CIVE 1101-04: Introduction to Civil Engineering

Instructor: Philip Park
E-mail: philip.park@utrgv.edu
Phone: 956-882-6532

Class Hour: T 9:25 – 10:15 am (Brownsville BSABH 2.204)
Office Hours: T 11 am – 12 pm (Brownsville BSETB 2.554), MW 2-3 pm (Edinburg EPOB 1.103c) or by appointment

Textbook

Recommended Books

Course Description and Prerequisites
Introduction to civil engineering as a career, the requirements for licensure as a professional engineer and the main fields of specialization within civil engineering. The engineering method and the importance of teamwork, proper research, collaboration and effective communication. Engineering ethics and professional practice. Understanding graphic representation in design and construction drawings. Overview of computer aided design (CAD), and geographic information systems (GIS).

Learning Objectives/Outcomes for the Course
- Define civil engineering and have a general idea of its history, the development and challenges of the profession and the requirements for professional practice.
- Understand the main sectors of civil engineering specialization, and how they relate to infrastructure and projects.
- Explain what the Engineering Method is, and understand the differences between engineering design and analysis.
- Name some of the most common CAD & GIS software used by civil engineers and understand what each one is used for and what are their major differences.
- Effectively work as part of a small “engineering team” to develop, present and explain a professional-quality, civil-engineering-related research project.

Learning Objectives for Core Curriculum Requirements
- Ability to function in multidisciplinary teams.
- Understanding of professional and ethical responsibility.
- Ability to communicate effectively.
- Understanding the impact of engineering solutions in context
- Recognition of the need to engage in life-long learning.
Knowledge of contemporary engineering issues.

Grading Policies

- Attendance & participation: Up to 25% of final grade. Warning: students with >3 absences may be dropped without notice!
- Assignments and staying on schedule throughout the semester: At least 30% of final grade.
- Engineering Research Project Presentation: At least 25% of final grade.
- Final exam (or alternative final assignment): Up to 20% of final grade.
  - Extra credit may be awarded for special work and effort, class participation and assisting instructor when required.
  - Late assignments will lose 20% of earned grade, plus 20% for each additional day late (unless a valid excuse is accepted).
- Grading Scale: 90≤A, 80≤B<90, 70≤C<80, 60≤D<70, F<60

UTRGV Policy Statements

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
Students with a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects academic performance) who would like to receive academic accommodations should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible to schedule an appointment to initiate services. Accommodations can be arranged through SAS at any time, but are not retroactive. Students who suffer a broken bone, severe injury or undergo surgery during the semester are eligible for temporary services.

Pregnancy, Pregnancy-related, and Parenting Accommodations
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination, which includes discrimination based on pregnancy, marital status, or parental status. Students seeking accommodations related to pregnancy, pregnancy-related condition, or parenting (reasonably immediate postpartum period) are encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services for additional information and to request accommodations.

Student Accessibility Services:
Brownsville Campus: Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at ability@utrgv.edu. Edinburg Campus: Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.

MANDATORY COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD:
Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (http://my.utrgv.edu); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades. Online evaluations will be available on or about:

| Module 1 | October 4 – 10 |
| Module 2 | November 29 – December 5 |
| Full Fall Semester | November 15 – December 5 |

ATTENDANCE:
Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and may be dropped from the course for excessive absences. UTRGV’s attendance policy excuses students from attending class if they are participating in officially sponsored university activities, such as athletics; for observance of religious holy days; or for military service. Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations.
SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY:
As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, and VIOLENCE:
In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “Responsible Employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect that is free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

COURSE DROPS:
According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.

STUDENT SERVICES:
Students who demonstrate financial need have a variety of options when it comes to paying for college costs, such as scholarships, grants, loans and work-study. Students should visit the Students Services Center (U Central) for additional information. U Central is located in BMAIN 1.100 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 1.145 (Edinburg) or can be reached by email (ucentral@utrgv.edu) or telephone: (888) 882-4026. In addition to financial aid, U Central can assist students with registration and admissions.

Students seeking academic help in their studies can use university resources in addition to an instructor’s office hours. University Resources include the Learning Center, Writing Center, Advising Center and Career Center. The centers provide services such as tutoring, writing help, critical thinking, study skills, degree planning, and student employment. Locations are:

- Learning center: BSTUN 2.10 (Brownsville) or ELCTR 100 (Edinburg)
- Writing center: BLIBR 3.206 (Brownsville) or ESTAC 3.119 (Edinburg)
- Advising center: BMAIN 1.400 (Brownsville) or ESWKH 101 (Edinburg)
- Career center: BCRTZ 129 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 2.101 (Edinburg)