

CON 101

Construction & Culture: A Built Environment

Arizona State University | Del E. Webb School of Construction
Course Syllabus

COURSE INFORMATION

Semester: Fall 2024
Time/Location: Monday / Wednesday 3:00 - 4:15 (Tempe LSE 104)
Class #: 14652
Website: Canvas (<https://canvas.asu.edu>)

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION & OFFICE HOURS

Instructor: Leslie Moat
Office:
Phone: (480) 309-1528 (personal cell - please use email)
Email: lmoat@asu.edu
Office Hours: Before and after class sessions for informal meetings, an appointment is not necessary. Formal meetings only as scheduled, phone or zoom.

OVERALL PROGRAM GOALS

Construction management professionals combine knowledge of innovative technologies, construction principles and business management to lead a wide variety of construction projects from residential and commercial buildings to infrastructure projects. The DEWSC program goals are to teach students how to become responsible leaders in the construction industry through organization, leadership, and current/innovative management techniques. The American Council for Construction Education (ACCE) states that it is essential that every Constructor be capable of effectively managing personnel, materials, equipment, costs, and time. The Constructor must be able to effectively communicate and understand their role as a member of a multi-disciplinary team, the assessment of project risk, and the alternate methods that can be used to structure the owner-designer-constructor team.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course analyzes the cultural context of construction, emphasizing its centrality in the evolution and expansion of the built environments as expressions of ethical and aesthetic value systems.

The purpose of this course is to broaden the student's awareness of the significance of construction as a discipline that affects, and is affected by, ethical and aesthetic values in all societies. It emphasizes the critical role that construction has played in the evolution of cultures and looks at the centrality of construction of today's rapidly changing world. The basis for forming sound judgments and developing wise philosophies in the diverse areas of the construction process will be illustrated. Specifically, the course will be devoted to a historical review of construction and a study of current global issues. Primary focus throughout the course will be on the human elements and issues that have impacted the industry and society.

ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

This course is open to all students at ASU, regardless of credits earned thus far, class standing, or major. In fact, one of the best parts of this class is the diversity of students, in terms of class standing and major, that it attracts.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

In this course, students will:

- Gain an understanding of historical and current construction materials and methods.
- Compare and contrast pre- and post-Industrial revolution construction projects.
- Research historic construction projects.
- Research present-day construction projects.
- Analyze how the construction industry, and the people that it comprises, are discussed (or not) in the media.
- Explore how decisions are made, and have been made, about what to build and where to build it.
- Gain an understanding of the impacts of construction projects within the communities that they serve.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students can:

- **Explain** the connection between construction and culture.
- **Remember and explain** historical construction methods.
- **Summarize** the differences between historic and current construction equipment.
- **Identify** the role of the builder in the construction process.
- **Explain** how we learn from construction failures.
- **List** the types of falsework used in the construction process.
- **Understand** the effects of forces on the structure.
- **Identify** historical and modern methods to provide ventilation and illumination in buildings.

- **Appreciate** the role of the craftsperson in the construction process.
- **Summarize** historical and modern transportation systems.
- **Analyze** various theories of pyramid construction.
- **Understand** the structural systems and construction methods used to construct a gothic cathedral.
- **Compare** the basic process of designing and constructing a building in the past and today.
- **Present** a comparison of historical and current construction methods and materials in written and graphical communication.

GRADING POLICY

The total number of points accumulated over the entire semester will determine grade. Reference the **Grading Matrix** (Canvas - Syllabus Tab) for a breakdown of points available and quantity needed for each grade level.

The Grading system is set up to reward engagement & participation throughout the entire semester. Points are what count - not Canvas algorithms.

- **Core Curriculum Points** include Attendance Activities (AA), In-Class Activities (ICA), Homework Activities (HA), Group and Individual Projects and Assessments.
- **Participation & Engagement Points** tally the number of on-time submissions for each CC type over the duration of the semester. (These points are added at the end of the semester but can be tracked with the P&E Rubric)
 - o **Core Curriculum + Participation & Engagement Points** equals the number of points to obtain an A. (Submit all CC activities on time and obtain a perfect score and your final grade will be an A.)
- **Extra Credit Points** can be used to supplement less than perfect CC efforts or late submissions.
 - o Extra Credit Activities are not required to mathematically obtain a final grade of A, however some ExC activities must be completed to receive an A+

ATTENDANCE / ABSENCE POLICY

Attendance and participation in class activities is an essential part of the learning process, and students are expected to attend class regularly. Some absences are, however, unavoidable.

