

2011-13 Cal Poly Catalog

BioResource and Agricultural Engineering Dept

BRAE-BIORESOURCE and AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

BRAE 121 Agricultural Mechanics (2)

Identification and use of tools and materials; shop safety; tool sharpening and care; concrete mixes and materials; simple electric wiring; metal work; pipe fitting; basic woodworking; estimating quantities and costs. Students are required to meet safety regulations in laboratory work. 1 lecture, 1 laboratory.

BRAE 124 Small Engines (2)

Operating principles of the small internal combustion engine. Maintenance and trouble-shooting applications of small power units to all types of engine applications. Repair procedures related to economic justifications. 1 lecture, 1 activity.

BRAE 128 Careers in Bioresource and Agricultural Engineering (2)

Introduction to careers associated with BioResource and Agricultural Engineering, and Agricultural Systems Management. Professional engineering registration process. Engineering problem solution and report format. Design procedures. Engineering fundamentals. Laboratory includes visits to facilities relating to career opportunities. 1 lecture, 1 laboratory.

BRAE 129 Laboratory Skills and Safety (1)

Introduction to fabrication and construction materials used in the field of Agricultural Engineering. Fabrication skills in the development of wood, metal, concrete projects, and creative design. Strength tests of wood, fasteners, concrete, and student design projects. 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE and ASM majors only.

BRAE 133 Introduction to Engineering Design Graphics (1)

Visual communication in engineering design and problem solving. Principles of freehand sketching, engineering graphics, and computer-aided-drafting. Perspective and orthographic sketching, orthographic drawing with instruments and computer, applied descriptive geometry. 1 laboratory.

BRAE 141 Agricultural Machinery Safety (3)

Evaluation of safe tractor and equipment operation. Supervised field operation emphasizing the safe and efficient performance of modern farm and utility-industrial equipment. 2 lectures, 1 laboratory.

BRAE 142 Agricultural Power and Machinery Management (4)

Evaluation of agricultural machinery and tractor power performance. Equipment studied includes primary and secondary tillage tools, grain drills, row crop planters, sprayers, grain and forage harvesters, and specialty crop harvesters. Emphasis on management, selection, cost analysis using computers and efficient operation of agricultural machinery. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: MATH 116 or equivalent.

BRAE 151 CAD for Agricultural Engineering (1)

Computer aided drafting on a desktop personal computer using Autocad software. Drawing setup. 2-D projections including automatic dimensioning and hatching. Isometric construction, drawing layers, library symbols. Use of 3-D drawing software. 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 133 or equivalent.

BRAE 152 3-D Solids Modeling (1)

Introduction to 3-dimensional solids modeling using state-of-the-art software. Model generation and modification of associative properties, assembly modeling, extrusions and revolutions. 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 133, BRAE 151 or equivalent courses.

BRAE 200 Special Problems for Undergraduates (1-4)

Individual investigation, research, studies or surveys of selected problems. Total credit limited to 8 units, with a maximum of 4 units per quarter. Prerequisite: Consent of department head.

BRAE 201 Enterprise Project (1-4) (CR/NC)

Introductory experience in a bioresource/agricultural engineering or agricultural systems management project. Project participation is subject to approval by the department head and the Cal Poly Corporation. Credit/No Credit grading only. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

BRAE 203 Agricultural Systems Analysis (3)

Agricultural Systems Analysis investigates the interrelationships between sub-components in an overall system. Problem solving algorithms, network analysis, project planning techniques, and optimization. 2 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: MATH 118 or equivalent.

BRAE 213 Bioengineering Fundamentals (2)

GE B2

Treatment of the engineering applications of biology. Genetic engineering and the industrial application of microbiology. Systems physiology with engineering applications. Structure and function relationships in biological systems. The impact of life on its environment. 2 lectures. For engineering students only. Prerequisite: MATH 142. Corequisite: BIO 213. Recommended: CHEM 124. *Crosslisted as BRAE/ENGR 213.* Fulfills GE B2.

BRAE 216 Fundamentals of Electricity (4)

Application of electricity in BioResource and Agricultural Engineering, including basic electric circuits. Will include wiring materials, code regulations, electrical measurements, R-L-C circuit fundamentals, system planning, motors, basic electronics, and an introduction to computer usage. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 129, MATH 142, PHYS 131.

