# URBAN GARDEN: FROM

# SOIL TO SOUL **HNRS 1010**

### **MISSION**

The Urban Garden seeks to: 1) Academic Research in Urban Ecology and Biodiversity, food security and environmental justice.



- 2) Practical Demonstration of sustainability and food security projects on campus.
- 3) Education and Outreach to develop a green workforce and environmentally conscious citizenry for Los Angeles. Our aim is to transform the Urban Garden into a vibrant hub for learning and connection by beautifying its surroundings to provide more educational experienced in gardening, sustainability, and local ecology.

## OUR FIRST IMPRESSIONS

When we first saw the garden, our hearts sank. It felt overrun with weeds, and the barren hill felt heavy and lifeless. We had imagined vibrant blooms and plants of every kind, but instead found one that, while promising, felt neglected. However, after spending time there, we can see so many possibilities. That with time, care and love, we can transform this garden into a space that meets all goals of the Urban Ecology Center and more. A place that invites people in to explore, experiment and learn.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

To realize our hopes for the Urban Garden, we propose the following:

- Organizing pathways and creating more symmetry when planting outside of the beds.
- Adding permanent shade and more organized seating.
- Placards to provide self-guided tours and for plant identification.
- Paint the shed with artwork to create a bright and inviting focal point.

These changes will create a welcoming place for students to learn ecology and biodiversity.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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