

CEE 4520 – Reinforced Concrete Design – Fall 2026

Room TBD; Time TBD

Version 1, 19 March 2026

Instructor

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Office Hours: By appointment. To meet students' requirements, needs, and comfort levels, meetings and office hours will be offered in-person, virtually, or outdoors.

Importance of Course

Reinforced concrete design is an important course for future civil engineers. As one of the predominant building materials globally, it is very important that you understand the mechanics, behavior and construction methods. In addition, reinforced concrete design synthesizes principles you have learned previously in other courses including statics, mechanics of materials, material science, structural analysis, and the LRFD methodology.

My Expectations

- Conduct yourself as a future engineering professional. At this point in your education, you are very close to graduation and to joining the professional world. Let me help you be a great engineer and leader in your future profession.
- Come to class ready to participate and learn. Mobile devices must be silenced and out of sight.
- Bring your curiosity with you to class and ask questions. If I don't know the answer, I'll find out.
- Submit work that is neat, complete, and easy to follow. Include sketches as necessary to communicate your work. Use a straightedge for all straight lines. Ensure your writing is large enough for me to read. I may deduct points from homework that fails to meet this standard.

Course Objectives

- Analyze and design reinforced concrete members (slabs, beams, columns, and footings) using the ACI Strength Design provisions.
- Describe the advantages and disadvantages of using reinforced concrete as a building material considering economics, sustainability and safety.
- Design a concrete mixture to meet strength and workability requirements.
- Research and provide a short presentation on a “hot topic” of interest related to reinforced concrete, concrete materials or structural engineering.

Pre-requisites/Co-requisites

CEE 3055 (Structural Analysis)

Textbooks

- Reinforced Concrete: Mechanics and Design, Eighth Edition, James K. Wight, Pearson, Hoboken, NJ (Required)
- ACI 318-25 Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete and Commentary, American Concrete Institute, Farmington Hills, MI (Strongly Recommended)

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Website

The website for this course is <https://canvas.gatech.edu>. Students are expected to check the website regularly for announcements and are responsible for the material posted. Example problems and material from lectures are posted regularly. I own the copyright of the course materials I create for this course (exams, examples, slides) and as a result, students are not allowed to reproduce, distribute or publicly post these course materials without my explicit written permission.

Grades

Your final grade will be determined based on the following grade scheme and scale:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| • Hot Topic Presentation (5%) | A: 90 – 100% |
| • Participation Grade (5%) | B: 80 – 89.9% |
| • Homework (35%) | C: 70 – 79.9% |
| • Mid-term Exams (25%) | D: 60 – 69.9% |
| • Final Exam (30%) | F: <60% |

Exams

See the course schedule for exam dates. All exams are closed book, closed notes and in-class. You will be allowed one exam reference sheet, 8.5" x 11", both sides, in your own writing for each mid-term exam and the final. You will have a total of three sheets by the time you get to the final exam. You may list anything that will help prompt your memory during the exam. I will collect the reference pages with your exams then return them to you following exam grading.

Cheating from another student's exam is unethical, unprofessional, and unacceptable. Cheating is a direct violation of the Georgia Tech Honor Code and will be dealt with accordingly per Georgia Tech policy. Other examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, bringing unauthorized material to the exam, collaborating or sharing exam reference pages, talking during the exam and using mobile devices.

Course Conduct

The Georgia Tech Honor Code is the standard of conduct for this course. The Honor Code is available at <http://www.honor.gatech.edu/>. You are allowed to work in groups on all homework, but any work you turn in must be written in your own hand and cannot be a direct copy of any other student's work. In-class tests and exams are to be your own work. Honesty and integrity are two foundational characteristics of a professional.

Late Policy

In the professional world, those who submit requirements late will likely develop a poor reputation and may lose the opportunity themselves or for their company to compete for or take part in an important project. I expect you to submit course requirements in accordance with the published submission date and time. If conditions arise that will not allow you to submit your work on-time, contact me at least 24 hours in advance. For those who submit work late without prior approval, the penalty will be 10% per day for up to two days. Work submitted after two days will receive zero credit.

Attendance

This will be an active classroom, where I will expect you to come to class prepared to learn and participate. Those students who attend class regularly will likely perform far better in the course, especially on exams. I will base your participation grade, in part, on your class attendance. In the event of a medical emergency or an illness that is severe enough to require medical attention, students are responsible for contacting the Office of

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the Dean of Students as soon as possible to report the medical issue or emergency, providing dated documentation from a medical professional and requesting assistance in notifying their instructors. The medical documentation will be handled confidentially within the Dean of Students Office and will inform a decision as to whether communication with instructional faculty is appropriate. It is the expectation of the Institute that instructional faculty will honor a request from the Office of the Dean of Students to excuse a medical emergency or illness and allow make-up of the work missed, including homeworks, quizzes, presentations, examinations, or other class assignments. All other Georgia Tech approved absences will be honored per the appropriate policy.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Georgia Tech has policies regarding disability accommodation, which are administered through The Office of Disability Services. <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>. For students with disabilities, please contact this office to request classroom accommodations. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs. Reminders well in advance of special needs are appreciated and are your responsibility.

Recordings of Class Sessions and Required Permissions:

Classes may not be recorded by students without the express consent of the instructor unless it is pursuant to an accommodation granted by the Office of Disability services. Class recordings, lectures, presentations, and other materials posted on Canvas are for the sole purpose of educating the students currently enrolled in the course.

Students may not record or share the materials or recordings, including screen capturing or automated bots, unless the instructor gives permission. Digitally proctored exams may require students to engage the video camera, but those recordings will not be shared with or disclosed to others without consent unless legally permitted.

- For classes where participation is voluntary, students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded.
- For classes requiring class participation, if students are identifiable by their names, facial images, voices, and/ or comments, written consent must be obtained before sharing the recording with persons outside of currently enrolled students in the class.

Diversity Statement

I consider the classroom environment to be a place where you will be treated with dignity and respect, and I welcome individuals of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs, ethnicities, genders, gender identities, gender expressions, national origins, religious affiliations, sexual orientations, ability and other visible and nonvisible differences. All members of this class are expected to contribute to a respectful, welcoming and inclusive environment for every other member of the class.