BRAE 231 Agricultural Building Construction (3)

Development of practical skills in carpentry and light construction. Selection of materials. Agricultural buildings repaired, constructed, or modified during laboratory periods. 1 lecture, 2 laboratories. Prerequisite: BRAE 129 or consent of instructor.

BRAE 232 Agricultural Structures Planning (4)

Planning of facilities required in production systems. Materials and processes used in construction of agricultural structures. Environmental factors affecting crop storage structures and animal housing. Design of structural environments to meet the needs of commodities, animals, and plants. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 151, PHYS 132.

BRAE 234 Introduction to Mechanical Systems in Agriculture (4)

Introduction to elements used in the mechanical transmission of power and force in agricultural systems. Power transmission using v-belts, roller chain, gear and shaft drives, hydraulic actuators. Linear and nonlinear actuation devices including linkages, cams, and hydraulic/pneumatic cylinders. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: PHYS 131.

BRAE 236 Principles of Irrigation (4)

Land grading design, operation, management, and evaluation of irrigation methods. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: MATH 141, SS 121.

BRAE 237 Introduction to Engineering Surveying (2)

An introduction to basic field note keeping as well as the use of steel tapes, automatic levels, total stations and survey tools. Training in the procedures for differential and profile leveling; angle measurement and traversing. Hands-on experience with the use of GPS for surveying. An understanding in computations to determine direction, elevations, and earthwork volumes. Practice in map reading and building layout. 1 lecture, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: MATH 119 or equivalent.

BRAE 239 Engineering Surveying (4)

Development of proper field note taking and procedures for measuring using automatic levels, total stations and GPS systems. Understanding in the procedures and computations for differential leveling, profiles, traversing, triangulation and topographic surveys. Computations in traverse adjustment, contour mapping, earthwork volumes, curve alignments and building layout. Understanding in map reading, the use of datums, photogrammetry, CAD design and boundary law. 2 lectures, 2 laboratories. Prerequisite: MATH 119 or equivalent.

BRAE 240 Agricultural Engineering Laboratory (1)

Individual projects. Total credit limited to 4 units. 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

BRAE 247 Forest Surveying (2)

Use and care of tapes, staff compass, abney levels, total stations, and GPS receivers. Keeping field notes, measurements by tape. Closed and open traverse by compass and total stations. Turning angles and determining directions of lines. Map reading and public land description. GPS measurements. Weekend field trips required. 1 lecture, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: NR 215. *Crosslisted as BRAE/NR 247.*

BRAE 270 Selected Topics (1-4)

Directed group study of selected topics. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 1 to 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

BRAE 301 Hydraulic and Mechanical Power Systems (4)

Selection, application and use of hydraulic components and mechanical power transmission equipment. Use of standardized circuit design procedures. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: PHYS 121 or PHYS 141.

BRAE 302 Servo Hydraulics (4)

Application of microcomputers and programmable logic controllers to hydraulic, pneumatic and mechanical systems. Theory, instrumentation and sensors used in process and control systems used in agricultural equipment. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 216 or BRAE 324 and BRAE 234 or BRAE 301.

BRAE 312 Hydraulics (4)

Static and dynamic characteristics of liquids, flow in open and closed channels, uniform and nonuniform flow, flow measurement, pumps. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: PHYS 132, ME 211.

BRAE 320 Principles of Bioresource Engineering (4)

Theory and applications of bioprocess technology in biological and agricultural systems. Engineering properties of biological materials and organisms. Basic unit operations, fluid mechanics and heat/mass transfer as applied to bioprocess technology. Special requirements of agricultural and biological processes. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 232, BRAE 236, PHYS 132.

BRAE 321 Agricultural Safety (3)

Principles of agricultural safety. Accident causation and prevention, hazard identification and abatement, laws and regulations. Machinery, electrical, chemical, livestock, shop and fire safety. Safety program development. 2 lectures, 1 activity. Prerequisite: Junior standing.

BRAE 324 Principles of Agricultural Electrification (4)

Applications of DC/AC electricity in agriculture. National Electric Code regulations. The wiring of agricultural structures and electrical distribution. Series, parallel and series-parallel circuits, R-L-C circuits, electric motors, electronics. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: MATH 119, PHYS 121.

