GPE 4484A – Green Fuels and Chemicals
Course Outline 2017-2018
GPE students only

Description
This course describes what are green fuels and chemicals and the main current or potential processes used to produce green fuels and chemicals and the main current or potential processes used to produce green fuels and chemicals. The student should be aware of the issues associated with the production of fuels and chemicals from fossil resources, be aware of the current processes that are used on a commercial scale to produce green fuels and chemicals, their advantages and drawbacks.

Prerequisites
CBE 2207A/B or GPE 2214A/B, CBE 2224A/B or GPE 2218A/B, CBE 3315A/B or GPE 3315A/B.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will 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

Contact Hours
Lectures/Tutorials:
   Mondays: 8:30-10:30 am, SSC 2020
   Tuesdays: 8:30-10:30 am, SH 3317
0.5 course.

Instructors
Dr. Franco Berruti; email: fberruti@uwo.ca
Dr. Cedric Briens; email: cbriens@uwo.ca

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

Required Text
Western University, Thompson Engineering Building, Room 477, 1151 Richmond Street, London, ON Canada N6A 5B9
t. 519.661.2111 ext. 82131  f. 519.661.3498  www.eng.uwo.ca/chemical/
General Learning Objectives

- Be introduced to the possible future processes to produce green fuels and chemicals, their advantages and drawbacks.
- Gain knowledge to integrate various processes in a bio-refinery.
- Be aware of the socio-economic and environmental impacts of the various processes.

Specific Learning Objectives

Introduction: Why we need Green Fuels and Chemicals. Biomass resources (Cedric Briens)
At the end of this topic, students should:
- be aware of the environmental and political drivers behind the development of green fuels and chemicals.
- have a general knowledge of the processes used for the production of fuels and chemicals from fossil resources.
- be aware of the environmental problems associated with these processes.

Biomass/BioFuels Combustion (Cedric Briens)
At the end of this topic, students should:
• know the processes used for the combustion of wood and residues from agricultural, food processing and municipal waste operations, as well as the processes for the combustion of fuels derived from these feedstocks.
• be aware of the environmental and logistic problems associated with these processes.

**Biomass Gasification** (Cedric Briens)
At the end of this topic, students should:
• know the processes used for the gasification of wood and residues from agricultural, food processing and municipal waste operations.
• be aware of the environmental and logistic problems associated with these processes.

**Pyrolysis to Biochar, Bio-oil and gas** (Cedric Briens)
At the end of this topic, students should:
• understand the processes that are used to pyrolyze biomass.
• be aware of the technical and environmental problems associated with the use of raw bio-oils and biochar.

**Processing and Refining of Bio-oils and Biochar** (Cedric Briens)
At the end of this topic, students should:
• understand how bio-oil can be stabilized and cleaned.
• know how bio-oil can be upgraded to a transportation fuel.
• understand the various applications for bio-char.
• know how to transform bio-char in higher value products.

**Biodiesel** (Cedric Briens)
At the end of this topic, students should:
• know the processes that are used to produce biodiesel, including biochemical and thermochemical methods.
• understand the social, economical and political problems associated with the various production schemes.

**Bioethanol and Biobutanol** (Franco Berruti)
At the end of this topic, students should:
• know the processes that are used to produce bioethanol, including biochemical and thermochemical methods.
• know the processes that are used to produce biobutanol, including biochemical and thermochemical methods.
• understand the social, economical and political problems associated with the various production schemes.

**Biogas by Fermentation** (Franco Berruti)
At the end of this topic, students should:
• know the various fermentation processes that can be used to transform agricultural, industrial and municipal waste into biogas.
• understand the various issues associated with the purification and use of biogas.

**Syngas and Hydrogen Production. Syngas Conversion to Clean Fuels and Chemicals** (Franco Berruti)
At the end of this topic, students should
• understand the processes that are used to generate syngas.
• know the processes that are used for hydrogen production from syngas.
• know the processes that are used to convert syngas to fuels.
• know the main processes that are used to convert syngas to chemicals.

**Biorefining: Product Separation and Purification** (Franco Berruti)
At the end of this topic, students should:
• understand the processes that are used to extract and purify products, with a stress on green processes.
• know the characteristic features of currently produced and novel biomaterials and the processes that are used to produce them.

**Green Chemistry Separations: Extraction and Purification of Green Chemicals from Renewable Resources** (Franco Berruti)
At the end of this topic, students should:
• know the major green chemicals that are obtained from renewable resources.
• understand the processes that are used to produce chemicals from renewable resources.

**Economics and Social Impact. Government Policies** (Franco Berruti)
At the end of this topic, students should:
• know how to evaluate the economics and social impact of green fuels and chemicals.
• be aware of the major, relevant government policies.