Excused absences for classes will be given without penalty to the grade in the case of (1) a university-sanctioned event [[ACD 304-02](#)]; (2) religious holidays [[ACD 304-04](#)]; a list of religious holidays can be found here <https://eoss.asu.edu/cora/holidays>]; (3) work performed in the line-of-duty according [[SSM 201-18](#)]. Students who request an

excused absences must follow the policy/procedure guidelines. Excused absences do not relieve students of responsibility for any part of the course work required during the period of absence.

Students who request an excused absences must follow the policy/procedure guidelines. Excused absences do not relieve students of responsibility for any part of the course work required during the period of absence. Please take time to understand the Amnesty Day Rules as well as the importance of the Participation & Engagement Points to the final grade.

TEXTBOOKS AND REFERENCE MATERIAL

The required textbook for this class is:

Authors: Mulligan, D. & Knutsen, K.

Title: Construction & Culture: A Built Environment, second edition

Publisher: Stipes Publishing, 2004 (ISBN: 1-58874-347-0)

* NOTE: Finding the 2nd edition (2004) is important. Used copies have a warning about missing or corrupted electronic information are acceptable. The reference is for a CD Disc that is no longer compatible with most computers / laptops.

ASSIGNMENTS & COURSE ITINERARY

The responsibility for learning rests with each student. The instructor will assist by making the learning environment one conducive to various learning styles, but your preparation is essential. The student is responsible for completing all reading assignments and assigned homework problems, and seeking assistance if needed. Students are expected to bring relevant texts, required notes and handouts, appropriate writing materials, and a willingness to engage to every meeting with their classmates and instructor.

ASSIGNMENTS:

To receive Participation and Engagement Points assignments and activities must be complete and submitted no later than the time/date posted on canvas.

The majority of assignments open with the first day of class and are available to be completed prior to Amnesty Day without penalty. (Reference Amnesty Day Rules - Getting Started Module). However, students are encouraged to complete assignments in a timely manner with an understanding that other commitments, academic & otherwise, may interfere with the ability to complete the work at a later date. The Amnesty Day deadline is non-negotiable and access to all assignments and activities will be closed. Any work not adequately completed by the Amnesty Day Deadline will close.

All writing requirements must be completed using a word processor, spell and grammar checked and well written with a logical flow.

GRADE CONTESTATION WINDOW:

For 24 hours from the time at which a grade is posted to canvas, students may not see the instructor regarding the specific grading of the assignment. Students will have one week starting after the 24 hours is over to question the grade that was given. Once this week has past, the grade is considered final.

PROFESSIONAL WORK:

To receive credit for your work, it is imperative the work be organized, readable, and professional (part of your grade will be based on presentation of your work). **Plagiarism of any type will not be tolerated.** At the first occurrence, your work will be returned to you to re-do. Following occurrences will result in the instructor reporting this lack of academic integrity to university administrators. If you are unclear about how to cite the work of others, **please ask!**

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

When assigned a reading, please complete it before engaging in the assignment that uses that reading, so the assignment will be more beneficial at developing your critical thinking skills. The importance of keeping current in reading assignments cannot be overemphasized. You are responsible for all assigned reading materials, whether or not the exact topics are discussed directly in the course videos or class presentations.

Open discussion is authorized and encouraged on all graded work, but each student must formulate his or her own answers because grades are based on the original work of each student.

OFFICIAL EMAIL & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Announcements are used to broadcast reminders, notice of change or modification, material updates.

An official ASU email is established for each student, faculty member, and staff member. All university communications sent via e-mail will be sent to this ASU e-mail address.

You are required to check your email daily.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:

Students in this class are expected to acknowledge and embrace the FSE student professionalism expectation located at: <https://engineering.asu.edu/professionalism/>

Classroom etiquette includes silenced devices, prompt & on-time arrival and in general avoiding any activity or behavior that may be disruptive to the class.

