

# Controlled Environment Systems

## ABE 483/583

**Course Description:** An introduction to the technical aspects of greenhouse design, environmental control, hydroponic crop production, plant nutrient delivery systems, and intensive field production systems.

**Class meeting:** Tuesday 1:00 – 2:50 Lecture and Laboratory; Thursday 1:00 – 1:50 Lecture  
CEA Building & Greenhouses, Campbell Ave. & Roger Road

### Instructor information:

**Dr. Gene A. Giacomelli**, Professor & Director Controlled Environment Agriculture Center,  
Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, Shantz Building, Room 504, cell  
phone 520 990-0202, and CEA Building, Room 101, 1951 E. Roger Road, Ph: 520 626-  
9566. Office hours: by arrangement via email [giacomel@ag.arizona.edu](mailto:giacomel@ag.arizona.edu)

	undergraduate	graduate
<b>Grading Policy:</b> Assigned homework	10%	5%
Mid-term exam	30%	25%
Laboratory assignments & Quiz	25%	25%
Final exam	35%	25%
Design project	0%	20%

**Grading scale:** A=90-100, B=84-89, C=78-83, D=72-78, E= 66-71, F=less than 66  
assignments generally due 1 week from being assigned; 3 Credits

**Attendance policy:** attendance important to obtain complete understanding of the course materials. Notes will be provided, and lecture will follow notes, but will include discussion on handouts, problem examples, and on textbook and reference readings. Provide knowledge of any planned/required absences by email or text or voice.

**Textbook:** Greenhouses: Advanced Technology for protected Horticulture. By Joe J. Hanan  
[optional, will make a good reference book]

Additional references, texts and journal publications assigned as supplemental reading.

NRAES-33, Aldrich and Bartok, "Greenhouse Engineering"

ACME, The Greenhouse Climate Control Book

NRAES-4, Trickle Irrigation

NRAES-56, Water and Nutrient Management for Greenhouses

NRAES-3, Energy Conservation for Commercial Greenhouses

E-130, Environmental Control of Greenhouses

E-208, Soil Heating Systems for Greenhouse Crop Production

Journals: Proceedings of National Agricultural Plastics Conferences; International Society on Soilless Culture; ACTA Horticulturae; HortTechnology; Transactions of the ASAE

Syllabus Fall 2016  
Controlled Environment Systems ABE 483/583  
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**Dr Giacomelli**

Overview of Intensive Crop Production and Controlled Environment Agricultural Systems  
Greenhouse Structural Design, Glazings, Location, Orientation, Layout and Traffic Patterns  
Environmental Control - Lighting, CO<sub>2</sub>– Enrichment  
Environmental Control – Automated Systems  
Environmental Control – Ventilation and Cooling  
Environmental Control – Heating Systems  
Environmental Control – Floor Heating  
Energy Conservation Systems and Energy Sources  
Integrated Crop Production Systems, Plant Culture Techniques, Nutrient Delivery Systems  
Mechanization, Automation and Intelligent Mechanisms

**Dr. Kacira [TBD]**

Environmental Control – Psychrometrics

**Dr Poe and Dr Tollefson -- [TBD]**

Greenhouse Crop Production Systems – irrigation and fertigation

**Some lectures to be provided remotely or by online videos.**

**Mid-Term EXAM Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> 1:00 – 2:50PM CEAC Classroom**

**Final EXAM Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> 1:00 – 3:00PM CEAC Classroom**

**From the Textbook** Greenhouses: Advanced Technology for protected Horticulture.  
By Joe J. Hanan

- Chapter 1: Overview of Intensive Crop Production and Controlled Environment Agricultural Systems
- Chapter 2: Structures: Locations, Styles and Covers
- Chapter 3: Radiation and Chapter 7, CO<sub>2</sub>
- Chapter 4: Temperature
- Chapter 5: Psychrometrics (pgs. 271-276, 342-360)
- Chapter 5: Water
- Chapter 8: Climate Control

**Course Objectives:**

To learn the science and engineering aspects of controlled environment plant production systems [CEPPS].

To learn procedures, techniques and available resources for the design, evaluation, operation and general understanding of CEPPS.

To become familiar with the generalized processes and sub-systems of a CEPPS, including, crop production systems; nutrient delivery systems; microclimate heating, ventilation, cooling, humidifying, supplemental lighting and CO<sub>2</sub> enriching systems; monitoring and control systems; energy conservation and alternate energy systems; mechanization and labor management systems; glazing systems; and types of structures.

To appreciate the importance of integrating the biological aspects of plant production with engineering design for the successful operation of a CEPPS.