INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PEST CONTROL ADVISER?
A GUIDE FOR CAL POLY SLO TRANSFER STUDENTS
“When I transferred into Cal Poly, I had a bunch of different questions. What classes do I take in order to fulfill the California PCA exams’ requirements? Is it possible to do within the AGED department? When are the necessary classes offered? How many classes should I take in order to stay on course to graduate on time? And the list went on. After countless visits to professors’ office hours, academic advisors and so on, I began to figure things out.”

– Zack Krueger
LOOKING TO TRANSFER TO THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES WITH PLANS OF BECOMING A PEST CONTROL ADVISOR?

WE'RE HERE TO HELP.

CHECK OFF THE BOXES AS YOU MAKE YOUR WAY THROUGH THE BOOKLET TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR PROGRESS!

DEPARTMENT:
- Agricultural Education & Communication

MAJOR:
- Agricultural Science

EMPHASIS:
- Choose Individualized Career Area

**Need to speak with an academic advisor.

RECOMMENDED MINORS:
- A) Crop Science
- B) Plant Protection
CROP SCIENCE MINOR
30 UNITS

REQUIRED COURSES: 18 UNITS

- AEPS 120 (PRINCIPLES OF HORTICULTURE AND CROP SCIENCE) 4 UNITS
- AEPS 190 (CALIFORNIA VEGETABLE PRODUCTION) 4 UNITS
- AEPS 203 OR 204 (ORGANIC ENTERPRISE OR VEGETABLE ENTERPRISE) 2 UNITS
- AEPS 244 (PRECISION FARMING) 4 UNITS
- BRAE 340 (IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT) 4 UNITS

+ 12 UNITS
OF YOUR CHOOSING FROM THE SELECTED ELECTIVE OPTIONS

COORDINATOR: DR. WYATT BROWN, BLD. 11, RM. 232
CROP SCIENCE MINOR: ELECTIVE OPTIONS

Required Courses ........................................................................................................ 18

- AEPS 120 Principles of Horticulture and Crop Science (4)
- AEPS 190 California Vegetable Production (4)
- AEPS 244 Precision Farming (4)
- AEPS 203 Organic Enterprise project (2) or AEPS 204 Vegetable Enterprise Project (2)
- BRAE 340, Irrigation Water Management (4)

Restricted Elective Courses ...................................................................................... 12

Select 12 units from the following course list:

- AEPS 304 Plant Breeding (4)
- AEPS 313 Agricultural Entomology (4)
- AEPS 321 Weed Biology and Management (4)
- AEPS 333 Greenhouse Vegetable Production (2)
- AEPS 421 Postharvest Technology of Horticultural Crops (4)
- AEPS 445 Cropping Systems (4)
- AEPS/AG 315 Organic Agriculture (4)

TOTAL UNITS FOR THE MINOR: .............................................................................. 30
PLANT PROTECTION MINOR

30 UNITS

REQUIRED COURSES: 16 UNITS

- AEPS 120 (PRINCIPLES OF HORTICULTURE AND CROP SCIENCE) 4 UNITS
- AEPS 313 (AGRICULTURAL ENTOMOLOGY) 4 UNITS
- AEPS 321 (WEED BIOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT) 4 UNITS
- AEPS 323 (PLANT PATHOLOGY) 4 UNITS

+ 14 UNITS OF YOUR CHOOSING FROM THE SELECTED ELECTIVE OPTIONS

COORDINATOR: DR. DAVID HEADRICK, BLD. 11, RM. 235
PLANT PROTECTION MINOR: ELECTIVE OPTIONS

Agricultural Production. Select 4 units from the following:

- AEPS 124 Plant Propagation (4)
- AEPS 132 Pomology I (4)
- AEPS 150 Forage Crops (4)
- AEPS 190 California Vegetable Production (4)
- AEPS 230 Environmental Horticulture (4)
- AEPS 240 Commercial Seed Production (4)
- AEPS 245 Horticultural Production Techniques (3)
- AEPS 250 California Fruit Growing (4)
- AEPS 260 Introduction to Vegetable Science (4)
- AEPS 341 Cut Flower Production (4)
- AEPS 355 Citrus and Avocado Fruit Production (4)
- NR 141 Introduction to Forest Ecosystem Management (3)
- NR 350 Urban Forestry (3)
- WVIT 233 Basic Viticulture (4)

