



Historic Matheson House

FALL 2025 COURSE SYLLABUS

DCP6711C Built Heritage History & Materials I

Course Details

Term: Fall 2025

3 Graduate-level credits

Location: RNK 230

Canvas Course Link: <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/539839>

Instructor

Linda Stevenson, PhD, AIA

Contact: archtext@ufl.edu

Office Hours: Thursdays 3:00-5:00 pm, or by appointment. Please contact me through Canvas email.

Office: 140 Antevy Hall

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the cultural, technological, and material developments that created the historical design trends and construction technology of the American built environment, from early vernacular traditions through mid-20th-century buildings. By examining the evolution of historic construction methods and the behavior of building materials over time, participants will learn to develop effective strategies for preserving significant character-defining features and developing a resilient re-imagining of these resources.

Through case study projects participants will gain experience with the following skills; identifying typical material pathologies, developing conditions assessments for buildings, selecting an appropriate treatment approach [Preservation, Rehabilitation, Restoration], as defined in *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards (SIS) and Guidelines*, and understanding strategies for the technical requirements of treating building materials and systems. This course is framed around research on regional case study projects and will require several field trips, historical research and writing, and an assessment of a variety of building conditions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Identify key material and technological features of major design movements in the history of American Architecture.
- Understand and identify pathologies in historical building systems and materials
- Apply the various treatment approaches (SIS) and levels of interventions for historic buildings and sites
- Apply the evidence of historic construction techniques and materials, and subsequent repair campaigns, to synthesize development histories for historical resources
- Understand how conditions assessments contribute to the development of Historic Structure Reports and acquire skills in preparing these types of assessments.
- Apply best practices of preserving built heritage for proposed interventions in historic structures.



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COURSE ORGANIZATION

Course content is presented in readings, presentations, guest speakers, field trips and site visits with preservation practitioners, and case studies. Course requirements include attendance and participation in class and at the onsite field visits, completion of coursework deliverables, and final presentations. Please see Attendance Policies.

TEXTS AND READINGS

- Required content/materials will be provided through Canvas and/or will be on reserve at the UF Architecture and Fine Arts (AFA) Library under the course number DCP6711C.
- Please refer to the Course Schedule for reading assignments, and interim/ final due dates

COURSE SCHEDULE OVERVIEW*

*Full details are on the Canvas site. The Instructor reserves the right to adjust schedule and content as needed for student learning throughout the semester. The following modules describe the course content. Several field visits will be scheduled throughout the semester, refer to Canvas site for details.

Topics for study may include:

Module 1: Introduction, research resources and methods

Module 2: Clay masonry (brick, terra cotta) and mortars

Module 3: Stone masonry (coquina and tabby)

Module 4: Wood conservation

Module 5: Concrete conservation and treatments

Module 6: Plaster and stucco

Module 7: Metals

Module 8: Condition assessments and historic structures

Module 9: Historic Interiors

Module 10: Finishes, paints, and coatings

Module 11: Integrating building systems

Module 12: Building codes and historic buildings

Module 13: Incorporating sustainability/ resiliency

COURSE POLICIES

Make-up Assignments, Late Assignments and Attendance Policies

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. Grading policy for late assignments is noted on the assignment rubrics. [Click here to read the university attendance policies.](#)

Special Accommodations

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.



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Grades ([Click here for information on the University of Florida grading policy.](#))

<u>Deliverable</u>	<u>% Grade</u>	<u>Grading criteria</u>					
Assignments	40	A	93-100	4.0	C	73-77	2.0
Semester Project		A-	90-92	3.67	C-	70-72	1.67
Presentation	25	B+	88-89	3.33	D+	68-69	1.33
Semester Project		B	83-88	3.0	D	58-67	1.0
Report	25	B-	80-82	2.67	D-	55-57	0.67
Participation	10	C+	78-79	2.33	E	55 and Below	0.0
Total	100%						

University Honesty Policy

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 Student Conduct 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 Student Conduct Code <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/> specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions.

Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

In-class Recordings

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or guest lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or



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uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 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.bluer.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Health and Wellness

- *U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact 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](#).

Academic Resources

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