

DCP 7794

Doctoral Core 4: Research Assessment and Professional Preparation

Fall 2024

INSTRUCTOR: Ravi S. Srinivasan PhD, Certified Energy Manager, LEED AP, GGP
Professor, M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Construction Management
University of Florida

OFFICE: Room 331C, Antevy Hall

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

CONTACT: For email messages to instructor, use: use CANVAS

CLASS SESSIONS: Thursdays Period 7 (1:55 – 2:45 PM)

ROOM: Rinker 110

COURSE WEBSITE: <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>

PURPOSE OF COURSE

This course will equip students with the ability to (a) comprehend the various components of a well-crafted dissertation, (b) recognize the crucial role of research questions in guiding research, and (c) establish clear connections between research objectives and questions. The course fosters a collaborative learning environment where students can share their work, receive feedback from peers and the instructor, and gain insights from experienced researchers through guest lectures.

READING MATERIAL

There are no text books for this course. However, the instructor will provide electronic copies of technical articles including course related conference proceedings and journal manuscripts; book chapters; and handouts. These can be accessed in the Resources folder of the e-learning website for the course -- they are organized by modules. The course also uses video recordings of software simulation.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Absences

Students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. Absences count from the first class meeting.

In general, acceptable reasons for absence from class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements, military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays, participation in official university activities, and court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena). Other reasons also may be excused.

You cannot attend classes unless you are registered officially or approved to audit with evidence of having paid audit fees. The Office of the University Registrar provides official class rolls to instructors.

If you do not attend at least one of the first two class meetings of a course or laboratory in which you are registered, and you have not contacted the department to indicate your intent, you can be dropped from the course. You must not assume that you will be dropped, however, if you fail to attend the first few days of class. By posting a notice in the department office, the department will notify you in you have been dropped from the course. You can request reinstatement on a space-available basis if you present documented evidence.

The University recognizes the right of the individual professor to make attendance mandatory. After due warning, professors can prohibit further attendance and subsequently assign a failing grade for excessive absences.

Class sessions consist of brief lectures/presentations by the instructor, class discussions, student presentations, other hands-on work, and guest speakers. You are expected to attend all classes and participate fully. The

instructor will not summarize the required readings, but we will use them as a platform for discussion and critique.

To minimize distractions, all cell/smart phones must be turned off during class sessions. Please bring laptops to class so that you can refer to reading, and video material during class sessions. Otherwise, laptops must be turned off during class.

GRADING POLICY

Class participation, 20%

Final presentation, 80%

Policy for assigning grade points to letter grades will follow UF grading policies, which can be found at: catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
Numeric	93-	90-	87-	83-	80-	77-	73-	70-	67-	63-	60-	0-
Grade	100	92	89	86	82	79	76	72	69	66	62	59

MAKE-UP POLICY

There is no make-up policy for missing quizzes or exams with the exception of medical and religious reasons.

GETTING HELP

For issues with technical difficulties for e-learning in Sakai, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Should the final project submission occur after the due date solely as a result of technical issues, a request to the instructor for consideration **must** be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You must e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty.

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> to submit a complaint.

UF AND GENERAL POLICIES

University policy on accommodating students with disabilities. Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting final project or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

University policy on academic misconduct. Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

Course evaluations. Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on ten criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester; but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

Netiquette: communication courtesy. All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Please refer to: <http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

Religious observances. Please inform the instructor of any religious holidays or other days of special religious significance that may interfere with your participation in this class so that she can accommodate these events.

Special consideration. The principle of equal treatment of all students is a fundamental guide in responding to requests for special consideration. No student shall be given an opportunity to improve a grade that is not made available to all members of the class. This policy is not intended to exclude reasonable accommodation of verified student disability or the completion of work missed due to religious observance, verified illness, or absence due to circumstances beyond your control. Reconsideration of subjective judgments of an individual student's work will be done only if all students in the class can be and are given the same consideration.

Sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is reprehensible and will not be tolerated by the University. It subverts its mission and threatens the careers, educational experience, and well being of students, faculty, and staff. The University will not tolerate behavior between or among members of the university community that creates an unacceptable working environment.

Stress. The academic year presents many opportunities as well as challenges, sometimes resulting in increased stress. If at any time you feel anxious or stressful, please contact the instructor or the university's Counseling + Wellness Center at <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>