BRAE 328 Measurements and Computer Interfacing (4) Transducers and engineering measurements in agricultural engineering. Covering transducer characteristics, signal processors and controllers, instrumentation techniques, and the use of the computer in the measurement and control of typical engineering problems. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: EE 321, EE 361, a computer programming course.

BRAE 331 Irrigation Theory (3)

Plant-water-soil relations using evapo-transpiration, plant stress, soil moisture deficiency, frequency and depth of irrigation, salinity, infiltration, drainage and climate control. 3 lectures. Prerequisite: BRAE 236, or BRAE 340.

BRAE 335 Internal Combustion Engines (4)

Principles of operation of internal combustion engines. Theory of operation and diagnosis evaluation and repair of small engines, gasoline and diesel engines and economics of operation, use and repair. Power analysis and application. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: Junior standing.

BRAE 337 Landscape Irrigation (4)

Design of sprinkler and drip irrigation systems including: site characteristics, soil variables affecting water storage and infiltration rate, plant selection and hydrozones, hydraulics, nozzle spacing, selection of system components, back flow prevention, plumbing codes and cost estimating. Irrigation system evaluation and audit irrigation scheduling, and water budget. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: MATH 118 or consent of instructor.

BRAE 339 Internship in BioResource and Agricultural Engineering (1–12) (CR/NC)

Students will spend up to 12 weeks with an approved agricultural firm engaged in production or related business. Time will be spent applying and developing production and managerial skills and abilities. One unit of credit may be allowed for each full week of completed and reported internship. Degree credit limited to 6 units. Credit/No Credit grading only. Prerequisite: Consent of internship instructor.

BRAE 340 Irrigation Water Management (4)**GE Area F**

Soil-plant-water relationships; evapotranspiration; irrigation schedules; salinity and drainage; irrigation efficiency. Water measurement; soil moisture measurement; irrigation systems and practical constraints affecting scheduling. California water supply and budget; water rights; local, state and federal water institutions; California water issues. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: Junior standing, completion of GE Area B, and Math 118 or higher. Fulfills GE Area F.

BRAE 342 Agricultural Materials (4)

Physical properties of agricultural materials and their measurement. Strength of materials, material flow and transport, material deformation, shape and size

classification, moisture relationships and biological interactions. Interactions between agricultural materials, the environment and equipment used to handle them. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: PHYS 121, SS 121, MATH 119.

BRAE 343 Mechanical Systems Analysis (4)

Use of statics and dynamics to make original calculations, plans, sketches, graphics, drawings, schemes and layouts for the fabrication and construction of machines. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 342.

BRAE 344 Fabrication Systems (4)

Fabrication systems including cutting, sawing, shearing, bending, welding, grinding, cleaning, painting and proper safety procedures. Experimental projects to include team design and construction, presentation, organization, and evaluation. 2 lectures, 2 laboratories. Prerequisite: BRAE 343.

BRAE 345 Aerial Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (3)

Object recognition, three-dimensional equipment, and interpretation of aerial photographs. Print alignment, stereoscopic viewing, scales, elevation determination, and application. Orthophotos and their relationship to Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Application of aerial photos to regional studies. 2 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: MATH 118.

BRAE 348 Energy for a Sustainable Society (4)**GE Area F**

Study of how the transition can be made from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources including hydro, biomass, solar, wind, and energy conservation. Environmental, economic, and political consequences of a renewable energy-based sustainable society. 3 lectures, 1 activity. Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Area B. Fulfills GE Area F.

BRAE 400 Special Problems for Advanced Undergraduates (1–4)

Individual investigation, research, studies, or surveys of selected problems in agriculture. Total credit limited to 8 units, with a maximum of 4 units per quarter. Prerequisite: Consent of department head.

BRAE 401 Enterprise Project Management (1-4) (CR/NC)

Advanced experience in a bioresource/agricultural engineering or agricultural systems management project. Project leadership and management are stressed. Project participation is subject to approval by the department head and the Cal Poly Corporation Credit/No Credit grading only. Prerequisite: BRAE 201 or consent of instructor.

BRAE 403 Agricultural Systems Engineering (4)

Engineering and economic principles combined with mathematical optimization techniques to evaluate parameters in agricultural production and processing systems. Project planning techniques, linear and nonlinear modeling, response surface methodology. Professional responsibilities in Agricultural Engineering including ethics, patents, copyrights, liability. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: MATH 242 or MATH 244.

