

BC 2630 Construction Seminar
Information Specific to this Course

Semester: Spring 2011
Hours: 1-0-1 (lecture, lab, credit)
Prerequisite: None
Day and Time: Mondays from 12:05 p.m.-12:55 p.m.
Classroom: Architecture (East) Auditorium, Room #123
Instructor: Keel, T (Primary), and Guest Lecturers (TBA)
Instructor's Office: School of Construction building, Room 119
Instructor's Phone: 404.894.4875
E-mail Address: thomas.keel@coa.gatech.edu
Office Hours: By Appointment
Required Textbooks: None
Recommended Readings: Supplemental readings may be announced during the course in addition to presentations on T-Square

Course Description:

A weekly, fifty-minute lecture with audio-visual support and enhancement, presented by leading professionals and academicians in building construction and related industries.

Course Objectives:

The principal educational objectives of the course are to:

- introduce the student to the depth and breadth of the construction industry and its various career opportunities
- provide an overview of the process of construction in project development/project management and the science and technology of construction
- provide an overview of different aspects in the context and practice of construction and facilities management
- acquaint the student with the general basis of association, organization, and practical issues in construction and facilities management
- present a general conceptual base to begin understanding the planning, designing, engineering, constructing, and managing of projects in the built environment
- expose students to multi-faceted situations, uncertainties, and the integration of diverse information
- alert students to their professional responsibilities in ethics, licensing, and other professional practices
- provide a clearer understanding of the integrated roles of architect, engineer, constructor, and facilities manager (A/E/C/FM) in the built environment
- strengthen communication skills of listening, note-taking, and writing

Instructional Methods:

This course is taught in lecture seminar format. Professionals from architectural, engineering, construction, facility management, real estate development, equipment/materials manufacturing, software support and design, and other industry-related companies, associations, and universities

will introduce students to the afore-outlined aspects of the construction industry and its career opportunities.

The School of Construction faculty expects the student to attend every lecture session, and take notes identifying each speaker and elaborating on the issues of the presentation. Students will submit their lecture notes after each presentation. The combination of attendance and note-taking comprises 80% of the student's grade. The final 20% of the student's grade is the writing and presenting of a final paper, the requirements of which will be given to the students near the end of the course.

Grading Policies:

Grading policies are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor; however, the following grading matrix will be used:

Class attendance	40%
Quality of weekly notes	40%
Final Paper	20%
<i>Total</i>	100%

Topics Covered:

Some samples of construction topics presented in this course are:

Nature of the industry, Career opportunities, People, Best practices, Legal aspects, Business aspects, Project development, Project management, Ethics, Trends, Major project review, Cost (controlling costs, first costs, life cycle costs), Planning, Scheduling, Technologies, Risk management, Facility Management, and Learning from experience; to name but a few.

Policies and Expectations:

Attendance Policy: Due to the unique nature of this lecture series, attendance is required, as the course consists of a different speaker each week. A missed lecture cannot be made up. All absences are unexcused absences. Arriving late or leaving early is not acceptable and will result in a lower score. If you miss a class you must return with a written medical exemption that the instructor can place in your file. This will give you attendance credit, but it cannot give you credit for your missed lecture notes.

Weekly Lecture Notes: Lecture notes are due immediately after the lecture. These are one-of-a-kind guest lectures, therefore NO make-up lecture notes are allowed, even for a medically-excused absence. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Assignment and Evaluation: Final grades will be based on attendance, the completeness of submitted lecture notes, and the final paper based on the stated-above aggregate point.

Methods of Communicating: All lecture notes will be written during the lecture and submitted to the instructor after each class. Students may ask questions for clarification in the class at the end of each presentation. All other communication with the instructor will be by e-mail or pre-arranged appointments.

In addition, T-Square will be used for this course. Pertinent course material will be available online at <http://t-square.gatech.edu>. Students will need an ID and password to login.

Students may obtain a *white card* with ID and password from the Office of Information Technology (OIT) at the Rich Building.

Date: Speaker and Firm

1/10/11	Professor Keel, Course requirements and the construction industry overview
1/17/11	HOLIDAY
1/24/11	Green Building Council
1/31/11	
2/07/11	Intelligent Buildings
2/14/11	
2/21/11	Reed Construction Data - Industry Statistics
2/28/11	The Southern Company – Georgia Power
3/07/11	AMEC Earth and Environmental
3/14/11	
3/21/11	SPRING BREAK
3/28/11	
4/04/11	
4/11/11	Whiting-Turner Construction
4/18/11	Cousins Properties