Faculty of Engineering

GPE 3383B - Solar And Fuel Cells
Course Outline 2014-2015

Description
The basics of fuel cell operation, including electrode kinetics, membrane processes, mass transfer and hydrodynamics will be taught. The fundamentals of solar cells will be taught. Advantages, disadvantages and current status of development of fuel and solar cells will be discussed. Applications of fuel cells for stationary, portable and transportation electricity generation.

Prerequisites
CBE 2224A/B or GPE 2218 A/B.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Corequisites
None

Antirequisites
None

Contact Hours
3 lecture hours, 1 tutorial hour, 0.5 course

Instructor
Dr. D. Karamanev (TEB 375) Telephone: 519-661-2111 ext: 88230 email: dkaraman@uwo.ca

Undergraduate Assistant
Ingrid Timusk (TEB 477) Telephone: 519-661-2111 ext: 82131 email: cbeundergraduate@uwo.ca

Required Text
None
Reference Texts

Course Notes
None

Units
SI will be used for this course.

General Learning Objectives

| A knowledge base for engineering | A | Individual and teamwork | Economics and project management | B |
| Problem analysis | I | Communication skills | Life-long learning | I |
| Investigation | | Professionalism | | |
| Design | I | Impact of engineering on society and the environment | Key: A: evaluated at advanced level |
| Use of engineering tools | B | Ethics and equity | I: evaluated at intermediate level |
| | | | B: evaluated at introductory level |

Key:
- B: evaluated at introductory level
- I: evaluated at intermediate level
- A: evaluated at advanced level
- n.e.: not evaluated

Specific Learning Objectives

1) Understanding of the fundamentals of fuel cells, types of fuel cells, and their applications. The technological problems of fuel cell operation and their potential solutions will be discussed.

At the end of this topic, students will be able to:

- Understand the importance and problems of hydrogen/fuel cell economy
- Analyze critically different sources of the release of greenhouse gases
- Analyze the reduction of greenhouse gases, and especially CO₂, emissions via the adoption of hydrogen economy
- Understand the importance of fuel cells in hydrogen economy
- Estimate the applicability of fuel cells for a particular application
- Perform a basic design of a fuel cell, from the following list:
  - Polymer electrolyte fuel cells
  - Solid oxide fuel cells
  - Phosphoric acid fuel cells
  - Alkaline fuel cells
  - Molten carbonate fuel cells
• Biofuel cells
• Direct methanol fuel cells

2) Understanding of the fundamentals of solar cells, types of solar cells, and their applications. The technological problems of solar cell operation and their potential solutions will be discussed.
At the end of this topic, students will be able to:
• Understand the fundamentals of solar cells
• Understand how the various types of solar cells: crystalline silicon cells, thin film technologies, space and concentrator cells, work and are manufactured
• Analyze the reduction of greenhouse gases, and especially CO₂, emissions via the adoption of solar cell power generation
• Critically estimate the advantages, disadvantages, environmental effect and applicability of different types of solar cells.

3) Knowing how to perform a lifecycle analysis of fuel cells and solar cells.

Evaluation
The final course mark will be determined as follows:
Assignments 20%
Mid-term exam 30%
Final exam 50%

The final exam will be closed-book, only non-programmable calculators allowed. The final exam will be 3 hours in length. The midterm exam will be similar, but 2 hours in length.

Notes
1) Students must pass the final examination to pass this course. Students who fail the final examination will be assigned 48% if the aggregate mark is higher than 50%, or the aggregate mark.
2) Assignments are to be handed into the GPE 3383b locker #465 located in the Thompson Engineering Building on the specified due date provided by the Instructor.

Repeating All Components of the Course
In accordance with Senate and Faculty Policy, students who have failed an Engineering course (i.e., <50%) must repeat all components of the course. No special permissions will be granted enabling a student to retain laboratory, assignment or test marks from previous years. Previously completed assignments and laboratories cannot be resubmitted for grading by the student in subsequent years.