BRAE 405 Chemigation (1)

Fertilizer and chemical injection through irrigation systems. Hardware, fertilizer compounds, and distribution uniformity. Matching chemicals and equipment to specific irrigation methods. Safety. 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 236 or BRAE 340.

BRAE 414 Irrigation Engineering (4)

Design of on-farm irrigation systems; micro, surface, and sprinkler irrigation systems; canals and pumps; economic and strategies of pipe design; pipeline protection. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 331 or BRAE 340; BRAE 312 or course in hydraulics with a grade of C or better, or consent of instructor.

BRAE 418, 419 Agricultural Systems Management I, II (4) (4) Project management of agricultural systems. Emphasis placed on a team approach to problem solution. Case studies and student projects used to explore the following topics: project leadership, project organization, communication, needs assessment, feasibility studies, cost analysis, decision making, solution implementation, and evaluation. BRAE 418: 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. BRAE 419: 2 lectures, 2 laboratories. Prerequisite: BRAE 203, AGB 301, AGB 310 and GE A3. For BRAE 419: BRAE 418.

BRAE 421 Equipment Engineering (3)

Design and construction of specialized agricultural components and equipment. 2 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: CE 204, ME 212.

BRAE 422 Equipment Engineering (4)

Design and construction of specialized agricultural components and equipment. 2 lectures, 2 laboratories. Prerequisite: BRAE 421.

BRAE 425 Computer Controls for Agriculture (3)

Computer activated controls as applied to agricultural machinery, agricultural structures, processing and irrigation industries. Encompassing control logic to evaluate stability behavior of systems of computer interfacing, data input and control output. 2 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 324, CSC 110 or CSC 113 or CSC 232.

BRAE 427 Agricultural Process Engineering (3)

Agricultural engineering principles applied to air, water, air-water mixtures, drying, heating, refrigeration, fluid flow, size reduction, fan laws and materials handling. 2 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 312, BRAE 430, ME 302.

BRAE 432 Agricultural Buildings (4)

Selection of buildings, storage units, and related equipment for production agriculture. Economics and functionality of various designs and construction materials. Environmental factors affecting crop storage and animal housing. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: PHYS 121, BRAE 342, BRAE 343.

BRAE 433 Agricultural Structures Design (4)

Structural analysis and design of agricultural service and processing buildings. Emphasis on use of wood, metals, and reinforced concrete in light construction. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 232, CE 204.

BRAE 435 Drainage (4)

Relevant principles of hydrology and porous media flow. Flow nets, wells and ground water, design of simple surface and sub-surface drains. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: Junior standing, BRAE 312, BRAE 331, or BRAE 340 or SS 432 and consent of instructor.

BRAE 438 Drip/Micro Irrigation (4)

Drip/micro irrigation hardware and management. Emphasizes agricultural drip/micro irrigation with some landscape application. Filtration, emitters, chemical injection, agronomic constraints, and scheduling. Field trip(s) included. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 236 or BRAE 340.

BRAE 439 Vineyard Water Management (4)

Management of rain and irrigation water in vineyards. Irrigation scheduling, managing water stress, climate control with irrigation methods commonly used. Management for wine, table grapes, and raisins. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 340 or BRAE 236.

BRAE 440 Agricultural Irrigation Systems (4)

On-farm irrigation system evaluation and management. Drip, micro-spray, furrow, border strip, sprinkler systems. Irrigation efficiency and uniformity. Pumping costs. For non-BRAE majors only. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 340 or consent of instructor.

BRAE 447 Advanced Surveying with GIS Applications (4)

Collecting field data; processing the data; generating graphical representation of the data; design based on the data and laying out the design in the field; and available record resources for use in GIS systems and their accuracy. 2 lectures, 2 laboratories. Prerequisite: BRAE 239.

BRAE 448 Bioconversion (4)

Biological, thermal and physical techniques for converting biomass into useful energy forms for agriculture and industry. Laboratory exercises include experiments with anaerobic digestion of animal wastes into methane, ethanol fermentation of grains and composting of agricultural residues. Technical and economic feasibility of biofuels. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: MATH 118 or equivalent, or consent of instructor.

BRAE 460 Senior Project Organization (1)

Selection and organization of senior project. Involves time management, research techniques, budgeting and project presentation. Documentation of multidisciplinary team experience. 1 lecture. Prerequisite: GE A3.