Enterprise Project. Select 2 units from the following:

- AEPS 202 Fruit Enterprise Project (2)
- AEPS 203 Organic Enterprise (2)
- AEPS 204 Vegetable Enterprise Project (2)
- AEPS 312 Environmental Horticulture Enterprise Project II (2)
- WVIT/AEPS 210 Viticultural Practices (2)

Pest Management. Select 8 units from the following:

- AEPS 327 Vertebrate Pest Management (4)
- AEPS 406 Advanced Weed Management (4)
- AEPS 427 Disease and Pest Control Systems for Ornamental Crops (4)
- AEPS 431 Insect Pest Management (4)
- AEPS 441 Biological Control for Pest Management (4)
- WVIT 414 Grape Pest Management (4)
DID YOU KNOW THAT CERTAIN COURSES ARE ONLY OFFERED 1 QUARTER OUT OF THE YEAR?

AEPS 120 (INTRODUCTION TO HORTICULTURE AND CROP SCIENCE) F, W, SP
AEPS 190 (CALIFORNIA VEGETABLE PRODUCTION) SP
AEPS 203 (ORGANIC ENTERPRISE PROJECT) F, W, SP
AEPS 244 (PRECISION FARMING) W
AEPS 313 (ENTOMOLOGY) F, SP
AEPS 321 (WEED BIOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT) F, SP
AEPS 323 (PLANT PATHOLOGY) F, SP
AEPS 327 (VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT) W
BRAE 340 (IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT) F, W, SP
AEPS 406 (ADVANCED WEED MANAGEMENT) W
AEPS 421 (POST HARVEST TECHNOLOGY OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS) W

KNOWING WHAT QUARTERS SPECIFIC COURSES ARE OFFERED AND WHEN THEY ARE NOT IS CRUCIAL! POOR PLANNING COULD LEAD TO POSTPONED GRADUATION. ALSO, TAKE INTO ACCOUNT PREREQUISITES.
PCA LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

IN ORDER TO OBTAIN YOUR PCA LICENSE AFTER GRADUATION, YOU MUST HAVE SPECIFIC COURSES COMPLETED TO BE ELIGIBLE TO TAKE THE EXAM.

Completion of the required total of units in the following areas without double counting courses:

- Physical and Biological Sciences: 18 UNITS
- Crop Health: 13.5 UNITS
- Production Systems: 9 UNITS
- Pest Management Systems and Methods: 9 UNITS
- Electives: 13.5 UNITS
18 units needed

- AEPS 110 (People, Pests and Plagues) F,W,SP - 4 units
- AEPS 304 (Plant Breeding) W,SP - 4 units
- AEPS 329 (Plants, Food and Biotechnology) F - 4 units
- AEPS 421 (Post Harvest Technology of Horticultural Crops) W - 4 units
- BIO (Any)
- BOT (Any)
- CHEM (Any)
- ZOO (Any)
- FRSC 415 (Grapevine Physiology) TBD - 4 units
- MCRO 221 (Microbiology) F,W,SP,SU - 4 units
- MCRO 224 (General Microbiology I) F,W - 5 units
- MCRO 225 (General Microbiology II) SP - 5 units
- MCRO 301 (Wine Microbiology) SP - 4 units
- MCRO 402 (General Virology) W - 4 units
- MCRO 424 (Microbiology Physiology) W - 4 units
13.5 UNITS NEEDED