Use of English
In accordance with Senate and Faculty Policy, students may be penalized up to 10% of the marks on all assignments, tests, and examinations for the improper use of English. Additionally, poorly written work with the exception of the final examination may be returned without
grading. If resubmission of the work is permitted, it may be graded with marks deducted for poor English and/or late submission.

**Attendance**

**Attendance in lectures, tutorials and laboratories is mandatory.** Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean, after due warning has been given. On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with permission of the Associate Chair, appropriate action will be taken, with the possibility of course failure.

**Cheating**

University policy states that cheating is a scholastic offense. The commission of a scholastic offense is attended by academic penalties, which might include expulsion from the program. If you are caught cheating, there will be no second warning.

**Plagiarism**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

The University of Western Ontario has software for plagiarism checking. Students may be required to submit their work in electronic form for plagiarism checking.

**Sickness and Other Problems**

Students should immediately consult with the instructor or Department Chair if they have any problems that could affect their performance in the course. The student should seek advice from the Instructor or Department Chair regarding how best to deal with the problem. Failure to notify the Instructor or Department Chair immediately (or as soon as possible thereafter) will have a negative effect on any appeal.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific questions regarding an accommodation.

**Notices**

Students are responsible for regularly checking their Western email and the course OWL site.

**Consultation**

Office hours will be posted and individual consultation may be arranged with the instructor.
Accreditation (AU) Breakdown

Engineering Science  = 70%
Engineering Design   = 30%
INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS UNABLE TO WRITE TESTS  
OR EXAMINATIONS OR SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS AS SCHEDULED

IF, ON MEDICAL OR COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS, YOU ARE UNABLE TO WRITE TERM TESTS OR FINAL EXAMINATIONS OR COMPLETE COURSE WORK BY THE DUE DATE, YOU SHOULD FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS LISTED BELOW. YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION WILL NOT BE GRANTED AUTOMATICALLY ON REQUEST. YOU MUST DEMONSTRATE TO YOUR DEPARTMENT (OR THE UNDERGRADUATE SERVICES OFFICE IF YOU ARE IN FIRST YEAR) THAT THERE ARE COMPELLING MEDICAL OR COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS THAT CAN BE DOCUMENTED BEFORE ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION WILL BE CONSIDERED. DIFFERENT REGULATIONS APPLY TO TERM TESTS, FINAL EXAMINATIONS AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS. READ THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY. (SEE THE 2014 UWO ACADEMIC CALENDAR).

A. GENERAL REGULATIONS & PROCEDURES

1. Check the course outline to see if the instructor has a policy for missed tests, examinations, late assignments or attendance.

2. Bring your request for academic accommodation to the attention of the chair of your (or the Undergraduate Services office if you are in first year) PRIOR to the scheduled time of the test or final examination or due date of the assignment. If you are unable to contact the relevant person, leave a message with the appropriate department (or with the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year). The address, telephone and fax numbers are given at the end of these instructions. Documentation must be provided as soon as possible.

3. If you decide to write a test or an examination you should be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations or having the value of a test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis is not permitted.

B. TERM TESTS

1. If you are unable to write a term test, inform your instructor and the Chair of your Department (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year) PRIOR to the scheduled date of the test. If the instructor is not available, leave a message for him/her at the department office and inform the Chair of the Department (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year).

2. Be prepared to provide supporting documentation to the Chair and the Undergraduate Services Office (see next page for information on documentation).

3. Discuss with the instructor if and when the test can be rescheduled. N.B. The approval of the Chair (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year) is required when rescheduling term tests.

C. FINAL EXAMINATIONS

1. If you are unable to write a final examination, contact the Undergraduate Services Office PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED EXAMINATION TIME to request permission to write a Special Final Examination. If no one is available in the Undergraduate Services Office, leave a message clearly stating your name & student number (please spell your full name).

2. Be prepared to provide the Undergraduate Services Office with supporting documentation (see next page for information on documentation) the next day, or as soon as possible (in cases where students are hospitalized). The following circumstances are not considered grounds for missing a final examination or requesting special examinations: common cold, sleeping in, misreading timetable and travel arrangements.

