

BCN 4612 CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATING II
COURSE SYLLABUS
SPRING 2012

INSTRUCTOR

Prof. José A. Faria, Ph.D., PMP
Office: EC 2951
Tel : (305)348-3541
Fax: (305)345-6225
Email: fariaj@fiu.edu
Office Hours F 3:00pm - 4:30pm or by Appointment
Class Schedule F 5:00pm – 7:40pm room EC 2940
Dates: January 09, 2012 – April 21, 2012

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Quantity take-offs and pricing, marketing policies and the application of microcomputers in construction estimating.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course stresses quantity take-off and pricing policies, and applications of estimating techniques. It also includes demonstrations and the use of estimating software as well as the development of a database for use in estimating.

This course aims to increase and improve the working knowledge of students in construction estimating and to promote the interdisciplinary transfer of technology as stated in the program mission (see below). An overall objective of the course is to provide effective education and appropriate training to students and prepare them to enter the construction profession (relates program goal #1). The course covers ACCE specified topical contents as listed below (relates program goal #11).

PREREQUISITES

BCN 3240 Construction Equipment
BCN 3611 Construction Cost Estimating I
BCN 3727 Construction Site work

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

None. Any text used while taking Estimating I is accepted.

SUGESTED REFERENCES

Dagostino, Frank R. and Feigenbaum, Leslie. Estimating in Building Construction
6th Edition
Prentice Hall 2003 or later
ISBN-10: 0-13-060405-4
ISBN-13: 9780130604057

Fatzinger, James A.S. Basic Estimating for Construction
2nd Edition
Prentice Hall 2004 or later
ISBN-10: 0-13-111913-3
ISBN-13: 9780131134065

**BCN 4612 CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATING II
COURSE SYLLABUS
SPRING 2012**

SUGESTED REFERENCES cont.

Frank Walker Company. Walker's Building Estimator's Reference Book
28th Edition
Frank R. Walker Company 2006 or later
ISBN-10: 0-911592-28-8
ISBN-13:

Gould, Frederick E. Managing the Construction Process
3rd Edition
Prentice Hall 2004
ISBN-10: 0-13-113406-X
ISBN-13: 9780131134065

Peterson, Steven J. Construction Estimating with Excel
Prentice Hall 2004
ISBN-10: 0131719831
ISBN-13: 9780131719835

RS Means. Building Construction Cost Data
RS Means 2008
ISBN-10:
ISBN-13: 9780876290200

DEPARTMENTAL MISSION

The Department's mission is to provide enlightened leadership to the construction industry through its graduates; to increase and to improve the body of working knowledge; and to promote the interdisciplinary transfer of technology. The Department also strives to produce professional construction managers who are informed and participating citizens with a sense of civic duty and responsibility; persons with a sense of dignity whose actions express high moral and ethical standards; and professionals who strive to comprehend the impact of their work on their own lives as well as on the society in which they live.

ACCE CATEGORY: CONSTRUCTION

ACCE TOPICAL CONTENT

- Types of estimate s and uses
- Quantity takeoff
- Labor and equipment productivity
- Pricing and price data bases
- Job direct and indirect costs
- Bid preparations and bid submission
- Computer application

BCN 4612 CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATING II

COURSE SYLLABUS

SPRING 2012

DISABLED STUDENTS

Students with disabilities who may need special accommodation should contact and immediately register with the Office of Disabilities Services, telephone (305) 348-3852 so arrangements can be made to accommodate their needs. These students are encouraged to inform the instructor of said notification.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

All students are expected to conform to the University Code of conduct, and to adhere to the principles of academic integrity as defined by the Division of Student Affairs and the Division of Academic Affairs. Violators of the University Code of conduct will be prosecuted. Each student is asked to read "Statement of Academic Honesty" and submit the signed form to the instructor.

Please read the guidelines on Academic Misconduct

(<http://w3.fiu.edu/enc/Academic%20Misconduct.htm>) and Plagiarism

(<http://w3.fiu.edu/enc/plagiarism.htm>).

EXAMINATION AND GRADING POLICY

Unless otherwise instructed, examinations will be given as scheduled in the Academic Calendar. Make up examinations will not be given unless serious, verifiable, extenuating circumstances exist.

The instructor reserves the right to grade on a curve. The decision to grade on a curve will be at the instructor's sole discretion and will be based on the performance of the entire class.

The grade for the course will be based upon the student's understanding of the course material as evidenced by their performance on examinations, assignments, projects, and class discussion in consonance with the following. All grades will be determined pursuant to the following point values:

		B+	87 - 89	C+	77 - 79	D+	67 - 69		
A	93 - 100	B	83 - 86	C	73 - 76	D	63 - 66	F	<=59
A-	90 - 92	B-	80 - 82	C-	70 - 72	D-	60 - 62		

The following items and their respective percentages will be used to determine the final grade:

Attendance :	10%	Individual
Homework and quizzes:	10%	Individual
Lab work,:	20%	Individual
Midterm :	20%	Closed Books/Notes
Final :	20%	Closed Books/Notes
Course Project :	20%	Groups max 3 students

The weights of the assignment, examinations, and discussion may be changed at the discretion of the instructor to reflect the emphasis placed on material during the conduct of the course.