BRAE 461, 462 Senior Project I, II (2) (2)

Solution of an engineering or systems management problem in agriculture. May involve research methodology, problem statement, analysis, synthesis, project design, construction, and evaluation. Project requires 150 hours with a minimum of faculty supervision. **BRAE 461** prerequisite: BRAE 460. **BRAE 462** prerequisite: BRAE 461.

BRAE 470 Selected Advanced Topics (1–4)

Directed group study of selected topics for advanced students. Open to undergraduate and graduate students. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 1–4 lectures. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

BRAE 471 Selected Advanced Laboratory (1–4)

Directed group laboratory study of selected topics for advanced students. Open to undergraduate and graduate students. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 1–4 laboratories. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

BRAE 481 Advanced Agricultural Mechanics (2)

Advanced shop skills. Carpentry, electricity, plumbing, surveying, power mechanics, tractor equipment operation and maintenance. 1 lecture, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: Agricultural teacher candidates starting/returning from student teaching, senior or graduate standing or consent of instructor.

BRAE 485 Cooperative Education Experience in BioResource and Agricultural Engineering (6) (CR/NC)

Part-time work experience with an approved BioResource and Agricultural Engineering firm engaged in production or related business, industry or governmental agency. Positions are paid and usually require relocation and registration in course for two consecutive quarters. Formal report and evaluation by work supervisor required. Major credit limited to 4 units; total credit limited to 12 units. Credit/No Credit grading only. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing and consent of instructor.

BRAE 495 Cooperative Education Experience in BioResource and Agricultural Engineering (12) (CR/NC)

Full time work experience with an approved BioResource and Agricultural Engineering firm engaged in production or related business, industry or governmental agency. Positions are paid and usually require relocation and registration in course for two consecutive quarters. Formal report and evaluation by work supervisor required. Major credit limited to 4 units; total credit limited to 12 units. Credit/No Credit grading only. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing and consent of instructor.

BRAE 500 Individual Study (1–3)

Advanced study planned and completed under the direction of a member of the department faculty. Open only to graduate students who have demonstrated ability to do independent work. Enrollment by petition. Total credit limited to 6 units, repeatable in same term. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

BRAE 521 Systems Analysis of Agricultural Systems (4)

Principles and methods of creative problem solving and systems analysis as applied to the design of agricultural systems. Problem solving using the engineering design process to analyze the need, establish boundaries, and generate creative alternative solutions. Examples worked through in feasibility analysis, transportation and network problems, linear programming, project planning, human factors and ergonomics, and system analysis with an emphasis on optimum system operation. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

BRAE 532 Water Wells and Pumps (4)

Water well drilling, design, and development. Pump characteristics and system head. Series and parallel operation. Design of pump intakes. Variable speed electric drives and engines. Pump testing. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 340 or equivalent, or BRAE 312 or equivalent.

BRAE 533 Irrigation Project Design (4)

Engineering solutions and social aspects of improved water delivery to farms and canal automation. Flow measurement. Water user associations. Unsteady canal and pipeline controls. PID controls and modeling. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: BRAE 340 or BRAE 312 or equivalent (hydraulics/fluid mechanics course).

BRAE 570 Selected Topics in BioResource and Agricultural Engineering (1–4)

Directed group study of selected topics for advanced students. Open to undergraduate and graduate students. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 12 units. 1 to 4 seminars. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

BRAE 571 Selected Advanced Laboratory in BioResource and Agricultural Engineering (1–4)

Directed group laboratory study of selected topics for advanced students. Open to undergraduate and graduate students. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 1–4 laboratories. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

BRAE 581 Graduate Seminar in BioResource and Agricultural Engineering (3)

Group study of current problems of the bioresource and agricultural engineering industry; current experimental and research findings as applied to field of bioresource and agricultural engineering. The Schedule of Classes will list topic

selected. Total credit limited to 9 units. 3 seminars. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

**BRAE 599 Thesis in BioResource and Agricultural
Engineering (1–9)**

Systematic research of a significant problem in bioresource and agricultural engineering. Thesis will include problem identification, significance, methods, data analysis, and conclusion. Students must enroll every quarter in which facilities are used or advisement is received. Degree credit limited to 6 units. Prerequisite: Graduate standing and consent of instructor.