3. In order to receive permission to write a special examination, you must obtain the approval of the Chair of the Department and the Associate Dean and in order to apply you must sign a "Recommendation for a Special Examination Form" available in the Undergraduate Services Office. The Undergraduate Services Office will then notify the course instructor(s) and reschedule the examination on your behalf.

N.B. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK THE DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF THE SPECIAL EXAMINATION.

D. LATE ASSIGNMENTS

1. Advise the instructor if you are having problems completing the assignment on time (prior to the due date of the assignment).

2. Be prepared to provide documentation if requested by the instructor (see reverse side for information on documentation).

3. If you are granted an extension, establish a due date. The approval of the Chair of your Department (or the Associate Dean if you are in first year) is not required if assignments will be completed prior to the last day of classes.

4. i) Extensions beyond the end of classes must have the consent of the instructor, the department Chair and the Associate Dean. Documentation is mandatory.

   ii) A Recommendation of Incomplete Form must be filled out indicating the work to be completed and the date by which it is due. This form must be signed by the student, the instructor, the department Chair and the Associate Dean.
E. **SHORT ABSENCES**

If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outlines for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate.

F. **EXTENDED ABSENCES**

If you are absent more than one week or if you get too far behind to catch up, you should consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses. (Note drop deadlines listed below). You may want to seek advice from the academic counsellor in your Department or Ms Karen Murray in the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year.

G. **DOCUMENTATION**

If you consulted an off-campus doctor or Student Health Services regarding your illness or personal problem, you must provide the doctor with a Student Medical Certificate to complete at the time of your visit and then bring it to the Department (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year). This note must contain the following information: severity of illness, effect on academic studies and duration of absence.

**In Case of Serious Illness of a Family Member:** Provide a Student Medical Certificate to your family member's physician to complete and bring it to the Department (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year).

**In Case of a Death:** Obtain a copy of the death certificate or the notice provided by the funeral director's office. You must include your relationship to the deceased and bring it to the Department (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year).

**For Other Extenuating Circumstances:** If you are not sure what documentation to provide, ask the Departmental Office (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year) for direction.

**Note:** Forged notes and certificates will be dealt with severely. To submit a forged document is a scholastic offence (see below).

H. **ACADEMIC CONCERNS**

You need to know if your instructors have a policy on late penalties, missed tests, etc. This information may be included on the course outlines. If not, ask your instructor(s).

You should also be aware of attendance requirements in some courses. You can be debarred from writing the final examination if your attendance is not satisfactory.

If you are in academic difficulty, check out the minimum requirements for progression in the calendar. If in doubt, see your academic counsellor.

**Calendar References:** Check these regulations in your 2014 Western Academic Calendar available at [www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca).

Absences Due to Illness: [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg117.html](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg117.html)

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg118.html](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg118.html)

Academic Accommodations for Religious or Holy Days: [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg119.html](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg119.html)


Examinations: [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg129.html](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg129.html)

Scheduling of Term Assignments: [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg113.html](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg113.html)

Student Medical Certificate: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

**Engineering Academic Regulations:** [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg1442.html](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg1442.html)

**Note:** These instructions apply to all students registered in the Faculty of Engineering regardless of whether the courses are offered by the Faculty of Engineering or other faculties in the University.

**Drop Deadlines:**

- First term half course (i.e. “A” or “F”): November 5, 2014
- Full courses and full-year half courses (i.e. “E”, “Y” or no suffix): November 30, 2014
- Second term half or second term full course (i.e. “B” or “G”): March 7, 2015

Undergraduate Services Office:
- SEB 2097 telephone: (519) 661-2130 fax: (519) 661-3757

Dept. of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering & Green Process Engineering
- TEB 477 telephone: (519) 661-2131 fax: (519) 661-3498

Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering:
- SEB 3005 telephone: (519) 661-2139 fax: (519) 661-3779

Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Software Engineering, Mechatronics Engineering
- TEB 279 telephone: (519) 661-3758 fax: (519) 850-2436

Dept. of Mechanical and Materials Engineering:
- SEB 3002 telephone: (519) 661-4412 fax: (519) 661-3020

Revised 08/26/2014