Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences (CSES)

Courses

CSES 1011. Introduction to Crop, Soil, and Environmental Science (Irregular). 1 Hour.
An introduction to the CSES department and majors in Environmental Soil and Water Sciences and Crop Management. Emphasis will be placed on issues and opportunities within these disciplines and orienting students to the department and University of Arkansas. Required of all department majors with less than 24 semester credit hours. Recitation 1 hour 20 minutes per week for the first eight weeks of the semester. Prerequisite: Freshman and sophomore standing only.

CSES 1203. Introduction to Plant Sciences (Sp, Fa). 3 Hours.
An introduction to basics of agricultural crop plant structure, growth, and production.

Fundamental, practical concepts of weed control and weed biology; equipment and techniques used in modern weed control practices; and basic recommendations and systems for specific agronomic and horticultural crops. Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 2 hours per week. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CSES 2103 or CSES 2103 or HORT 2003.

CSES 2012. Introduction to Organic Crop Production (Irregular). 2 Hours.
An introduction to the principles of organic agriculture and ecology and the regulations defining organic production and certification. Additional topics include crop rotations for pest management and for increasing soil organic matter, feeding the soil and plant nutrition, soil health, and green manuring, corporate agriculture and genetically modified organisms.

CSES 2013. Pest Management (Sp). 3 Hours.
Introduction to basic principles of pest management as they relate to vertebrate animals, insects, plant disease and weeds. Selected pests are studied with emphasis on current management approaches and alternative pest control.

CSES 2101L. Crop Science Laboratory (Sp). 1 Hour.
A series of laboratory experiments designed to reinforce principles of plant growth and development, reproduction, classification, and the utilization of plant products. Emphasis is placed on major crop plant species. Experiments are conducted by individuals or by teams. Laboratory consists of a single, 2-hour period each week. Required for Crop Management majors. Corequisite: CSES 2103.

CSES 2103. Crop Science (Sp). 3 Hours.
Principles of crop growth, development, and utilization and how these principles relate to production. Emphasis on major agronomic crop species. Lecture 3 hours per week.

CSES 2201L. Soil Science Laboratory (Sp, Fa). 1 Hour.
Field and laboratory exercises related to the study of the physical, chemical, and biological properties of soils. Laboratory mandatory for all crop management and environmental, soil, and water science majors and optional for others. Laboratory 2 hours per week. Pre- or Corequisite: CSES 2203.

CSES 2203. Soil Science (Sp, Fa). 3 Hours.
Origin, classification, and physical, chemical, and biological properties of soils. Lecture 3 hours, discussion 1 hour per week. Corequisite: Drill component. Prerequisite: MATH 1203 and CHEM 1103 or CHEM 1073.

CSES 3023. Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences Colloquium (Fa). 3 Hours.
A communication-intensive course covering topics in agronomy and environmental, soil, and water science with particular emphasis on spoken communication but also including written communication, group activities, professionalism, ethics, problem solving, and information retrieval. A student-oriented class with collaborative participation. Colloquium workshop: 3 hours per week. Prerequisite: COMM 1313 and Junior or Senior standing only.

CSES 3112. Forage Management (Irregular). 2 Hours.
Forage crops for pasture, hay, and silage with reference to growth and development, production, nutritional quality, and grazing systems. Lecture 2 hours per week. Prerequisite: CSES 1203 or CSES 2103.

CSES 3214. Soil Resources and Nutrient Cycles (Odd years, Sp). 4 Hours.
Integration of the fundamental concepts of the biological, chemical, and physical properties of soil systems and their roles in managing soil resources. Lecture 3 hours, laboratory 3 hours per week. Pre- or Corequisite: BIOL 2013 and BIOL 2011L. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CSES 2203.

CSES 3312. Cotton Production (Even years, Fa). 2 Hours.
Principles and techniques associated with production of cotton. Recitation 2 hours per week. Prerequisite: CSES 1203 or CSES 2103.

CSES 3322. Soybean Production (Odd years, Sp). 2 Hours.
An overview of the history and utilization of soybean as well as the physiological and environmental basis for the development of economical soybean production practices. Recitation 2 hours per week. Prerequisite: CSES 1203 or CSES 2103.

CSES 3332. Rice Production (Odd years, Fa). 2 Hours.
A study of the principles and practices involved in rice culture worldwide with major emphasis on the United States. Recitation 2 hours per week. Prerequisite: CSES 1203 or CSES 2103.

