

AREN Block Diagram – Fall 2025

Sem.	CR						
8 SPR	14	Technical Elective-3cr From AREN specialization list on page 2	Technical Elective-3cr	Free Elective-3cr	AREN 4319-2cr AREN Design 2 (pre-req AREN 4318) #		HSS Elective-3cr Upper-division
7 FALL	17	Technical Elective-3cr From AREN specialization list on page 2		Technical Elective-3cr	AREN 4318-5cr AREN Design 1 (See notes***) #	HSS Elective-3cr**	HSS Elective-3cr
6 SPR	15	AREN 4570-3cr Electrical Systems for Buildings (pre-req AREN 3040) #	AREN 4550-3cr Illumination 2 (pre-req AREN 3540) #	AREN 4110-3cr Building Energy Systems Engineering (pre-req AREN 3010) #	AREN 4506-3cr Pre-Construction Estimating & Scheduling (pre-req/co-req CVEN 3246)	Structural Design-3cr CVEN 4545 or 4555* (pre-req CVEN 3525)	
5 FALL	15	AREN 3040-3cr Electrical Circuits (pre/co-reqs APPM 2360, PHYS 1120) #	AREN 3540-3cr Illumination 1 (pre-req CSCI 1200, APPM 2350) #	AREN 3010-3cr Energy Efficient Buildings (pre-reqs AREN 2050, 2110, 2120) #	CVEN 3246-3cr Introduction to Construction (36+ credit hours)	CVEN 3525-3cr Structural Analysis (pre-req CVEN 3161)	
4 SPR	17	APPM 2360-4cr Introduction to Linear Algebra & Diff. Equations (pre-req APPM 1360)	ARCH 3214-3cr History and Theory of Architecture 2 #	AREN 2120-3cr Fluid Mech. & Heat Transfer (pre-req AREN 2110, pre/co-reqs. APPM 2350, 2360) #	AREN 3080-3cr Arch. Design Studio 1 (pre-req AREN 1027) #	CVEN 3161-3cr Mechanics of Materials 1 (pre-req CVEN 2121, pre/co-req. APPM 2360)	CVEN 2017-1cr Excel, Python, R Primer (pre-req CSCI 1200) #
3 FALL	17	APPM 2350-4cr Calculus 3 for Engineers (pre-req APPM 1360)	PHYS 1120-4cr Gen. Physics 2 (pre-req PHYS 1110, pre/co-req. APPM 1360)	AREN 2110-3cr Thermodynamics (pre-req PHYS 1110, pre/co-req. APPM 1360) #	AREN 2050-3cr Bldg. Materials & Systems (Soph. standing) #	CVEN 2121-3cr Analytical Mechanics 1 (pre-req PHYS 1110, pre/co-req. APPM 2350*)	
2 SPR	17	APPM 1360-4cr Calculus 2 for Engineers (pre-req APPM 1350)	PHYS 1110-4cr Gen. Physics 1 (pre/co-req. APPM 1350)	College-Approved Writing Course-3cr**	AREN 1027-3cr Engineering Drawing	GEEN 1400-3cr Engrg. Projects OR Basic Engineering Elective	
1 FALL	16	APPM 1350-4cr Calculus 1 for Engineers (pre-req APPM 1235 or placement)	CHEN 1201-4cr Gen. Chem. for Engineers 1 (1yr HS chem. or CHEM 1021, HS algebra)	Science Lab-1cr CHEM 1114 or PHYS 1140****	AREN 1316-1cr Introduction to Architectural Engineering #	CSCI 1200-3cr Intro to Computational Thinking #	HSS Elective-3cr**

Fall 2025/Updated May 2026

Course is offered only once per year (FALL or SPRING as shown).

() Prerequisite and co-requisite requirements for course listed.

* CVEN 4545 Steel Design offered SPRING only; CVEN 4555 Reinforced Concrete Design offered FALL only.

** College-approved writing courses: ENES 1010 (first-year students only); or ENLP 3100, ENES 3100, WRTG 3030, WRTG 3035, or PHYS 3050 (jr. standing). Students who want to take ENES 1010 can switch the HSS elective in Term 1 or 2 with the writing course in Term 5.