**Evaluation**
The final course mark will be determined as follows:
- Project 40%
- Mid-term Examination 30%
- Final Examination 30%

The Mid-term Examination and the final Examination will each be closed book and 1 hour. Programmable calculators are not allowed. It will be in multiple choice format.

**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 examination mark, whichever is less.

2) More information will be provided for the project during classes.
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 all 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 the permission of the Dean, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.

Cheating
University policy states that cheating is a scholastic offence. The commission of a scholastic offence is attended by academic penalties, which might include expulsion from the program. If you are caught cheating, there will be no second warning (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

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.

Conduct
Students are expected to arrive at lectures on time, and to conduct themselves during class in a professional and respectful manner that is not disruptive to others.

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. Where appropriate, the problems should be documented. 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 question regarding an accommodation.

**Notices**
Students are responsible for regularly checking their Western email and notices posted on Instructors' doors.

**Consultation**
Students are encouraged to discuss problems with their teaching assistant and/or instructor in tutorial sessions. Office hours will be arranged for the students to see the instructor and teaching assistants. Other individual consultation can be arranged by appointment with the appropriate 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 RELIEF WILL NOT BE GRANTED AUTOMATICALLY ON REQUEST. YOU MUST DEMONSTRATE TO YOUR DEPARTMENT (OR THE UNDERGRADUATE SERVICES OFFICE) THAT THERE ARE COMPPELLING MEDICAL OR COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS THAT CAN BE DOCUMENTED BEFORE ACADEMIC RELIEF WILL BE CONSIDERED. DIFFERENT REGULATIONS APPLY TO TERM TESTS, FINAL EXAMINATIONS AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS. PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY. (SEE THE 2017 UWO ACADEMIC CALENDAR).

A. GENERAL REGULATIONS & PROCEDURES

1. All first year students will report to the Undergraduate Services Office, SEB 2097, for all instances.

2. If you are an upper year student and you are missing a test/assignment/lab or exam that is worth MORE THAN 10% of your final grade, you will report to the Undergraduate Services Office, SEB 2097. Otherwise, you will report to your department office to request relief.

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

4. Documentation must be provided as soon as possible. If no one is available in your Department office or the Undergraduate Services Office, leave a message clearly stating your name & student number and reason for your call. The department telephone numbers are given at the end of these instructions.

5. 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 in first year and you are unable to write a term test, contact the Undergraduate Services Office, SEB 2097 PRIOR to the scheduled date of the test.

2. If you are an upper year student and you are unable to write a term test, inform your instructor PRIOR to the scheduled date of the test. If the instructor is not available, leave a message for him/her at the department office. If the test is worth MORE THAN 10% of your final grade you will report to the Undergraduate Services Office, SEB 2097 to request relief. Otherwise, you will report to your department office to request relief.

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

4. Discuss with the instructor if and when the test can be rescheduled. N.B. The approval of the Chair or the Undergraduate Services Office 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.

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 problem, check your course outlines for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test, laboratory 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). This note must contain the following information: severity of illness, effect on academic studies and duration of absence. Regular doctor’s notes will not be accepted; only the Student Medical Certificate will be accepted.

*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 Extemuating 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**

1. 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).

2. 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.

3. 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 2017 Western Academic Calendar available at [www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca). Absences Due to Illness: [http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg117.html](http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg117.html)

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: [http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg118.html](http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg118.html)

Academic Accommodations for Religious or Holy Days: [http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg115.html](http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg115.html)

Course Withdrawals: [http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg119.html](http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg119.html)

Examinations: [http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg129.html](http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg129.html)

Scheduling of Term Assignments: [http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg135.html](http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg135.html)

Scholastic Offences: [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg111.html](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg111.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)


**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, 2017

Full courses and full-year half courses (i.e. “E”, “Y” or no suffix): November 30, 2017

Second term half or second term full course (i.e. “B” or “G”): March 7, 2017

**Contact Information:**

Undergraduate Services Office: SEB 2097 Telephone: (519) 661-2130 E-mail: engugrad@uwo.ca

Dept. of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering & Green Process Engineering: TEB 477 Telephone: (519) 661-2131 E-mail: cheugrad@uwo.ca

Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering: SEB 3005 Telephone: (519) 661-2139 E-mail: civil@uwo.ca

Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Software Engineering & Mechatronics Engineering: TEB 279 Telephone: (519) 661-3758 E-mail: eceugrad@uwo.ca

Dept. of Mechanical and Materials Engineering: SEB 3002 Telephone: (519) 661-4122 E-mail: mmeundergraduate@uwo.ca

Revised 07/07/17