Welcome to Agricultural and Biological Engineering at the Grainger College of Engineering and the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences (ACES)!

We look forward to you joining the Illinois Grainger Engineering community, ACES community, and the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering (ABE). By choosing Grainger Engineering and the College of ACES as your destination for an education in Agricultural and Biological Engineering, you’re choosing to join a rich history of excellence in developing sustainable solutions to challenges in food, agriculture, energy, and the environment. With the relatively small size of the department, we offer a more personalized, engaging, and collaborative student experience. Our graduates have gone on to successful careers as engineers and scientists in Fortune 500 companies, consulting firms, academia, government agencies, non-profit groups, and research institutions.

At Illinois, your next few years will be life changing—full of opportunities and experiences that will shape you into a great engineer. You’ll meet people from around the world and from all walks of life. You will accomplish things that some only dream of. You will be equipped to create the change you want to see in the world. And we, the faculty and staff of Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, will be with you every step of the way to provide support and guidance so that you can discover your passion and successfully join the network of 80,000+ Grainger Engineering alumni around the world.

Learn more about the boundless opportunities that await you in Agricultural and Biological Engineering at Illinois, and we hope that you will accept your offer to join us in August!

Sincerely,

RONALDO MAGHIRANG
Department Head and Professor

To accept your offer and join ABE at Illinois, login to your myillini account and follow the instructions provided for admitted students.

go.grainger.illinois.edu/accept

Unleash Your Power at Illinois

University of Illinois
The population of the world is going to go up two to three billion, depending on who you ask, over the next three decades, and they’re going to need feed, food, fiber and fuel. These students are so well-trained in the technology that has become more and more ingrained in agricultural and biological systems, they are going to be in high demand! They’re sitting on a real opportunity!

The agricultural and biological engineering (ABE) undergraduate major is an ABET-accredited engineering program which combines fundamental engineering skills with an understanding and ability to design complex systems for food, agriculture, energy, and the environment. This major will prepare you to develop technology and systems that will ensure abundant and safe food, water, and energy; sustainable and innovative agriculture; and healthy and sustainable indoor and outdoor environments. ABE allows you to combine a love of fundamental engineering skills with training in the design and analysis of complex systems for food, agriculture, energy, and the environment.

In ABE, you can choose one of two concentrations—either agricultural engineering or biological engineering—and one of seven specializations. ABE allows you to focus on food and bioprocess engineering; soil & water resources engineering; off-road equipment engineering; nanoscale biological engineering; ecological engineering; renewable energy systems engineering; and bioenvironmental engineering. In the ABE major, you will complete traditional engineering core coursework in math, physics, and mechanics. In addition, you’ll select technical courses and biological and natural sciences coursework to help you develop an expertise in your area of interest.

WHAT YOU’LL STUDY

The agricultural and biological engineering curriculum prepares graduates to become “competitive candidates” in a variety of ways. About thirty-three percent of our ABE graduates continue their education in graduate school, and about sixty-seven percent take positions in industry. Our graduates of ABE find themselves prepared to enter the fields of civil and environmental engineering, mechanical design, product, agricultural, design, biological engineers, project, test, and reliability. Common career options for ABE graduates include the following: agricultural safety & technology, alternative energy systems, biofuels and engines, bioprocess modeling, crop conditioning & processing, environmental controls, food science, government work, hydrology, drainage, & irrigation, and project management. The average salary between 2020-21 for ABE grads was reported as $73,200.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

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- Allen Rider

ABE Graduate

COMMON MINORS

- Crop and Soil Management
- Sustainability, Energy and Environment Fellows Program
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Food Science
- Horticulture
- Natural Resource Conservation
- Technology and Management

RESEARCH AREAS

- Bioenvironmental Engineering
- Biological Engineering
- Food and Bioprocess Engineering
- Off-road Equipment Engineering
- Soil and Water Resources Engineering

#5 ranked agricultural and biological engineering program by U.S. News & World Report

91% of students reported having an internship or co-op during their degree program

100% of students reported securing their first choice destination upon graduation

$73,200 average starting salary

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