

CE 4288: Senior Design II

Department of Civil Engineering

General Information

Instructors:	Jeffrey Weidner, Ph.D. Office: A-222 Labs: E-214 IDR 3.101 Office Phone: (915)-747-6913 Cell Phone: (215) 292-4830 Email: jweidner@utep.edu By appointment – Schedule at www.jeffreyweidner.com/schedule
Meeting Time and Location:	Friday 9:30AM to 11:20AM BUSN 331
Final Exam:	None
Course Description:	ABET Requirements: Students must be prepared for engineering practice through a curriculum culminating in a <i>major design experience</i> based on the <i>knowledge and skills acquired in earlier course work</i> and incorporating <i>appropriate engineering standards</i> and <i>multiple realistic constraints</i> .
Expectations:	Instructor Expectations: From me, you can expect the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I will treat all teams and individuals respectfully and equitably• I will adhere to this syllabus• I will assign you the grade that you earn• I will provide minor instruction on very specific topics as needed• I will provide access to resources to support your project through the Resource Library• I will not teach material that should have been covered in a prior course, regardless of how well you felt it was taught, or how well you learned it• I will make myself available to attempt to address issues that may arise via office hours appointments• I will respond within 12 hours to emails and Teams messages• I will not be expected to reply to students immediately Student Expectations: From you, I expect the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You will treat me, the other teams, and your teammates with respect• You will act in a professional manner at all times• You will adhere to this syllabus and to your team agreement• You will apply the knowledge to which you previously should have been exposed.

- You will work to learn new skills as needed in a self-guided manner.
- You will treat my time as valuable, scheduling meetings in advance and coming prepared to ask questions and present proposed solutions
- You will take personal responsibility for the success of your project

Class Approach: *Teamwork:* In order to meet ABET requirements, Senior Design should prepare you for engineering practice. Unless you are practicing as an engineer on your own (which is impossible prior to full licensure), you will be working in teams. Working successfully in a collaborative environment requires trust and patience in the face of pressure and time constraints. To encourage you explore and understand this dynamic, your deliverables will be graded as a team, not on an individual basis. That said, we understand that it is not uncommon for some team members to carry more of the load than others. This is a graded assignment that reflects personally on your individual performances within your team. As such, there will be a peer evaluation to reflect on each individual's performance within your team, including your own.

Deliverables:

Team Agreement: To provide context for these peer evaluations, you will be required to create and sign a team agreement. This agreement will specifically address the following items:

- Scheduled meeting times
- Communication plans
- Grievance plan

This agreement and the products from it should be available to us if we feel they are required to address any issues that arise.

Midterm Deliverable: On, October 20th, 2023, you will submit preliminary midterm deliverables. These will include the following: 1.) A summary of your progress to that point, 2.) A draft final report outline including format, and 3). Draft drawings including any you have created, but the requirement is your site plan with final title block.

End of Term Deliverables: On November 17th, 2023 you will submit two of your final deliverables. These will include:

1. Final report: Main body of 25 pages or less excluding appendices.
2. Final drawings: Professional drawings with title block covering the main aspects of your project

The third deliverable, listed below, will be delivered on December 1st, 2023:

3. Final presentation: An in-person presentation to a panel of experts who provide scores for your work which are used to inform your team grades.

Revised Deliverables: On December 8th, you will submit your revised deliverables (report and drawings only), incorporating feedback from the evaluation panel, for an improved grade assessed solely by Dr. Weidner.

Professionalism and appearance are important to deliverables but will only be evaluated as part of the end-of-term submission. When assumptions are required, they must be clearly stated and justified in your final deliverables. As indicated by the ABET description, your design should be based on your knowledge and skills acquired in prior courses. I understand and hereby recognize that you have not learned everything in prior courses that you need to complete this design. **You are expected to bridge that gap yourself by seeking out resources and guidance.** See the resource library section for additional information.

Meetings and Office Hours: You will be required, as a team, to schedule one meeting with the instructor before the midterm deliverables are due, and one meeting with the instructor prior to submission of the final deliverables. Appointments can also be scheduled during class periods where no lectures are scheduled, or via my calendar. Finally, I can work with you to schedule other appointments as needed. I will keep track of these meetings.

Resource Library: To help bridge the gap between your existing coursework and the specific design challenges you are facing with this project, I have created a resource library on Blackboard. Here you will find information about design codes and specifications, software resources, textbooks, and local engineers who may be willing to serve as a mentor or advisor. There is guidance for citing references and resources of which you may use.

Course Schedule: The **tentative** schedule for the course is shown in the Table below:

Week #	Lecture Date	Topic	Deliverable(s) Due
1	09.01.23	Dr. Weidner out of town No Class	None
2	09.08.23	Progress Presentations	Progress Slides; Revised Team Agreement
3	09.15.23	Senior Design Evaluation Panel	None
4	09.22.23	Jury Duty No Class	None
5	09.29.23	Review Prior Submissions	None
6	10.06.23	Progress Presentations	Progress Slides
7	10.13.23	How to Give a Presentation	None
8	10.20.23	Working Session*	Mid-term Deliverables
9	10.27.23	Progress Presentations	Progress Slides
10	11.03.23	Working Session*	None
11	11.10.23	Working Session*	None
12	11.17.23	Practice Presentations with the Faculty	Final Deliverables Due
13	11.24.23	Thanksgiving No Class	None
14	12.01.23	Final Presentations (Schedule to Follow)	Final Presentation
15	12.08.23	Dead Day No Class	Revised Deliverables Due

* Subject to change

Course Support: *Teaching Assistant: None*

Course Objectives: By the end of this two-course sequence you should:

1. Describe the design process for a realistic civil engineering project.
2. Produce professional-quality engineering drawings
3. Produce a professional-quality engineering report
4. Produce representative professional quality design calculations
5. Demonstrate professional quality presentation skills
6. Use engineering software tools to aid in civil engineering design
7. Interact with local practitioners to get mentoring and support
8. Describe the role of sustainability in civil engineering design

Class Policies

Honor Code: Civil Engineering students are expected to adhere to the Honor Code of the Department of Civil Engineering, which can be found here (<http://ce.utep.edu/honorcode.htm>). This statement is consistent with the [UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures](#). Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to plagiarism, cheating, and collusion. Under no circumstances should any design work be completed by anyone outside of your team. Additionally, under no circumstances should a practicing mentor be compensated for their time or assistance. All suspected violations must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action.

Attendance Policy: We do not take attendance during working sessions for the purposes of a grade.

COVID-19: Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, let us know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, we strongly encourage you to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu. This will mobilize University resources to both support you and help with communication with your professors as well as initiate contact tracing through Environmental Health Services on campus. This helps to keep everyone safe. Students have access to COVID-19 testing at the Student Health Center.

Neatness Policy: By this stage in your educational career, you should be submitting work that is neat and professional. I reserve the right to return work unreviewed if I deem it unprofessional. Resubmitted work will be considered late.

Accommodations: The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable

accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#).

Technology
Requirements and
Policies:

The course material will be delivered through and stored on Blackboard. Discussions will occur on Blackboard, and assignments will be assigned, submitted, and graded within Blackboard. Announcements will be made through Blackboard. [Microsoft Teams](#) will be used for communication. This software is provided for free by UTEP. Please download and install Teams. I will invite you to join the course using your UTEP email. Be sure to check that notifications are set up properly in Blackboard and Teams so that you do not miss any important communications. We will not use a personal email address in this course.

You will need access to a computer for this course. To make use of many UTEP software off campus, you will need [VPN access](#) set up on your computer. The [ETC Helpdesk](#) can support you in terms of technology requirements and [VPN access](#).

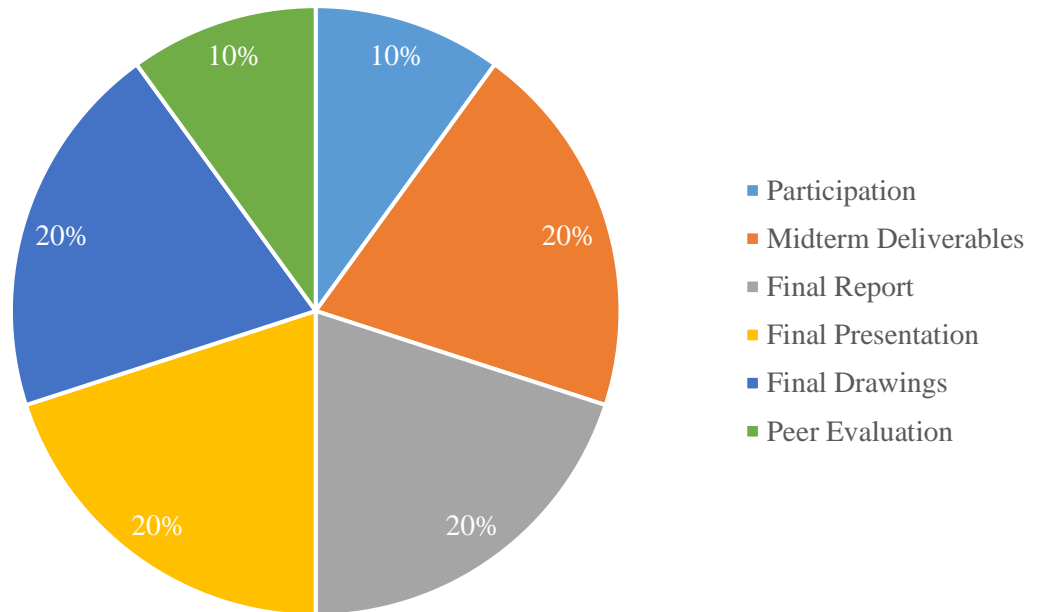
UTEP can provide support or technology assistance as required. Please see [Technology Services](#) for access to computer, internet connectivity, and other technology-related support issues to facilitate remote learning during the Pandemic.

AI Guidance:

Unlike many highly technical courses, the deliverables for this course could be heavily developed using ChatGPT. I recognize this reality and as such, I do not intend to completely ban AI Language Models. However, I strongly encourage you to use these tools in a responsible manner. ChatGPT and similar tools are very effective at editing and augmenting your creative work to make it more professional and coherent. I encourage this type of activity. ***You are not permitted to use AI tools for creating your own writing from scratch, for conducting scholarly research, and for answering technical questions.*** Be sure you use the tools as they are designed, and be sure to cite them appropriately.

Coursework and Grading Expectations

Grading: Grade Breakdown:



Final Grade $A \geq 89.5$
Thresholds: $89.5 > B \geq 79.5$
 $79.5 > C \geq 69.5$
 $69.5 > D \geq 59.5$
 $59.5 > F$

Exams: There are no exams in this course.

Homework: There is no homework in this course.