AguaClara Program Model

R.I.D.E. : Research, Invent, Design, Engage

AguaClara's hands on learning approach engages students in real world problems and exposes undergraduates to a diverse array of expansive issues that foster a sense of global citizenship.

AguaClara as an Educational Model

Engaged Learning - Engineering in context **Global Citizenship** - Service Learning **Student Research** - Undergraduate & Graduate

Multidisciplinary Teams - Diverse learning environment

Empower- Critical thinking & Group work

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AguaClara Academic Program Model



Theory

CEE 4540 teaches the students the governing principles of AguaClara plant design. **Students** learn to identify design constraints and solve complex problems using an array of tools from physics to fluid mechanics.



Research & Design

Teams of students conduct research, build working models, design full-scale prototypes, create design algorithms, and compile educational materials for technology implementation and transfer to AguaClara plants.



Engaged Learning

A January intersession trip to Honduras offers students an intensive engineering in context experience. Students visit AguaClara communities to gain perspective on the challenges and complexities that are inherent in work in the global south.

Multidisciplinary Cornell

AguaClara Student Perspectives

"The best part of this course is that we are able to make it our own, and guide our learning towards research that interests us."

"I have never taken a course that has allowed me this much freedom, and it has really challenged and excited me to go to lab each day."

"... students are invited to use their own Creativity and intellect to solve problems presented to them and investigate problems that present themselves during the process."

These quotes come from anonymous responses to an unbiased survey regarding the AguaClara program.







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The AguaClara Model

AguaClara Plant Locations

Of AguaClara Students interviewed found the program to be "quite effective" for their learning at Cornell

3

97

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In Numbers & Figures

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AguaClara Timeline



In 10 years, AguaClara has innovated with:

- **529** Student innovators from **12** majors in **4** colleges
- 1 independent corporation established by alumni
- 11 water treatment plants completed in 2 continents
- 40,000 people with clean water with AguaClara technology

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AguaClara Awards + Accolades

EPA P3 (People, Prosperity, and the Planet) Competition

2007, 2010, 2013, 2014, & 2015

This is a unique college competion for designing solutions for a sustainable future. P3 offers students quality hands-on experience that brings their classroom learning to life.

Katerva Award

2012

The pinnacle of global sustainability recognition. Through them, the best ideas on the planet are identified, refined, and accelerated toward impact at a global level.

Intel Environment Tech Award

2011

This award is given for addressing the challenges of balancing population growth with available resources, protecting animal and plant life, as well as addressing the escalating demands for safe and efficient energy.

Projects Recognized

AguaClara Program Chemical Dose Controller Foam Filtration Stacked Rapid Sand Filter Arsenic Removal



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AguaClara Research Areas



Sample research areas ...

Chemical Dosing

Students work to create a semi-automated chemical dosing system that can add both coagulant and chlorine based on varying influent water flow rates and conditions.

Foam Filtration





Exists to provide clean water to very rural communities ranging from 100-500 people. This type of small village community is historically not economically feasible for drinking water treatment solutions.

Stacked Rapid Sand Filtration

A sand filter can exist both on it's own, and as the last step in an AguaClara drinking water treatment plant. It exists to remove the smallest of particles and provide water that regularly meets United States drinking water treatment standards.

Open Sourced Design Tool

Allows our technology to be publically available, and readily scalable based on any plant flow rate to fit the size of any community.