CSES 3342. Cereal Grain Production (Even years, Sp). 2 Hours.
An overview of the botany, production, cultural practices, soil & climatic adaptation and utilization of the major cereal grain crops. Prerequisite: CSES 1203 or CSES 2103.

CSES 355V. Soil Profile Description (Fa). 1-2 Hour.
Training for soil profile description writing and membership of judging teams. May be repeated for up to 8 hours of degree credit.

CSES 3603. Metrics for Sustainable Agricultural Systems (Fa). 3 Hours.
Analysis of productive agricultural systems necessary to meet expanding demand worldwide for food, feed, fiber and fuel while preserving critical ecosystem services to avoid future catastrophic failures of the biosphere. Characterization of sustainable systems using well-defined metrics, indicators and indices, including reference to sustainability certifications. Metrics for soil, water, atmosphere and biodiversity. Applications in crop and animal production with scales from field to watershed to eco-region. Examining the process and methodologies of integrating metrics into indices to support sustainable supply chain decisions. Discussion of life cycle analyses and current initiatives toward approaching agricultural systems sustainability. Technical course intended for students in agriculture, biology, business, engineering, and environmental sciences. This course is cross-listed with BENG 3603.

CSES 400V. Special Problems (Sp, Su, Fa). 1-6 Hour.
Work on special problems in crop, soil and environmental sciences or related field. May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

CSES 4013. Advanced Crop Science (Fa). 3 Hours.
Fundamental concepts of crop physiology, crop improvement, seed science, and crop production systems. Recitation 3 hours per week. Prerequisite: CSES 2103.

CSES 402V. Special Topics (Irregular). 1-3 Hour.
Studies of selected topics in crop, soil and environmental sciences not available in other courses. May be repeated for up to 12 hours of degree credit.
CSES 4103. Plant Breeding (Even years, Fa). 3 Hours.
Basic principles involved in plant breeding programs to improve crop plants and seed programs. Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 2 hours per week. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: ANSC 3123 or BIOL 2323.

CSES 4133. Ecology and Morphology of Weedy and Invasive Plants (Fa). 3 Hours.
Study of weeds as economic pests occurring in both agricultural and nonagricultural situations and including poisonous plants and other specific weed problems. Gross morphological plant family characteristics which aid identification, habitat of growth and distribution, ecology, competition, and allelopathy are discussed. Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 2 hours a week. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CSES 2103 or HORT 2003.

CSES 4143. Principles of Weed Control (Sp). 3 Hours.
Advanced concepts and technology used in modern weed control practices and study of the chemistry and specific activity of herbicides in current usage. Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 2 hours per week. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CHEM 1073 and CHEM 1071L.

CSES 4224. Soil Fertility (Fa). 4 Hours.
Study of the soil's chemical, biological and physical properties, and human modification of these properties, as they influence the uptake and utilization of the essential nutrients by plants. Lecture 3 hours, laboratory 2 hours per week. Pre- or Corequisite: CHEM 1123 and CHEM 1121L or (CHEM 1073 and CHEM 1071L and CHEM 2613 and CHEM 2611L). Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CSES 2201L and CSES 2203.

CSES 4253. Soil Classification and Genesis (Odd years, Fa). 3 Hours.
Lecture and field evaluation of soil properties and their relation to soil genesis and soil classification with emphasis on soils of Arkansas. Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 2 hours per week. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CSES 2203 and CSES 2201L.

CSES 4303. Bioenergy Feedstock Production (Sp). 3 Hours.
Overview of production and characteristics of cultivated crops, perennial grasses, and woody species as feedstocks for bioenergy. Fundamentals of plant growth factors, culture, harvest and storage, quality and improvement, and introduction to environmental impact, modeling, and resource utilization. Prerequisite: MATH 1203 and BIOL 1543 or CSES 1203. Courses in introductory chemistry or soil science are preferred.

CSES 4553. Wetland Soils (Odd years, Sp). 3 Hours.
This course explains the chemical, physical, and morphological characteristics of wetland soils and describes the techniques for identifying wetland soils using field indicators and monitoring equipment. This course also explains principles of wetland creation, restoration, and mitigation - all key components in assuring the sustainability of valuable wetland resources. Prerequisite: CSES 2203 and CSES 2201L or CSES 355V.

