

M.E. Rinker, Sr.
School of Building Construction
University of Florida
Semester Course Outline

BCN 3281 – Construction Methods

2 Credits

Honor Code: Students are expected to comply with the spirit and intent of the University of Florida Honor Code, which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.” Students are required to bring a photo ID to all tests to be presented to the proctor upon completion of the exam.

Instructors: Jim Sullivan, Ph.D., CGC 1516549, LEED A.P.
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 Rinker 309

Meeting Periods:

Section(s)	Days	Hour	Room
All Sections	TBA	1	140
Field Section	TBA	2	Field

Prerequisites: Senior 2 in good standing

Course Description: Develop student’s ability to utilize up-to-date instruments such as total station, theodolite, automatic and laser levels along with traditional accessory equipment in the performance of routine building construction tasks requiring applications of plane surveying theories and technologies for vertical and horizontal control.
 Differential and laser leveling, traversing, slope staking, topographic mapping and building layout are examples of the tasks to be taught.

Department Objectives (Fall 2011): Use of a tape and the set-up and use the transit and level to establish and control horizontal and vertical placement of structures.

Use stadia for making topographic maps.

Possess knowledge of modern surveying equipment in construction industry (Total Station, GPS, etc.)

Delivery: Classroom lectures and field labs focusing on the fundamentals and typical applications of plane surveying to construction-oriented tasks utilizing current technology along with typical tools and practices of the trade.

Method: One hour lecture/discussion periods per week with corresponding reading assignments from the text and one two hour lab. Text

assignments should be done before the class in which they are discussed. Students are responsible for the content of all reading materials whether or not the material is covered in class. STUDENTS are responsible for class preparation and performance.

- Text Required: Crawford, Wesley. Construction Surveying and Layout (Current). ISBN 978-0-9641421-1-6. A copy is on reserve at the Arch Library.
- Homework: Homework is due prior to each Lecture class. Lecture attendance is based on completed homework submitted within the first three minutes of class start time. No exceptions. Homework will be graded on completeness and neatness/professionalism.
- Pre-lab Assignments: Pre-lab assignments are due prior to the start of your lab and must be submitted prior to the start of the lab. Pre-lab assignments are individual.
- Labs: Labs are group assignments (three per group depending on class enrollment). Lab assignments are due at either the end of lab or by Friday at 10:00 am turned into room 328.
- Performance Exams: Individual performance exams are lab based and require you to apply lessons learned in a real time scenario. They will be based on group labs however the performance lab will be based on individual ability.
- Attendance: Attendance is required. You are allowed three personal drops throughout the semester for any reason – no documentation required. Regardless of circumstance, the fourth missed class will result in a 25% reduction, the fifth missed class will result in a 50% reduction, and a sixth missed class will result in a 100% reduction of attendance points. Being late for class counts as an absence at the discretion of the instructor. Showing up to class without an assignment counts as an absence.
- Locker/Clean-up: Teams will receive a locker/equipment grade. This applies to how you care for equipment during lab and replace back in the lockers after labs. You are expected to treat the equipment in a professional manner and allow yourself time to place equipment correctly in lockers. There will be a 10 pt deduction for the first occurrence and then each occurrence after that the deduction doubles.
- Final Project: Teams will be responsible for developing a survey plan and executing a plan for the final project. This will include an as-built drawing due after the performance evaluation.
- Legal Case: Students will be required to write a minimum of a one page paper describing a construction case in which an error in surveying resulted in damages to the job. Students are expected to be able to present a brief summary of this paper during the last few weeks of class.

Grade Makeup:	Final grades will be on a similar scale as follows depending on work covered during the semester:	
	Homework (Individual)	100
	Pre-Lab Assignments (Individual)	100
	Labs (Group)	400
	Performance Exams (Individual)	200
	Attendance (Individual)	50
	Locker/Clean-up (Group)	50
	Final Project (Group)	100
	Legal Case (Individual)	50

Grade Scale: Grades will be given according to the following scale. Divide the total points you earn by total possible points. Decimal points will not be rounded.

A	93.0-100
A-	90.0-92.99
B+	87.0-89.99
B	83.0-86.99
B-	80.0-82.99
C+	77.0-79.99
C	73.0-76.99
C-	70.0-72.99
D+	67.0-69.99
D	63.0-66.99
D-	60.0-62.99
E	Less than 60

Class website: E-learning/webct/Sakai : lss.at.ufl.edu

It is expected that everything submitted for a grade will be professional with correct spelling and grammar. With regard to homework/quizzes – 10 points is for going above what is asked, 8-9 points for meeting the minimum of what is expected, 5-7 points for quality work that may not be correct in scope. When available use software to produce your work. The goal is for all work to represent what you would fax/submit to your immediate boss in a job scenario. There is no credit for submitting late work.

No work will be accepted via an e-mail submission unless structured submittal via e-learning as an upload. Please try to communicate with me during office hours or before/after class periods. You are important to me as a student - I am simply overwhelmed with electronic communication. Please feel free to keep me in the loop with regard to your situation but I am limited to respond. I will respond to e-mails/texts at my discretion. You are responsible for addressing grades/omissions within one week of the grade being posted on e-learning. After one week the grade/input stands for the class regardless of cause or circumstance.