BCN 4612 CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATING II

COURSE SYLLABUS

SPRING 2012

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance is required at all class meetings and counts towards the final grade. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class. Tardiness will be considered as an unexcused absence. An excused absence is an absence resulting from serious and extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control. For an absence to be excused it shall be documented and verifiable. Absent students are responsible for all material covered in class and for all assigned work, will miss any quiz and or lab-work done during the lecture.. The instructor will abide by the University's policy on religious and holy days as set forth in the University Catalog and Student Handbook. Any student may request to be excused from class to observe a religious holy of his or her faith. The student will not be penalized in any way for exercising this option but will be held responsible for all material covered in class and for all assigned work.

HOMEWORK AND LAB-WORK POLICY

Homework will be assigned according to the online assignment calendar and it is due as scheduled in the course website. Homework submissions are online under assignments ONLY, the homework assignments will be posted with at least one week in advance. Lab work are posted the day of the lecture and are due on the day of the lecture. No late assignments will be accepted unless a valid medical excuse is presented. No hard copies of assignments will be accepted, no submissions by email will be accepted.

CLASS STANDARDS

Being prepared for class by having read the assigned material and participation in the class discussions/presentations are expected of the student. Class meetings will consist of lectures followed by discussion. In each class period, one or two students will lead the discussion of material presented in lecture and readings. In addition to attending all classes, students are expected to participate in these discussions by reading assigned materials before class and thinking about the themes, questions, and patterns the readings suggest. Preparation for the class and class participation (presentation) are the only ways to assess the "class participation" portion of the final grade. Assessing the student's credit for the "class participation" portion of the final grade is at the sole discretion of the instructor.

CLASS ENVIRONMENT

The instructor expects and insists that the class environment remain professional, businesslike and conducive to learning. Behavior or actions that disrupt this environment are not acceptable and will subject the student to be removed from the class by the University Public Safety Department.

The use or activation of audible paging devices or cellular telephones is not permitted during the class. Please turn them to vibrate and if you need to take a call exit the classroom.

BCN 4612 CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATING II

COURSE SYLLABUS

SPRING 2012

QUIZZES AND EXAMS POLICY

Quizzes will be given at random during the semester at the end of the lecture.

- Students should show all calculations and state all assumptions in order to receive full credit.
- Students should bring all necessary tools for the exam including calculator, ruler, extra pencil, eraser, etc.
- Laptop computers or wireless devices including cell phones are NOT allowed during the exams.
- No communications are allowed between students during the exams.
- No exchanging of tools, papers, books pencils, pens or any other material is allowed during the exams.
- Incomplete answers because student forgot his/her calculator will be penalized by 15% ~20% of the grade.
- The use of cell phones during the exam is strictly prohibited. Any student who is found using a cell phone during the exam will receive a grade of zero points and will be subject to academic misconduct procedures.
- Bathroom breaks will be allowed only until the first student hands the exam for grading.
- There will be no makeup quizzes or exams, unless a verifiable medical note is produced. Any student who fails to take any of the exams will receive zero points in that exam. No exceptions!

COURSE PROJECT

Students should prepare a cost estimate of the given project, all drawings and specifications are given by the instructor and are the same for all students.

Students will produce a written report detailing the scope of work, estimating methods used, cost breakdown by categories, and by divisions, additionally students will submit an excel spreadsheet with the breakdown of the work performed by the team, and quantity takeoffs and databases created by each student. Finally the team will present their work in class at any time requested by the instructor.

Electronic files and presentation will be requested with intermediate deliverables, they will have the following approximate weights.

- o First deliverable: 5%
- o Second deliverable: 5%
- o Third deliverable: 5%
- o Project Final Presentation: 15%
- o Project On-Screen Takeoff file: 20%
- o Project Final Report and Estimate: 50%

BCN 4612 CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATING II
COURSE SYLLABUS
SPRING 2012

COURSE PROJECT cont.

- All deliverables are ongoing during the semester.
- At various times of the semester the students should submit deliverables as per the assignments calendar
- The written report is a word document describing the scope of work and including an explanation of the procedure followed to produce all calculations made. The sources of information should be cited and any quotation received should be documented even if it was received by phone.
- The presentation is shorter version of the report with a highlight of the conclusions. The students are required to present in class whenever asked, especially at the end of the course.
- All deliverables MUST have the name of all the students in the group.
- Students are NOT ALLOWED TO CONTACT any of the entities, persons, or businesses listed in the documents to request information about this project. Doing so would be considered as academic misbehavior and will be subject to the same disciplinary actions stated under Academic Misconduct.
- Students are required to request at least one quotation from a supplier or subcontractor. As a courtesy the student should clearly explain that is for academic purposes only. The quotation(s) should be included in one of the appendices of the report. All other costs should come from direct estimation (cite source), estimation by analogy (cite analogy and compare with current scope), and handbook estimation (cite source).
- The final deliverables are both electronic and hard copy, make a copy for your records because the projects will not be returned.
- Any deliverable not submitted on time will receive zero points, no late assignments will be allowed.
- Students are allowed to work in groups of max 3 students for the course project.

STUDENT WORK

All original work remains the intellectual property of the student. However, the instructor and the Department of Construction Management reserve the right to retain any and all work for the purpose of record, exhibition and instruction. The instructor suggests and encourages students to duplicate all work to keep for personal records prior to submittal of the originals to the instructor. Students are also required to regularly visit the course website to get announcement.

RIGHT TO REVISE

The instructor reserves the right to make revisions to any item on this syllabus, including, but not limited to, the course outline, examination schedule, grading policy, required projects or research papers, etc.