CSES 462V. Internship (Sp, Su, Fa). 1-6 Hour.
Supervised practical work experience in agronomy and environmental science to develop and demonstrate professional competence. Faculty approval of project proposal prior to enrollment and written and oral reports after the project is complete are required. Prerequisite: Instructor consent. May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

CSES 5001. Weed Science Practicum (Su). 1 Hour.
Training for membership on weed team, through participation. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

CSES 5013. Crop Physiology (Odd years, Fa). 3 Hours.
Understanding and quantitative measurement of physiological processes, plant responses, and environmental parameters in relation to the production of crops. Prerequisite: BIOL 4303.

CSES 5023. Physiology of Herbicide and Plant Interaction (Odd years, Sp). 3 Hours.
The reproduction, growth, and development of weeds and the ecological factors affecting these processes; development and mechanisms of herbicide resistance, flow of herbicide-resistance genes; and development of herbicide-resistant crops. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CSES 4143 or CSES 5143 (formerly CSES 4143) and (BIOL 4303 or CHEM 5813).

CSES 502V. Special Problems Research (Sp, Su, Fa). 1-6 Hour.
Original investigations on assigned problems in agronomy. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

CSES 5033. Advanced Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition (Sp). 3 Hours.
Study of water uptake, ion absorption, translocation and metabolism in higher plants. Lecture 3 hours per week. Prerequisite: BIOL 4303 and CHEM 2613 and CHEM 2611L.

CSES 504V. Special Topics (Irregular). 1-4 Hour.
Topics not covered in other courses or a more intensive study of specific topics in agronomy. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. May be repeated for degree credit.

CSES 5053. Scientific Writing (Irregular). 3 Hours.
Open to graduate students, especially those in agricultural and life sciences. The course will cover searching the scientific literature, writing theses, proposals, journal articles, and other scientific documents. Emphasis on style and techniques used in scientific publication. Lecture and workshop 3 hours per week. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

CSES 5073. Advanced Crop Science (Fa). 3 Hours.
(Formerly CSES 4013.) Fundamental concepts of crop physiology, crop improvement, seed science, and crop production systems. Recitation 3 hours per week. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both CSES 4013 and CSES 5073. Prerequisite: CSES 2103.

CSES 5093. Plant Breeding (Even years, Fa). 3 Hours.
(Formerly CSES 4103.) Basic principles involved in plant breeding programs to improve crop plants and seed programs. Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 2 hours per week. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both CSES 4103 and CSES 5093. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: ANSC 3123 or BIOL 2323.

CSES 5103. Scientific Presentations (Fa). 3 Hours.
Experience in procedures required for professional presentations of scientific papers, seminars, posters; and research findings at meetings in conferences, and with discussion groups. Instruction in organization of materials, visual aids, and good speaking habits. Lecture 3 hours per week. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

CSES 5114. Soil Fertility (Fa). 4 Hours.
(Formerly CSES 4224.) Study of the soil's chemical, biological and physical properties, and human modification of these properties, as they influence the uptake and utilization of the essential nutrients by plants. Lecture 3 hours, laboratory 2 hours per week. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both CSES 4224 and CSES 5114. Pre- or Corequisite: CHEM 1123 and CHEM 1121L or (CHEM 1073 and CHEM 1071L and CHEM 2613 and CHEM 2611L). Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CSES 2201L and CSES 2203.

CSES 5133. Ecology and Morphology of Weedy and Invasive Plants (Fa). 3 Hours.
(Formerly CSES 4133.) Study of weeds as economic pests occurring in both agricultural and nonagricultural situations and including poisonous plants and other specific weed problems. Gross morphological plant family characteristics which aid identification, habitat of growth and distribution, ecology, competition, and allelopathy are discussed. Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 2 hours a week. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both CSES 4133 and CSES 5133. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CSES 2103 or HORT 2003.
CSES 5143. Principles of Weed Control (Sp). 3 Hours.
(Formerly CSES 4143.) Advanced concepts and technology used in modern weed control practices and study of the chemistry and specific activity of herbicides in current usage. Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 2 hours per week. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both CSES 4143 and CSES 5143. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CHEM 1073 and CHEM 1071L.

CSES 5214. Analytical Research Techniques in Agronomy (Even years, Fa). 4 Hours.
Preparation and analysis of plant and soil samples utilizing spectrophotometry, isotopes, and chromatographic separation methods. Additionally, measurements are made of photosynthesis, respiration, water relationships, light, and temperatures in whole plants. Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 4 hours per week. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: BIOL 4303 and CHEM 2613 and CHEM 2611L.

