



VESTA

Regional Center of Excellence

Contact Us: Michelle Norgren - Director - 417-836-5053

Become a VESTA Faculty Member

Do you have what it takes to become a VESTA faculty member?

Advanced degree? ✓

In-depth knowledge in viticulture or enology? ✓

The desire and dedication to help educate persons interested in working in the grape and wine industry? ✓✓

If this sounds like you, you may meet the criteria to be a faculty member with the VESTA Regional Center of Excellence a collaboration of educational institutions throughout the country. If you'd like to empower adult learners by sharing your passion and experience, we invite you to find out if you qualify as an instructor with us.



Qualifications

The requirements of a VESTA Regional Center of Excellence faculty member are rigorous because we only want the best for our students. That's why we're confident when we say that our VESTA instructors provide our students with a relevant educational experience in the grape and wine industry that prepares them to become a vital member of the industry.

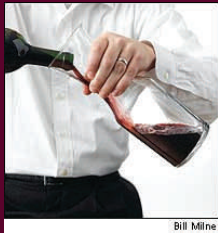
The minimum criteria:

- A master's or doctoral degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or international equivalent in viticulture or enology related subject. (Bachelor degree accepted with certain additional qualifications.)
- Work experience in the grape and wine industry.

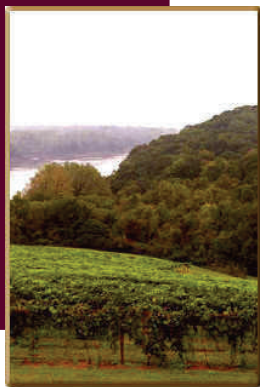
The Teaching Experience

As a faculty member, you'll be challenged to provide a purposeful curriculum to prepare your working students for greater success in the grape and wine industry. Our smaller class sizes allow you to work with all of your students.





A vital component of the VESTA program are the hands-on field experiences that are woven into our courses.



VESTA

Rewards

There are many rewards to being a faculty member with the VESTA Regional Center of Excellence:

Teach part time without interrupting your full time career

When you teach a course, you will spend approximately 15 to 20 hours a week, which allows you time to continue with your current career.

Know you're making a difference as a faculty member by sharing your wisdom

You'll have the satisfaction of knowing that your students will be benefiting from your experience. You can take pride in their accomplishments as they apply your teachings in the real world.

Expand your own knowledge base

You'll increase your depth of knowledge as you study course materials, read texts, review student research and facilitate class discussions.

Improve your communication and leadership skills

Not only will these skills increase while you're presenting course materials and answering questions, you'll also have the opportunity to work hand in hand with our dedicated Instructional Designer who's extensive training and experience will serve as a rich resource as you develop and deliver your course.

Your classroom is a great place to network with other professionals in your field

VESTA courses are created specifically for working students. You'll find that many of your students are established professionals. This gives you the unique opportunity to not only teach professionals, but to interact with them on a peer-to-peer level.

Start the Process

Interested in the accolades associated with being a faculty member with the VESTA Regional Center of Excellence? If you have a master's or doctoral degree, experience in the grape and wine industry and a desire to make a difference in people's lives, we invite you to start the qualification process by contacting our office or sending your resume to:

VESTA Regional Center

Attn: Michelle Norgren, Director

Missouri State University

901 S. National

Springfield, MO 65897

michellenorgren@missouristate.edu

Phone: 417-836-5053



Become an Educator of Eager Minds



If you've ever thought about online teaching, the

VESTA Regional Center of Excellence is looking for educators that can inspire students wanting to expand their knowledge, earn a Technical Certificate or Associate's of Applied Science degree in viticulture or enology. Become part of an alliance of educational institutions

dedicated to providing cutting-edge education to students interested in entering or advancing in the grape and wine industry.

Grape and wine Education for the 21st Century

What is the VESTA Regional Center

The VESTA Regional Center of Excellence is a National Science Foundation funded partnership between Universities, Two Year Colleges across the United States all with a 21st Century vision for education in grape growing and winemaking. VESTA offers a program of

study for traditional and non-traditional students that will lead to a Technical Certificate or Associate of Applied Science degree in viticulture or enology. This program is designed to prepare students to enter the grape growing or winemaking industry and to provide professional training

for existing industry workers. VESTA provides opportunities for students to participate in hands-on field experiences through partnerships developed with area vineyards and wineries thus providing students with laboratory experience in their location.

Instructor Expectations

The VESTA curriculum is designed to be tough but fair. While we expect our faculty to be committed to their classes for 15-20 hours a week, we also help you support your students with online resources and technical support through a multi-

school, multi-state collaboration.

With the support of the program office and instructional support staff, VESTA has created an environment that allows you to teach while still having a great work-life balance. This means that

you're able to keep your full-time job, spend time with your family, and still offer students your expertise while being able to collaborate with other great minds.



FAQ's - Become a Faculty Member

Why would I want to teach with VESTA?

As a faculty member with VESTA you can expand your own depth of knowledge, network with other esteemed faculty and working students, and teach without giving up your full-time career. As a part of our faculty, you'll be able to directly interact with your students and help them utilize theories that they will encounter in the real world.

Who is teaching with VESTA?

Our faculty is made up of successful professionals from academia and the grape and wine industry from across the country. Our faculty members have their master's degree or higher. Our faculty is made up of true professionals that bring their industry experience to ensure that students are ready for the challenges that they might experience in the vineyard or the winery as an employee or as an owner.

Who is my typical student?

Because VESTA provides access to grape and wine education for so many people, our students come from a variety of backgrounds and areas in the United States, and throughout the world. We have students who are new to higher education and we have students who are working toward adding a technical certificate or AAS degree in enology or viticulture to their list of credentials. Many of our students are established professionals who want to expand their knowledge of the grape and wine industry. Simply put, the only thing you'll find typical in VESTA students is a deep desire to learn.

Will I be teaching on-campus or online?

All the VESTA courses are offered online. You will be utilizing a variety of distance education technologies and strategies to deliver your course.

How much time does it take to teach a course?

If you're teaching a course with VESTA, we recommend that you schedule between 15 - 20 hours a week for the duration of your course for preparation, student assistance, and other administrative tasks.

Can I teach for VESTA if I only have a bachelor's degree?

Yes, but a Master's degree or higher is much preferred. If you only have a Bachelor degree, you will need to have significant industry experience to provide the level of expertise in the grape and wine curriculum we require.

What kind of work experience do I need to teach?

Since you have your master's degree or higher, we ask that you have relevant work experience in the grape and wine industry, or significant teaching experience in academia. We're looking for professionals who have experience with the industry that proves you have an understanding in viticulture or enology. If you think your résumé communicates that, get in touch with us today.

How technically savvy do I need to be to teach online?

Teaching for VESTA does require some computer literacy. For most courses, you just need to be able to use Microsoft® Office programs, send emails with attachments, participate in and moderate online forums, and access information online that you'll need to facilitate your course. You might also need to use CD ROMs or software more specific to the content you are teaching.

I have no experience teaching—can I still teach with VESTA?

Absolutely. Let us know about your passion for helping others to learn, and how you've demonstrated that in the past.

