

CEE 6125-A Syllabus

Construction Industry Best Practices, Section A, 3 Credits

FALL 2026

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Yong K. Cho

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General Course Information

Description

This course will discuss the current issues in the construction industry and introduce the best practices defined and developed by CII research over the last 30+ years. To address these subjects, the course covers a substantial amount of material. No textbooks will be used. Preparatory readings (i.e., primarily research summaries and reports) and online assessments will be available through the CII's website. Students are expected to have read the related reading material ahead of the class. Online education modules will also be arranged via CII's website to reinforce learning. The course is taught face-to-face to one class with a simultaneous live broadcast to the other participating universities. During the lectures, many interactive group discussions with given scenarios will be made among participating universities.

- **Participating Universities (not limited to):** Arizona State, Clemson, Florida International, Georgia Tech, Michigan-Ann Arbor, Missouri S&T, NC State, Stevens, U of Houston, UT Austin, Virginia Tech, and Vanderbilt.
- **Participating Industry Speakers (not limited to):** Bechtel, Bentley, Burns & McDonnell, Chevron, Dow, ExxonMobil, Fluor, Jacobs, KBR, Kiewit, Matrix Services, Pathfinder, SBM Offshore, Southern Company, and Trillium.

Course Learning Outcomes

By taking this course, students will be able to:

1. Broaden the understanding of the critical issues and changes in the construction industry;

2. Detect when and which best practice techniques can be used to resolve the real-world construction issues;
3. Develop proper risk mitigation and evaluation plan;
4. Recognize the key features of an effective change management system;
5. Drive a mindset that material management is much more than just purchasing;
6. Determine if modularization is suitable for their project or not;
7. Apply enhanced site safety, quality, and planning in project management; and
8. Apply the best practices to improve construction project performance through a better decision-making process.

Required Course Materials

The Construction Industry Institute (CII) website will be used to distribute the course-related materials.

Grading Policy:

Attendance and Participation	20%
In-class Online Quiz	10%
Online Educational Modules Assessment	40%
<u>Final Team Report</u>	<u>30%</u>

*Attendance -2% per day for unexcused absence or late

A>90; B>80; C>70; D>60

Description of Graded Components

There will be **NO** midterm or final exam. Instead, there are a number of tests, including pre-test and post-tests for each online education module and quizzes. A test score will be provided after completing each education module. **The required pass score for this course is 80% (Pass: >=80) not 70%.** Passing grade will give the full credits (100%) for the module assessment (e.g., 85 points=100%; 75 points = 75%). Students must complete the online education modules no later than 7 days after the session. Late completion can be turned in up to 1 week late. Otherwise, it is considered unacceptable. Late completion will be graded with a maximum score of 85%, and the grade will be prorated based on the length of the delay. Note that each education module could be taken up to twice.

Quizzes:

There will be multiple quizzes for selected classes regarding the lecture, which need to be completed no later than 7 days after the session. Late completion can be turned in up to 1 week late. Unlike online education module tests, there is no passing grade in quizzes.

Group Projects:

There will be One written group proposal and ONE group term paper (Final project) required. Students will submit a term paper on implementing two of the Best Practices discussed in this course. See Page 9 for the final group project guideline.

Course Policies

Attendance and/or Participation

It is important that you are familiar with the course materials as the course evolves. Your ability to answer questions and discuss the material will be a part of the overall participation evaluation. Therefore, you should review class materials ahead of time. Regular attendance is expected. Each student is responsible for all materials and administrative instructions given during the lecture period. Each excused absence requires prior approval (before class begins) followed by proofing materials. Also, using a cell phone, tablet, or computer (working on anything other than class activities), talking, sleeping, listening to music, or eating during class is inappropriate, discourteous, and inexcusable and will negatively affect the participation grade. The instructor reserves the right to adjust the course letter grade based on individual attendance and class participation per the "GRADING" section as warranted.

PERSONAL EMERGENCY:

Students who experience personal emergencies (e.g., hospitalization or a car accident) that may affect class attendance or assessments should contact the instructor as soon as possible. For serious or extended situations, students may also seek assistance from the Office of the Dean of Students, which can help by notifying instructors when appropriate. For more information, please contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 404-894-6367.

Pre- &/or Co-Requisites

CEE 4100 Construction Engineering & Management (for undergraduate only)

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act in accordance with the highest ethical standards. Review [Georgia Tech's Honor Code](#) and the student [Code of Conduct](#).

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, which will investigate the incident and determine the appropriate penalty.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Georgia Tech is committed to providing equal access to students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations should register with Georgia Tech Disability Services. Once approved, students should provide their accommodation letter to the instructor as early as possible. Accommodations are designed to support student access while maintaining the essential requirements of the course and program. In some cases, modifications to course requirements may be considered, consistent with program standards and accreditation requirements. For more information, please contact Georgia Tech Disability Services at 404-894-2564 or visit <https://disabilityservices.gatech.edu>.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulate some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.