CSES 5224. Soil Physics (Sp). 4 Hours.
Physical properties of soils and their relation to other soil properties, growth of plants and transport of water, oxygen, heat, and solutes such as pesticides and plant nutrients. Lecture 3 hours, laboratory 3 hours per week. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CSES 2203 and MATH 1203.

CSES 5233. Plant Genetic Engineering (Odd years, Sp). 3 Hours.
Topics will be covered in the field of in vitro plant biology, transgene genetics and crop genetic engineering. Concepts and applications of transgenic plant technology will be discussed, with the emphasis on the strategies for crop improvement and gene discovery. Lecture 3 hours. 

CSES 5253. Soil Classification and Genesis (Odd years, Fa). 3 Hours.
(Formerly CSES 4253.) Lecture and field evaluation of soil properties and their relation to soil genesis and soil classification with emphasis on soils of Arkansas. Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 2 hours per week. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both CSES 4253 and CSES 5253. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CSES 2203 and CSES 2201L.

CSES 5264. Microbial Ecology (Odd years, Fa). 4 Hours.
A study of the microorganisms in soil and the biochemical processes for which they are responsible. Lecture 3 hours, laboratory 3 hours per week. Additional suggested prerequisites are BIOL 2013, CSES 2203, and ENSC 3003. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: CSES 2203 and CSES 2201L.

CSES 5303. Bioenergy Feedstock Production (Sp). 3 Hours.
(Formerly CSES 4303.) Overview of production and characteristics of cultivated crops, perennial grasses, and woody species as feedstocks for bioenergy. Fundamentals of plant growth factors, culture, harvest and storage, quality and improvement, and introduction to environmental impact, modeling, and resource utilization. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both CSES 4303 and CSES 5303. Prerequisite: MATH 1203 and BIOL 1543 or CSES 1203.

CSES 5313. Crop Simulation Models in Research, Management and Policy (Even years, Fa). 3 Hours.
The basics of theory and practice of crop simulation models and their applications in crop research and management, and cropping systems planning and policy. Prerequisite: MATH 1203 and BIOL 1543 or CSES 1203 or consent of instructor. Courses in introductory chemistry and plant physiology are preferred.

CSES 5323. Soil/Water Quality in Bioenergy Feedstock Production Systems (Odd years, Fa). 3 Hours.
Examine concepts of soil and water quality in relation to bioenergy feedstock production, explore research related to biomass removal and by-product addition to soils, and examine the potential effects of proposed feedstock production systems on soil and water quality. Prerequisite: MATH 1203 and CSES 2203 or equivalent or consent of instructor, and CSES 4303 or CSES 5303 (formerly CSES 4303) preferred.

CSES 5453. Soil Chemistry (Even years, Sp). 3 Hours.
Application of the principles of chemistry to processes of agronomic and environmental importance in soils. Soil clay mineralogy, soil solution thermodynamics, structure and reactivity of humus, surface complexation and ion exchange, electro-chemical phenomena, and colloidal stability. Prerequisite: CSES 2203 and CHEM 1123 and CHEM 1121L.

CSES 5533. Wetland Soils (Odd years, Sp). 3 Hours.
(Formerly CSES 4553.) This course explains the chemical, physical, and morphological characteristics of wetland soils and describes the techniques for identifying wetland soils using field indicators and monitoring equipment. This course also explains principles of wetland creation, restoration, and mitigation - all key components in assuring the sustainability of valuable wetland resources. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both CSES 4553 and CSES 5533. Prerequisite: CSES 2203 and CSES 2201L or CSES 355V.

CSES 5543. Plant Genomics (Even years, Sp). 3 Hours.
Plant genetics based on the study of whole genome sequence, transcriptome and proteome. Provides an overview of the principles and techniques of experimental and in silico genomics. Covers all areas of genome research including structural, comparative and functional genomics as well as proteomics. Prerequisite: CHEM 5843 or any graduate level genetics course.

CSES 5553. Forage-Ruminant Relations (Odd years, Sp). 3 Hours.
Advanced chemical, physical, and botanical characteristics of forage plants, the dynamics of grazing, intake and digestion, and techniques of measuring forage utilization and systems analysis at the plant-animal interface. CSES 1203 recommended. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: ANSC 3143. This course is cross-listed with ANSC 5553.

CSES 600V. Master's Thesis (Sp, Su, Fa). 1-6 Hour.
Master's Thesis. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. May be repeated for degree credit.

CSES 700V. Doctoral Dissertation (Sp, Su, Fa). 1-18 Hour.
Doctoral Dissertation. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. May be repeated for degree credit.