- AEPS 313 (AGRICULTURAL ENTOMOLOGY) F,SP -4 UNITS
- AEPS 321 (WEED AND BIOLOGY MANAGEMENT) F,SP -4 UNITS
- AEPS 323 (PLANT PATHOLOGY) F, SP -4 UNITS
- AEPS 327 (VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT) W -4 UNITS
- AEPS 350 (ABIOTIC PLANT PROBLEMS) W -4 UNITS
- AEPS 406 (ADVANCED WEED MANAGEMENT) W -4 UNITS
- AEPS 421 (POST HARVEST TECHNOLOGY OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS) W -4 UNITS
- AEPS 427 (DISEASE AND PEST CONTROL SYSTEMS FOR ORNAMENTAL PLANTS) W -4 UNITS
- ASCI 203 (ANIMAL PARASITOLOGY) TBD -3 UNITS

CROP HEALTH

- BRAE 236 (PRINCIPLES OF IRRIGATION) F -3 UNITS
- BRAE 337 (LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION) W -4 UNITS
- BRAE 340 (IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT) F -4 UNITS
- BRAE 405 (CHEMIGATION) SP -1 UNIT
- BRAE 438 (DRIP/MICRO IRRIGATION) W -4 UNITS
- BRAE 440 (AGRICULTURAL IRRIGATION SYSTEMS) SP -4 UNITS
- NR 402 (FOREST HEALTH) W -4 UNITS
- SS 120 (INTRODUCTORY SOIL SCIENCE) F,W,SP -4 UNITS
- SS 221 (SOIL HEALTH AND PLANT NUTRITION) F,W,SP -4 UNITS
- SS 422 (SOIL ECOLOGY) SP -4 UNITS
Production Systems

9 Units Needed

- AEPS 120 (Principles of Horticulture and Crop Science) F - 4 Units
- AEPS 123 (Landscape Installation and Maintenance) W - 4 Units
- AEPS 124 (Plant Propagation) SP - 4 Units
- AEPS 132 (Pomology I) W - 4 Units
- AEPS 133 (Pomology II) SP - 4 Units
- AEPS 150 (Forage Crops) F - 4 Units
- AEPS 175 (Beekeeping) F,SP - 4 Units
- AEPS 190 (California Vegetable Production) SP - 4 Units
- AEPS 202 (Fruit Enterprise) TBD - 2 Units
- AEPS 203 (Organic Enterprise) F,W,SP - 2 Units
- AEPS 204 (Vegetable Enterprise) F,W,SP - 2 Units
- AEPS 212 (Environmental Horticulture Enterprise Project I) F,W,SP 1-4 Units
- AEPS 230 (Environmental Horticulture) F - 4 Units
- AEPS 233 (Plant Materials I) SP - 4 Units
- AEPS 234 (Plant Materials II) F - 4 Units
- AEPS 240 (Commercial Seed Production) SP - 4 Units
- AEPS 244 (Precision Farming) W - 4 Units
- AEPS 245 (Horticulture Production Techniques) F - 3 Units
- AEPS 250 (California Fruit Growing) TBD - 4 Units
- AEPS 260 (Introduction to Vegetable Science) TBD - 4 Units
- AEPS 315 (Principles of Organic Crop Production) F,SP - 4 Units
- AEPS 324 (Interior Plant Management) TBD - 4 Units
- AEPS 333 (Greenhouse Vegetable Production) F - 2 Units
- AEPS 340 (Principles of Greenhouse Environment) SP - 4 Units
- AEPS 341 (Cutflower Production) F - 4 Units
- AEPS 342 (Potted Plant Production) W - 4 Units
- AEPS 343 (Turfgrass Management) TBD - 4 Units
- AEPS 355 (Citrus and Avocado Fruit Production) SP - 4 Units
- AEPS 423 (Advanced Vegetable Science) TBD - 4 Units
- AEPS 424 (Nursery Crop Production) W - 4 Units
- AEPS 425 ( Arboriculture) SP - 4 Units
- AEPS 434 (Landscape Management) TBD - 4 Units
- AEPS 445 (Cropping Systems) W - 4 Units
- AEPS/WWIT 210 (Viticulture Practices) TBD - 2 Units
- AEPS/WWIT 231 (Viticulture I) TBD - 4 Units
- AEPS/WWIT 311 (Survey of Viticulture) TBD - 4 Units
- AEPS/WWIT 331 (Advanced Viticulture) F, SU - 4 Units
- AG/ASCI 360 (Holistic Management) F,W,SP - 4 Units
- AG 450 (Applied Holistic Management) F,W,SP - 4 Units
- ASCI 101 (Introduction to the Animal Science) F - 2 Units
- ASCI 112 (Principles of Animal Science) F,W,SP - 4 Units
- ASCI 221 (Introduction to Beef Production) F,SP - 4 Units

