

Regenes Institute for Regenerative Practice

The Regenerative Practitioner™ Series – Course Syllabus

There is a growing need to develop regenerative capacity and resilience in social and ecological systems. The Regenerative Practitioner™ is designed for working practitioners seeking to evolve themselves and their practice to meet this need. Regenerative development works to reverse the degeneration of the earth's natural systems *and* to design human structures and systems that can co-evolve with natural systems, generating mutual benefits and greater overall expression of life and resilience. This series introduces proprietary regenerative development technologies that have been developed and field tested by Regenes over the last two decades.

The Regenerative Practitioner offers ways to reimagine how we work and who we are as we work, and to develop the capability to integrate these insights into our practice. This unique learning opportunity consciously weaves together work on developing oneself (personal development), one's work community (development of one's practice/team) and one's effect in the world (making a meaningful and significant difference). Regenerative development is based on the premise that we cannot make the outer transformations required to create a truly sustainable world without making inner transformations in how we think. The more we become conscious of how our own thinking processes and assumptions limit what we perceive and the work we do, the more we become free to express who we truly are and serve what we deeply care about.

The Regenerative Practitioner is not a course in theoretical knowledge. Everything you learn will be immediately applicable to your work and life. You will engage with powerful systemic frameworks and processes that use living systems thinking to integrate social and ecological dynamics and grow your capability to work creatively with complex systems. You will work with a team of other participants, using a real project to understand and communicate the potential of regenerative approaches. All of the materials that you will need to complete the course will be provided by the Institute, including case studies, systemic frameworks, and suggested supplementary texts and videos.

Outcomes

The Regenerative Practitioner series will help you develop the following capabilities:

1. A deeper understanding of regenerative development, including how it extends the effectiveness of other sustainability approaches;
2. Increased ability to engage co-workers and clients around the ways regenerative development supports and enhances their work and aspirations;
3. Greater ability to assess design and development processes for their regenerative potential and to design ways to increase their regenerative effectiveness;
4. An ability to use dynamic systems frameworks to deliver greater value to your clients and your practice. This includes designing processes that keep you growing personally and professionally by integrating inner developmental work with outer development work, growing your capacity to apply systems thinking and manage complexity across greater scales, and developing new ways of thinking; and

5. Strategies for growing a successful regenerative practice, supported by participation in a collaborative learning community of peers and colleagues who share your commitment to creating profoundly innovative work in service to a healthier world.

The Series

The Regenerative Practitioner consists of ten videoconference sessions scheduled over a five month period, as well as a three-day intensive workshop between the second-to-last and last sessions. The series launches with an online Meetup session, in which faculty give a brief orientation to the series and participants have an opportunity to become acquainted with one another and their study cohorts before delving into content and teamwork. Over the course of the series, an Institute faculty person will provide two resourcing sessions for each team of participants.

Topics

Session 1: Definitions and Basic Concepts

Becoming aware of the mental techniques that we use to process the world. Introduction to the key capabilities required to regenerate our thinking so that we can bring new perspectives and new ways of understanding to our engagements with the complex, living world.

Session 2: Systemic Frameworks

Living systems frameworks are instruments to manage one's thinking and improve the effectiveness of collaborative work. Together with developmental processes, they are instruments for understanding the complex, dynamic wholes within which we live, so that we can be conscious agents of co-evolution.

Session 3: Understanding Place

The places where we work are complex living systems. The Regenerative Development framework provides a way to understand the sets of nested relationships and dynamics that influence change efforts and the effect and effectiveness of our projects.

Session 4: Harnessing Potential

Moving from project-centric to place-centric is key to understanding a project's relationship within the nested systems of its place. Imaging a project as a living system, embedded in the living systems of place enables the discovery of greater potential and taps new sources of creativity for working on regeneration.

Session 5: Regenerative Capability

Translating the evolutionary potential of a project and its place into inspiring goals creates the right level of motivation and sets the stage for ongoing evolution beyond the completed project.

Session 6: Vocation of Place

A project's direction or larger purpose provides the source for ensuring alignment of ends and means as we adapt action plans through the different phases of a project. A regenerative direction or purpose provides the overall direction within which the role of the project takes on a higher order meaning and significance. Vocation of place illuminates a shared identity, and offers a collective aim for stakeholders that coalesces, inspires and uplifts aspirations. It helps

ensure that choices and actions are in integrity with the potential we see and the evolutionary ends we're pursuing.

Session 7: Co-Evolving Mutualism

The real regenerative potential of a project's systemic relationship to its place continues to unfold long after it is "completed." Strategies for creating a system of mutually beneficial stakeholder relationships extend the project's contribution while growing its value and resilience, integrating project and place so that the whole becomes more vibrant and healthy through time.

Session 8: Designing a Different Order of Engagement

One of the most powerful effects of regenerative development is the experience of seeing the world anew—seeing new potential, creative possibilities, and meaning for ourselves, our work, and what we care about. Communicating with collaborators and clients around these insights requires designing transformative engagement processes that enable them to see a higher order of possibility and regenerative potential for themselves and what they are working on.

Session 9: Reflecting: Looking Back and Looking Forward

Following the Intensive, this session provides an opportunity for reflection on what has shifted and what is still moving in us, and the implications as we move forward for ourselves, our work and the place we inhabit.