

CE 3210: Civil Engineering Communications

Fall 2015

UTA Civil Engineering Program

Classes: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30 – 6:20 pm, Nedderman Hall 106

Professor: Dr. Stephen Mattingly

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Office: Nedderman Hall 432

Office Hrs: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-3, or by appointment

Teaching Assistant: None

Textbook: **None**

Software: None

Prerequisite: Grade of C or better in COMS 2302

Grades:	Papers	45%
	Major Presentations	20%
	In-class assignments/Participation	20%
	Current Event Journal	15%

Course Context: This course provides an opportunity for undergraduate students to practice their technical writing skills. In the context that students should be developing their report writing skills in their lab classes, this course focuses on the students finding and utilizing supporting documents for their study.

Course Goals:

1. Develop global awareness of issues affecting engineering problems.
2. Explore contemporary issues within civil engineering

CE 3210 Schedule

Date	Topic	Text	Assignment Due
Aug 27	Course Intro.		-
Sep 1	Topics		-
Sep 3	Practice Presentations		-
Sep 8	No Class		
Sep 10	Practice Presentations		-
Sep 15	Expectations/Outline Review and Discussion		Paper #1 Outline
Sep 17	Practice Presentations		-
Sep 22	Peer Review		Paper #1 Draft
Sep 24	Practice Presentations		-
Sep 29	Investigate Peer Review		-
Oct 1	Major Presentations 1		-
Oct 6	Current Event Journal Discussion		Paper #1 Final
Oct 8	Major Presentations 1		Presentation peer comments
Oct 13	Feedback		Current Event Journal First
Oct 15	Major Presentations 1		Presentation peer comments
Oct 20	Outline Review and Discussion		Paper #2 Outline
Oct 22	Major Presentations 1		Presentation peer comments
Oct 27	Peer Review		Paper #2 Draft
Oct 29	Major Presentations 1		-
Nov 3	Investigate Peer Review		Presentation peer comments
Nov 4	<i>Last Day to Drop</i>		-
Nov 5	Major Presentations 1		-
Nov 10	Current Event Journal Discussion		Paper #2 Final
Nov 12	Major Presentations 2		Presentation peer comments
Nov 17	Major Presentations 2		-
Nov 19	Major Presentations 2		-
Nov 24	NO CLASS		<i>Paper #3 Draft</i>
Nov 26	NO CLASS: Thanksgiving		-
Dec 1	Major Presentations 2		-
Dec 3	Major Presentations 2		-
Dec 8	Major Presentations 2		<i>Paper #3 Final/Current Event Final</i>
Dec 15	Major Presentations (if necessary), 5:30 – 8:00 pm		-

Assignments

The assignments should be submitted on the day that it is due. If the assignment is not submitted the maximum score will degrade in the following manner with each deduction associated with class meetings (90%, 70%, 40%).

Presentations

While there are informal presentations that impact class participation and will regularly occur throughout the class. There will be one formal PowerPoint presentation at the end of class. The presentation may be over a current event or one of your paper topics. The presentation should target 4-5 minutes.

Papers

There are two required papers in this class. If you do not have a C average on your first two papers you must complete a third paper, which will replace your lowest paper grade. If you have a C average or better and you would like to replace the grade on one of your first two papers, you may also complete a third paper but the new paper's grade will replace the first paper's grade whether it is higher or lower.

Current Event Journal

Each student will keep a current event journal throughout the course. Each student is expected to identify at least one newspaper or other article each week (the date of the article should be clearly identified) that deals with civil engineering and add it to his or her journal. A total of 10 articles will be sufficient. The student will identify the significance of the article in a short paragraph.

Attendance: At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I have included attendance and active participation as part of the grade for this class. Attendance and tardiness will be recorded for this class. All students who want a high participation grade should come to class prepared and attempt to engage in the class discussions.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located through the doors on both my left and right. After leaving through these doors, the closest exit to the left down the corridor; however, if this exit is blocked, turn right and proceed to the end of the corridor where there is another exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

Writing Center. : The Writing Center, 411 Central Library, offers individual 40 minute sessions to review assignments, *Quick Hits* (5-10 minute quick answers to questions), and workshops on grammar and specific writing projects. Visit <https://uta.mywconline.com/> to register and make appointments. For hours, information about the writing workshops we offer, scheduling a classroom visit, and descriptions of the services we offer undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members, please visit our website at www.uta.edu/owl/.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Academic Integrity: All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.