*** Prerequisites for AREN 4318: AREN 3080, AREN 4110, AREN 4506, AREN 4550, AREN 4570, and CVEN 4545 or (co-req) CVEN 4555.

**** Students can choose either the chemistry lab CHEM 1114 in Term 1 or physics lab PHYS 1140 in Term 3.

AREN ELECTIVES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPECIALIZATION

At least two technical electives must be selected from this list, from any emphasis area(s).
Some technical electives are offered intermittently, and are not guaranteed to be offered every year.
Graduate versions of combined courses (e.g. CVEN 5728 instead of CVEN 4728) are also accepted.

STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS

Strongly recommended: CVEN 4545 Steel Design* (CVEN 3525) – spring
CVEN 4555 Reinforced Concrete Design* (CVEN 3525) – fall
CVEN 4525 Computational Structural Analysis 1 (CVEN 3525) - fall

Recommended: CVEN 4565 Design of Wood Structures (CVEN 3525) – spring every other year
CVEN 4728 Foundation Engineering (CVEN 3718) – spring

Other options: AREN 4315 Masonry Design (CVEN 3525) – spring every other year
AREN 5660 Embodied Carbon in Buildings (instructor consent) – spring
CVEN 4161 Mechanics of Materials II (CVEN 3161) – fall

**Can only be taken as a technical elective if not used to fulfill the Structural Design requirement.*

MECHANICAL SYSTEMS

AREN 4010 Energy System Modeling & Control (AREN 4110) – fall, intermittent
AREN 4040 Building Energy Audits (AREN 3010) – spring, intermittent
AREN 4890 Sustainable Building Design (AREN 3010) – fall, intermittent
AREN 4990 Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) Analysis (AREN 2120, APPM 2360) – intermittent
AREN 5080 Computer Simulation of Building Systems (AREN 3010, instructor consent) – spring, intermittent

LIGHTING/ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

Strongly recommended: AREN 4130 Optical Design (AREN 3540) – fall
AREN 4580 Daylighting (AREN 4550) – spring
AREN 4620 Adaptive Lighting Systems (AREN 4550) – fall

Recommended: AREN 4630 Advanced Lighting Design (AREN 4550) – spring
AREN 4560 Luminous Radiative Transfer (AREN 3540) – spring

CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING & MANAGEMENT

Strongly recommended: AREN 4606 Construction Project Execution & Control (AREN 4506) – spring
CVEN 3256 Construction Equipment & Methods (CVEN 3246) – fall and spring

Other options: AREN 4315 Masonry Design (CVEN 3525) – spring every other year
CVEN 3708 Geotechnical Engineering 1 (CVEN 3161) – fall and spring
CVEN 3718 Geotechnical Engineering 2 (CVEN 3708) – fall and spring
CVEN 4565 Design of Wood Structures (CVEN 3525) – spring every other year

Note: Students are encouraged to consider CVEN 2012 Intro to Geomatics as a basic engineering or free elective.

ELECTIVE REQUIREMENTS

Basic Engineering Elective – any 3-credit technical course given in the engineering college with a designator ASEN, AREN, APPM, CHEN, COEN, CVEN, CSCI, ECEN, EMEN, EVEN, GEEN, or MCEN, or other course approved by the CEAE Curriculum Committee. Remedial courses (precalculus, etc.) or courses approved as HSS electives may not be used.

Free Elective – Any college-level course, except: cannot be remedial courses needed to fulfill deficiencies (precalculus, introductory chemistry, etc.) and cannot be similar to other courses used toward graduation requirements (algebra-based physics, etc.).

Humanities and Social Science (HSS) Elective – See the College requirements and list of approved courses at www.colorado.edu/engineering/academics/policies/HSS.

Technical Elective – Generally, an upper-division (3000+) science or engineering course with technical content. All upper-division AREN/CVEN courses are technical electives; up to 6 credits outside of AREN/CVEN may be selected from the approved course list posted at <https://www.colorado.edu/ceae/node/111/attachment>. Up to 3 credits of independent study are allowed for technical elective credit.