

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

**BCN 1210 – Construction Materials                      Spring 2024                      3 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.”

Instructor:                      Eileen Pesantes-Tavares, PhD

Office Location:                      Rinker 313

Meeting Periods:                      M, W, F, Period 4 (10:40-11:30) Rinker 238

Office Hours:                      M 12:45-1:45, W 11:45-12:45 by Appointment.

Email:                      Mail tool in e-Learning in Canvas (preferred method)

Prerequisites:                      None

Objectives:                      Students will learn elements relating to the principles of construction methods and techniques. Basic understanding of the built world that surrounds us and how it is constructed.

Description:                      The course provides a general overview of basic construction materials, properties, manufacture, and uses.

Method:                      6 modules with text assignments that should be completed by set deadlines. Students are responsible for the content of all reading materials whether or not the material is covered in lecture notes.

Recommended Text:                      Simmons, H. Leslie: Olin’s Construction Principles, Materials and Methods; John Wiley & Sons, Recent Edition

Tests:                      There will be six (6) quizzes, one after each module. Once you start, you have an hour to finish. Quizzes will not be reset. If you want to discuss quiz results with the instructor, you must make an appointment. **NO MAKEUP QUIZZES.**

Individual Course Paper:                      This paper will be based on individual research covering a topic of the student’s choice related to green/sustainable materials. See final paper submission document on Canvas.

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Grade Makeup:	Final grades will be calculated as follows:			
	Modules Assignments (this is subject to change)			200
	6 quiz grades @ 50 points			300
	Attendance			50
	Individual Course Paper			<u>100</u>
				650
Grade Scale:	Grades will be given according to the following scale. Divide the total points you earn by 650 total possible points. (Normal roundup rules will apply)			
	A	90 and above	B+	87 – 89
	B	80 – 86	C+	77 – 79
	C	70 – 76	D+	67 – 70
	D	60 – 66	E	Below 60

**UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester

**UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:** UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [Click here to read the Conduct Code](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class.

**NETIQUETTE, COMMUNICATION COURTESY POLICY:** All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions, and chats. The class also may have guest speaker presentations. As common courtesy to our guests, refrain from using any electronics during their presentations unless you are taking notes.

**STUDENT COURSE EVALUATIONS:** Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

### COMMUNICATION

- Use the e-Learning in Canvas environment to send an email to the instructor and teaching assistant. Do not e-mail the course instructor and teaching assistant outside of the e-Learning in Canvas system because emails received outside of e-Learning will not receive a response. Please allow 36 hours for a response to your email. The instructor and teaching assistant reserve the right not to respond to course inquiries on the weekend.

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- You are responsible for addressing grades/omissions within one week of the grade being posted on e-Learning in Canvas. After one week, the grade/input stands for the class regardless of cause or circumstance.

### CAMPUS RESOURCES:

#### Health and Wellness

*U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

*Counseling and Wellness Center:* Visit [the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

*Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit [the Student Health Care Center website](#).

*University Police Department:* Visit [UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

*UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the [UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

*GatorWell Health Promotion Services:* For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-273-4450.

### ACADEMIC RESOURCES

*E-learning technical support:* Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

*Career Connections Center:* Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

*Library Support:* Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

*Teaching Center:* Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

*Writing Studio:* 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

*Student Complaints On-Campus:* [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.](#)

*On-Line Students Complaints:* [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process.](#)

**Note from the instructor:** *The syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicate clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.*