inspiration, core faculty members are joined by distinguished guest faculty in presenting material and leading discussions at all class sessions. Much more than a series of classes, the GBPCP is a process of building a community of sustainability-minded practitioners.

About the U.S. Green Building Council:

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) was founded in 1993 as a broad coalition of stakeholders in the building industry with a stated mission to “transform the way buildings and communities are designed, built and operated...”. In 1995, the USGBC began to develop LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, as a way of putting in place a standard for, or a common definition of, green building.

Through LEED, the USGBC has been enormously successful in its stated mission of transforming the marketplace and catalyzing the burgeoning green building movement. Membership in the USGBC currently includes Dupont, Home Depot, Honeywell International, Raytheon, Sprint-Nextel, Starbucks, Target, the World Bank, the U.S. Army, the U.S. General Services Administration, and over 18,000 other firms and organizations.

Who should attend?

Architects, engineers, planning and building officials, building facility managers, building contractors and subcontractors, real estate and development professionals, materials suppliers, educators, investors, elected officials

and government staff, strategic planners and policy makers, environmental and community activists, renewable energy professionals, poets, writers, artists, and anyone wishing to fully participate in the next phase of human civilization.

Course objectives:

- Gain a deep understanding of the paradigm shifts taking place in the global marketplace
- Be able to redirect policies and practices toward long-term sustainability
- Understand the concepts and strategies in the LEED® Green Building Rating Systems™
- Be able to establish “green goals” that maximize vitality, community and profitability
- Become a “green champion” in your workplace and community

Prerequisites:

There are no formal prerequisites. Students must possess a keen willingness to learn, to look at the world from a revolutionary new perspective, to keep up with the required readings and other coursework, and to share their perspectives in class discussions and activities.

Dates and times:

The Green Building Professional Certificate Program is an intense six-month program based around one day-long class per month, usually the first Saturday of every month, and four evening Best Practices Seminars held the Thursday following the second through fifth classes. The full Program is offered two times a year: the first semester runs from January through June, the second semester runs from July through December. For 2009, those dates are as follows:

2009	Class #1	Class #2	Class #3	Class #4	Class #5	Class #6
Session 1	January 10	February 7	March 7	April 4	May 2	June 6
Thursday seminars		February 12	March 12	April 9	May 7	
Session 2	July 11	August 1	Sept. 12	October 3	November 7	December 5
Thursday seminars		August 6	September 17	October 8	November 12	

Saturday classes run from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.
 Thursday evening seminars run from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

Program requirements:

A Green Building Professional Certificate will be awarded to all students who satisfactorily complete all of the following:

1. **Attendance at all six (6) Saturday class sessions.**
2. **Attendance at a total of four (4) evening seminars** presented by the Redwood Empire Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council. These seminars relate directly to information presented in the class sessions and will take place on Thursday evenings following class sessions.
3. **Assigned readings** consisting of a minimum of 50 pages per month. All of the required readings are contained in a Reader that is available for purchase at the first class session for approximately \$75.
4. Four (4) **quizzes**, each consisting of ten (10) multiple-choice/true-false questions, based on the assigned readings
5. A **final exam** consisting of 100 multiple-choice/true-false questions given during the last class in each session. The two-hour open-book exam addresses concepts and principles covered throughout the entire six-month cycle of classes.
6. A **student project** that puts into practice the ideas and concepts covered in the Program. The student project is self-designed to fit each student’s own skills, resources and interests. See separate handout for additional information.

To be awarded a Green Building Professional Certificate, students must earn at least 70% of available points. Attendance at all class sessions and public seminars is a prerequisite. All of the other Program components have a point value, as listed below:

Program component	Point value	Total points
Quizzes	5 points per quiz x 4 quizzes	20
Final Exam	35 points total	35
Student Project	45 points total	45
Total		100

Recommended readings and additional resources:

A complete list of additional recommended readings, reference materials, and other resources is available to all students in the Program.

Missed classes:

While we strongly encourage that students take all classes in sequence, we understand that doing so is not possible in all cases. We do not penalize students who need to make up a missed class or a missed public seminar in the next session (six months' later). If possible, we ask that students notify Longview Education Associates in advance of a class session that they have to miss.

Location:

Saturday classes are held on the Autodesk campus located at 111 McGinnis Parkway in San Rafael, CA 94903. Thursday evening sessions are held at Fireman's Fund, 777 San Marin Drive in Novato, CA 94998.

Cost:

The cost for the full Program is \$1,695. When paying for the full Program, the following discounts are available:

- Current members in good standing of any Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council are entitled to a discount of \$150. This discount only applies if membership is current at the time of initial registration. Applicants are responsible for verifying their membership status.
- Members of Affiliate Organizations may be eligible for a \$75 discount. Please contact Longview for more information (this discount cannot be combined with the USGBC Chapter member discount.)
- An early registration discount of \$100 is available and may be combined with the other discounts listed above. For the session beginning July 11, 2009, payment needs to be received by June 30, 2009.
- Please note that all fees and discounts are subject to change.

By prior arrangement it is possible to pay for the Program in three installments: the first payment must be received prior to the first class session, with subsequent payments to be received by the third and the fifth class sessions.

Refund policy:

Refunds are available based on the rate paid per class (with or without discounts), minus a 10% processing fee. Requests for refunds must be made in writing and must be received prior to the class for which a refund is requested. Refunds will be made within four weeks of receipt of the written request.

How to register:

To obtain a registration form, please visit the Longview website, or request a form by email at info@longvieweducationassociates.com, or phone us at 707-794-9970. Completed registration forms can be mailed with payment to Longview Education Associates, PO Box 1742, Santa Rosa, CA 95402.

CEUs :

The **Green Building Professional Certificate Program** is eligible for a total of (42) of AIA/CES Learning Units.

For additional information:

Please contact Rebecca Valentine at 707-794-9970 or info@longvieweducationassociates.com for additional information.