More options available on the PCA Requirement Handout
9 UNITS NEEDED

PEST MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND METHODS

- AEPS 321 (WEED AND BIOLOGY MANAGEMENT) F,SP -4 UNITS
- AEPS 327 (VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT) W -4 UNITS
- AEPS 406 (ADVANCED WEED MANAGEMENT) W -4 UNITS
- AEPS 427 (DISEASE AND PEST CONTROL SYSTEMS FOR ORNAMENTAL PLANTS) W -4 UNITS
- AEPS 431 (INSECT PEST MANAGEMENT) SP -4 UNITS
- AEPS 441 (BIOLOGICAL CONTROL FOR PEST MANAGEMENT) F -4 UNITS
- ASCI 203 (ANIMAL PARASITOLOGY) TBD -3 UNITS
- AEPS/WVIT 414 (WINE PEST MANAGEMENT) F -4 UNITS
Electives

13.5 Units Needed

(Fill in the Blanks)

Select courses listed in the Crop Health, Pest Management Systems and Methods, and Production Systems Core Areas. Remember, do not double count units from one Core Area to the next!
Year 1

**FALL QUARTER**
- Curriculum courses
- AEPS 120 (4)*
- BOT 121 (4)*

**WINTER QUARTER**
- Curriculum courses
- AEPS 327 (4)
- AEPS 203 or 204 (2)

**SPRING QUARTER**
- Curriculum courses plus minor electives
- AEPS 190 (4)
- AEPS 321 (4)
- AEPS 313 (4)

* Important prerequisite for courses during your Cal Poly career. Take ASAP!

Year 2

**FALL QUARTER**
- Curriculum courses plus minor electives
- BRAE 340 (4)
- AEPS 441 (4)
- AEPS 329 (4)**

**WINTER QUARTER**
- Curriculum courses plus minor electives
- AEPS 421 (4)
- AEPS 244 (4)

**SPRING QUARTER**
- Curriculum courses plus minor electives
- AEPS 323 (4)
- AEPS 315 (4)***

*** Used to complete the production systems portion of the PCA requirements checklist. Counts as crop science minor elective option.
HOW TO AVOID PITFALLS

TALK TO YOUR ACADEMIC ADVISOR!
This may seem like common sense but far too often students avoid their "AA" and make mistakes when planning their schedules.

WATCH OUT FOR PREREQUISITES
Much like community college, some courses may require a series of other courses be completed before the original course may be available. You want to know this early on in your Cal Poly career to plan accordingly.

USE YOUR POLYPLANNER
This simple yet effective tool allows you to lay out your schedule quarters in advance and see if courses are available or not. It also notifies you of the course overview and what prerequisites may be needed.

TAKE UPPER DIVISION
As you progress through your Cal Poly career, always make sure to keep an eye on how many upper division courses you have completed. Failure to do so may result in a "victory lap" aka another quarter. Ag Science students typically have a hard time completing the necessary number of upper division units in a timely manor.

DOUBLE CHECK YOUR PCA REQUIREMENTS ARE MET BEFORE GRADUATION!
The simplest way to ensure you graduate on time with all courses necessary to take the California PCA exam is to print out the checklist and spend time walking through it before entering your second year at Cal Poly. This will allow you to make up courses you may have overlooked that are only offered at certain quarters during the year.

LINK TO CAL POLY COURSES THAT SATISFY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PEST CONTROL ADVISOR’S EXAM: