

SCHOOL OF CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW SOUTH WALES

Session 2 2013

CVEN3031: CIVIL ENGINEERING PRACTICE

CVEN3731: ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING PRACTICE



COURSE DETAILS

Units of Credit	6
Contact hours	4 hours per week
Lectures	Tuesday, Weeks 1-12, 9:00 – 10:00 Matthews Theatre A
Tutorials	Weeks 2-13 Either Tuesdays 10:00-13:00, or Wednesdays 15:00-18:00. Allocations will be arranged in Week 1, as per instructions given in the first lecture.
Course Manager and main contact	Minh Nhat Le minh@unsw.edu.au
Lecturer (Project 1) Weeks 1-6	Dr Vinayak Dixit
Lecturer (Project 2) & Co-ordinator Weeks 7-12	Dr Adrian Russell

HANDBOOK DESCRIPTION

A project-based course integrating the material learnt in the various sub-disciplines of civil and environmental engineering. Multi-disciplinary projects are undertaken and involve the identification of major issues and the development of solutions for open-ended problems including considerations of the environmental, economic and social impacts of the proposed solutions. The objective is to further develop the students' research, teamwork, managerial and self-directed learning skills.

OBJECTIVES

During this course, you will be required to work through two large engineering projects. The elements of the projects have been developed to:

- provide you with an experience more typical of what a graduate engineer may encounter, placing your individual courses into a multi-disciplinary context;
- allow you to utilise your capacity for analytical and critical thinking and problem solving skills;
- provide you with the freedom to engage in independent and reflective learning;
- enhance your researching/data gathering skills;
- provide an opportunity for collaborative group work;
- teach you project management skills;
- give you a respect for ethical practice and social responsibility; and
- enhance your communication skills.

COURSE INFORMATION

The course will consist of up to 12 1-hour lectures and 12 3-hour tutorials. The course will involve working in a group of four to solve two engineering projects. The projects will draw on various subjects you have studied as well as require you to extend your knowledge through self-learning/research. For project 1 the outcomes will be presented in a formal group report and 1 page individual contributions. For project 2 the outcomes will be presented in a formal group report and 1 page individual contributions.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

The contents of this subject will be presented to you in a number of formats. A detailed discussion of this is provided in your project 1 and 2 handouts. A brief summary is below.

Lectures: Formal lectures will be presented to provide you with the key information for the project and to address key questions posed by students. Guest lectures are also planned. You are expected to attend all the lectures as they will be the main point of contact between you and the 'client'. Further communication will be via your student email. It is very important that you frequently check your messages.

Tutorials: The tutorials will be where you meet to plan your group work and show your tutor your progress and gain assistance with your work if problems arise. You will be expected to be present and participate at all tutorials. Tutors should not be considered as experts on the project. They are merely facilitators of the project.

Assignment and Private study: Much of your group project will require self research and study. Your private study should include review and reflection of lecture material; field visits; computer analysis; and Internet, library and other research. The project will draw heavily on what you have done in your other subjects during your degree.

SCHOOL PRIZES

Results in this course will contribute to the Civil Engineering Practice Prize and the Environmental Engineering Practice Prize presented at the fourth year dinner. In 2010, 2011 and 2012 the prizes were worth \$1000 each and were sponsored by Cardno.

COURSE PROGRAM

The course program is very detailed and is provided with the information package for projects 1 and 2.

ASSESSMENT

There will be no formal exam for this course. Instead, marks will be awarded for your project reports and individual contributions. Students should be aware that failure to contribute to their group's progress can result in removal from the group and failure in the course.

Detailed information on the assessment breakdown and dates is provided in the Project 1 and 2 information packages.

COURSE EVALUATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The School of Civil and Environmental Engineering evaluates each course each time it is run through (i) the UNSW Course and Teaching Evaluation and Improvement (CATEI) process, and (ii) Focus Group Meetings.

As part of the CATEI process, your student evaluations on various aspects of the course are graded; the Course Coordinator prepares a summary report for the Head of School. Any problem areas are identified for remedial action, and ideas for making improvements to the course are noted for action the next time that the course is run.

We request that you please complete the CATEI form. To make the process more valuable could you also provide both positive AND negative (constructive) comments. This enables the course to be improved each year.

Focus Group Meetings are conducted by the four Year Managers (academic staff) for any students who wish to attend, in each year of the civil and/or environmental engineering programs. Student comments on each course are collected and disseminated to the Lecturers concerned, noting any points which can help improve the course.

COMMON SCHOOL INFORMATION

You should check the following site for information common to all School courses:
<http://www.civeng.unsw.edu.au/info-about/our-school/policies-procedures-guidelines/academic-advice>

NOTES ON ASSESSMENT

PLAGIARISM

Beware! UNSW has developed a new policy for plagiarism which includes severe penalties and placement on the Central Plagiarism Register. You should visit www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism to make yourself familiar with the policy.

Plagiarism is the presentation of the thoughts or work of another as one's own.*

Examples include:

- direct duplication of the thoughts or work of another, including by copying material, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document (whether published or unpublished), composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, web site, Internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement;
- paraphrasing another person's work with very minor changes keeping the meaning, form and/or progression of ideas of the original;
- piecing together sections of the work of others into a new whole;
- presenting an assessment item as independent work when it has been produced in whole or part in collusion with other people, for example, another student or a tutor; and,
- claiming credit for a proportion of a work contributed to a group assessment item that is greater than that actually contributed.†

Submitting an assessment item that has already been submitted for academic credit elsewhere may also be considered plagiarism. Knowingly permitting your work to be copied by another student may also be considered to be plagiarism. An assessment item produced in oral, not written form, or involving live presentation, may similarly contain plagiarised material.

The inclusion of the thoughts or work of another with attribution appropriate to the academic discipline does *not* amount to plagiarism.

Students are reminded of their Rights and Responsibilities in respect of plagiarism, as set out in the University Undergraduate and Postgraduate Handbooks, and are encouraged to seek advice from academic staff whenever necessary to ensure they avoid plagiarism in all its forms.

The Learning Centre website is the central University online resource for staff and student information on plagiarism and academic honesty. It can be located at: www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism

The Learning Centre also provides substantial educational written materials, workshops, and tutorials to aid students, for example, in:

- correct referencing practices;
- paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing, and time management;
- appropriate use of, and attribution for, a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre.

Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting, and the proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

* Based on that proposed to the University of Newcastle by the St James Ethics Centre. Used with kind permission from the University of Newcastle.

† Adapted with kind permission from the University of Melbourne.

KEEP A COPY OF ALL WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

Please keep a copy of written assignments (in case your assignment is misplaced).

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

Hard copies of your assignments should be submitted to your tutor. Soft copies will also be required to be submitted to the plagiarism checker on Blackboard.