I like to start on-time to allow for time at the end of class for group or team discussions. In the case that I am unable to lead a specific session I will send out an announcement with as much warning as possible. However, in the case where I may be simply running late please allow 15 minutes prior to leaving.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Students in this class must adhere to ASU's academic integrity policy, which can be found at <https://provost.asu.edu/academic-integrity/policy>). Students are responsible for reviewing this policy and understanding each of the areas in which academic dishonesty can occur. All engineering students are expected to adhere to the ASU Student **Honor Code**.

All work submitted for the course cannot have been submitted for any other course or any previous section of this same course. Student academic integrity violations are reported to the Fulton Schools of Engineering Academic Integrity Office (AIO). Withdrawing from this course will not absolve you of responsibility for an academic integrity violation and any sanctions that are applied. The AIO maintains a record of all violations and has access to academic integrity violations committed in all other ASU college/schools.

Unless explicitly allowed by your instructor, the use of generative AI tools on any course assignment or exam will be considered academic dishonesty and a violation of the [ASU Academic Integrity Policy](#). Students confirmed to be engaging in non-allowable use of generative AI will be sanctioned according to the academic integrity policy and FSE sanctioning guidelines.

STUDENT COPYRIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES:

You must refrain from uploading to any course shell, discussion board, or website used by the course instructor or other course forum, material that is not the student's original work, unless the student first complies with all applicable copyright laws; faculty members reserve the right to delete materials on the grounds of suspected copyright infringement.

The contents of this course, including lectures and other instructional materials, are copyrighted materials. Students may not share outside the class, including uploading, selling or distributing course content or notes taken during the conduct of the course. Any recording of class sessions by students is prohibited, except as part of an accommodation approved by the Disability Resource Center. (see [ACD 304-06](#), "Commercial Note Taking Services" and ABOR Policy [5-308 F.14](#) for more information).

POLICY AGAINST THREATENING BEHAVIOR

Students, faculty, staff, and other individuals do not have an unqualified right of access to university grounds, property, or services (see SSM 104-02). Interfering with the peaceful conduct of university-related business or activities or remaining on campus grounds after a request to leave may be considered a crime. All incidents and allegations of violent or threatening conduct by an ASU student (whether on- or off campus) must be reported to the ASU Police Department (ASU PD) and the Office of the Dean of Students.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS:

Suitable accommodations are made for students having disabilities. Students needing accommodations must register with the **ASU Student Accessibility and Inclusive Learning Services office** and provide documentation of that registration to the instructor. Students should communicate the need for an accommodation in enough time for it to be properly arranged. See **ACD 304-08** Classroom and Testing Accommodations for Students with Disabilities.

HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION:

Arizona State University is committed to providing an environment free of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation for the entire university community, including all students, faculty members, staff employees, and guests. ASU expressly prohibits discrimination, harassment, and retaliation by employees, students, contractors, or agents of the university based on any protected status: race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and genetic information.

Title IX is a federal law that provides that no person be excluded on the basis of sex from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Both Title IX and university policy make clear that sexual violence and harassment based on sex is prohibited. An individual who believes they have been subjected to sexual violence or harassed on the basis of sex can seek support, including counseling and academic support, from the university. If you or someone you know has been harassed on the basis of sex or sexually assaulted, you can find information and resources at <https://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs>.

As a mandated reporter, I am obligated to report any information I become aware of regarding alleged acts of sexual discrimination, including sexual violence and dating violence. ASU Counseling Services, <https://eoss.asu.edu/counseling> is available if you wish to discuss any concerns confidentially and privately. ASU online students may access 360 Life Services, <https://goto.asuonline.asu.edu/success/online-resources.html>.

PHOTO REQUIREMENT:

Arizona State University requires each enrolled student and university employee to have on file with ASU a current photo that meets ASU's requirements (your "Photo"). ASU uses your Photo to identify you, as necessary, to provide you educational and related services as an enrolled student at ASU. If you do not have an acceptable Photo on file with ASU, or if you do not consent to the use of your Photo, your access to ASU resources, including access to classes (online or in person) may be negatively affected or denied.

SYLLUBUS CHANGES:

Any information in this syllabus (other than grading and absence policies) may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice.