

**Instructor:** J. Richard Cheeks  
**Office Address:** 374 Civil Engineering Building  
**Email:** [ce401@windstream.net](mailto:ce401@windstream.net)  
**Off Campus Phone:** 887 4049  
**Office hours:** Monday; 10 to 12 Noon, 2 to 3 PM,  
and after 5 PM as required

### **Course Description:**

A discussion of the ethical and professional aspects of civil engineering practice. Concepts of loss prevention and conflict resolution. Structured small group discussion, oral presentations, and role playing.

### **Prerequisites:**

Senior Classification and engineering standing.

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

After completing this course, the student will be able to:

Identify the need for and philosophical underpinnings of ethical standards

Identify four valid theories of ethics

Understand the Josephson Ethical Decision Making Model and its application to common ethical dilemma in Civil Engineering Practice

Prepare an essay in which the Josephson Ethical Decision Making Model is applied to a civil engineering related ethical dilemma

### **Required Materials:**

Handout Package available in Civil Engineering Office

### **Description of Course Activities and Assignments**

Ten classes will begin with a **Quiz** on the **Reading Assignments** assigned since the last quiz, and **Prior Class Discussions**. In addition, the last quiz of the semester will cover the material discussed during the entire semester.

Class sessions may include presentation by the instructor, class and small group discussions, and/or small group exercises. **I expect each student to actively participate in the discussions and exercises.**

This class will have **assigned seating**. I will provide a seating chart at the beginning of the second class session for each student to indicate his seating preference. Attendance will be based upon this seating chart at the beginning of each class session. You will be absent if you are not in your assigned seat at the beginning of the class.

## Description of Course Assignments

### GRADING SYSTEM

1. Quizzes: 120 points. **QUIZZES WILL BE CLOSED BOOK AND TIMED. NO MAKEUP QUIZZES WILL BE GIVEN IF MISSED DUE TO AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE. MAKEUP QUIZZES WILL BE GIVEN FOLLOWING AN EXCUSED ABSENCE IF I RECEIVE EMAIL NOTIFICATION PRIOR TO CLASS, YOU TAKE THE MAKEUP QUIZ PRIOR TO THE NEXT SCHEDULED CLASS SESSION, AND YOU PROVIDE THE WRITTEN VERIFICATION OF THE EXCUSED ABSENCE BASIS PRIOR TO THE FOLLOWING CLASS PERIOD.**
2. Attendance: 560 points. **40 POINTS PER CLASS FOR ANY ABSENCE, AND 20 POINTS PER CLASS FOR TARDINESS OR LEAVING CLASS EARLY WITHOUT MY APPROVAL PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF CLASS. IF YOU HAVE A UNIVERSITY EXCUSED ABSENCE, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE ME A WRITTEN VERIFICATION PRIOR TO THE NEXT SCHEDULED CLASS SESSION THAT YOUR ABSENCE IS AN EXCUSED ABSENCE PER UNIVERSITY RULES, AT WHICH TIME, I WILL REMOVE ANY POINT DEDUCTIONS FOR THE EXCUSED ABSENCE.**
3. CRW: 100 points. **THIS WILL BE A TEAM GRADE. ALL MEMBERS OF A NEGOTIATING UNIT WILL RECEIVE THE SAME GRADE FOR THE CONFLICT RESOLUTION WORKSHOP. THIS GRADE WILL BE BASED UPON THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT THAT THE PARTICULAR NEGOTIATING UNIT ACHIEVES. 80 POINTS FOR ACHIEVING ANY SETTLEMENT, AND THE REMAINING 100 POINTS BASED ON THE TERMS. NO SETTLEMENT = NO POINTS. IF YOU HAVE AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE DURING THE 2 WEEK WORKSHOP, YOUR INDIVIDUAL TOTAL WORKSHOP GRADE WILL BE REDUCED BY 50 POINTS FOR EACH UNEXCUSED ABSENCE.**
4. Note Book: 20 points. **EACH STUDENT MUST OBTAIN A SET OF PRINTED HANDOUTS FOR THIS COURSE FROM THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE. I WILL VERIFY THAT EACH STUDENT HAS OBTAINED THE HANDOUTS BASED ON CE DEPARTMENT RECORDS. FOR EACH WEEK AFTER SEPTEMBER 12 THAT A STUDENT DOES NOT HAVE HIS/HER OWN SET OF HANDOUTS, THE NOTEBOOK GRADE DROPS BY 2 PTS UNTIL IT IS OBTAINED. IF A STUDENT DOES NOT OBTAIN THE HANDOUTS BY NOVEMBER 21, THE**

**NOTEBOOK GRADE WILL BE 0. EACH CURRENT STUDENT MUST HAVE HIS/HER OWN HANDOUT PACKAGE. NO SHARING IS ALLOWED. NOTE BOOKS FROM PRIOR SEMESTERS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. THE NOTEBOOK GRADE WILL BE BASED ON CE DEPARTMENT RECORDS.**

5. Essay: 200 points. **SEE ESSAY ASSIGNMENT FOR DETAILS ABOUT THIS TEAM ASSIGNMENT.**

**GRADING SCALE (No Curve Will Be Used; 899 POINTS IS ALWAYS A "B")**

- A 900-1000 POINTS
- B 800-899 POINTS
- C 700-799 POINTS
- D 600-699 POINTS
- E 599 OR LESS POINTS

**Final Exam Information**

No Final Exam Is Scheduled For CE 401

**Mid-term Grade (for 100-500 level courses only)**

Undergraduate Students will be provided with a Midterm Evaluation by midterm of the semester of course performance based on the grades earned and the criteria in syllabus.

**Course Policies:**

**Attendance Policy.**

Attendance is expected, and failure to attend will be penalized with a loss of points as described elsewhere in this syllabus. As such, attendance represents 56% of the total points available in this course to encourage compliance with the attendance policy.

If a quiz is scheduled for a day that you must miss, you may take a make up quiz no later than the following Monday If, and only If, you notify me of your intention to be absent prior to the missed class. Otherwise, no make up quizzes will be administered. To take a make up quiz, report to my office at UK on the first Monday on which class meets following the absence no later than 30 minutes prior to the next scheduled class meeting.

**Excused Absences:**

Students need to notify the professor of absences prior to class when possible. S.R. 5.2.4.2 defines the following as acceptable reasons for excused absences: (a) serious illness, (b) illness or death of family member, (c) University-related trips, (d) major religious holidays, and (e) other

circumstances found to fit “reasonable cause for nonattendance” by the professor.

Students anticipating an absence for a major religious holiday are responsible for notifying the instructor in writing of anticipated absences due to their observance of such holidays no later than the last day in the semester to add a class. Information regarding dates of major religious holidays may be obtained through the religious liaison, Mr. Jake Karnes (859-257-2754).

Students are expected to withdraw from the class if more than 20% of the classes scheduled for the semester are missed (excused or unexcused) per university policy.

### **Verification of Absences:**

Students may be asked to verify their absences in order for them to be considered excused. Senate Rule 5.2.4.2 states that faculty have the right to request “appropriate verification” when students claim an excused absence because of illness or death in the family. Appropriate notification of absences due to university-related trips is required prior to the absence.

### **Academic Integrity:**

Per university policy, students shall not plagiarize, cheat, or falsify or misuse academic records. Students are expected to adhere to University policy on cheating and plagiarism in all courses. The minimum penalty for a first offense is a zero on the assignment on which the offense occurred. If the offense is considered severe or the student has other academic offenses on their record, more serious penalties, up to suspension from the university may be imposed.

Plagiarism and cheating are serious breaches of academic conduct. Each student is advised to become familiar with the various forms of academic dishonesty as explained in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Complete information can be found at the following website: <http://www.uky.edu/Ombud>. A plea of ignorance is not acceptable as a defense against the charge of academic dishonesty. It is important that you review this information as all ideas borrowed from others need to be properly credited.

Part II of *Student Rights and Responsibilities* (available online <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html>) states that all academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about the question of plagiarism involving their own work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission.

When students submit work purporting to be their own, but which in any way borrows ideas, organization, wording or anything else from another source without appropriate acknowledgement of the fact, the students are guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else’s work, whether it be a published article, chapter of a book, a paper from a friend or some file, or something similar to this. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work which a student submits as

his/her own, whoever that other person may be.

Students may discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor, but when the actual work is done, it must be done by the student, and the student alone. When a student's assignment involves research in outside sources of information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where and how he/she employed them. If the words of someone else are used, the student must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin. Making simple changes while leaving the organization, content and phraseology intact is plagiaristic. However, nothing in these Rules shall apply to those ideas which are so generally and freely circulated as to be a part of the public domain (Section 6.3.1).

**Please note:** Any assignment you turn in may be submitted to an electronic database to check for plagiarism.

**Accommodations due to disability:**

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754, email address: [jkarnes@email.uky.edu](mailto:jkarnes@email.uky.edu)) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.

**Classroom Behavior Policies:**

Students should not use computers, laptops, cell phones, or any other form of electronic communication devices while class is underway at any time, and violation of this behavioral policy will result in a loss of 20-point attendance grade for that class session without any further explanation.

**CE-401 Civil Engineering Seminar  
Fall Semester 2011**

**Monday: 12:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. CET Room 112, Large Conference Room Section 1**

Instructor: J. Richard Cheeks; Office 374; Hours Monday 10 am- 12 p.m., & 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.  
(859)-887-4049; [rcheeks@windstream.net](mailto:rcheeks@windstream.net)

Text: Handouts Purchased From the CE Office<sup>1</sup>

SESSION NUMBER	DATE	TOPIC	HANDOUT READING PRIOR TO	CASE HISTORY PRIOR TO	QUIZ NUMBER DURING
1	8/29	Introductions, Professional Issues, and Ethics: "Incident at Morales "	1-41	1-5	N/A
2	9/12	Ethics: Good Guys Finish Last	42-71	6-10	1 (20)
3	9/19	Ethics: Failures, Standard of Care, Hyatt Slides	72-95	11-15	2 (10)
4	9/26	Ethics, Introduction To Ethics	96-126	16-20	3 (10)
5	10/03	Ethics, Truестell Affair	127	21-25	4 (10)
6	10/10	Ethics, Gilbane Gold	128-139	26-30	5 (10)
7	10/17	Ethics, Testing Water, Essay Assignment, and Effective Writing	140-181	31-35	6 (10)
8	10/24	The Law, and Law of Contracts	182-190	36-40	7 (10)
9	10/31	Tort Law, Professional Liability, and Essay Submitted	191-208	N/A	8 (10)
10	11/07 <sup>2</sup>	Cost of Litigation, ADR, Loss Prevention	209-240	N/A	9 (10)
11	11/14	Dispute Resolution Workshop, Week 1	241-246	N/A	N/A
12	11/21	Dispute Resolution Workshop, Week 2			
13	11/28	CRW Review, Jobsite Safety			10 (20) <sup>3</sup>
14	12/05	Wrap-Up			

<sup>1</sup> All students should pick up their handout package prior to the first scheduled class meeting and review these pages prior to class.

<sup>2</sup> On Tuesday evening, November 8, 2011, CE-401 has a Common Exam period scheduled for 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This evening session will be necessary only if circumstances force us to miss a class period prior to November 8, 2011. I will announce a final decision on the November 8 evening session no later than class on November 7. If this session is necessary, all students must attend this evening to receive credit for attendance for the missed class.

<sup>3</sup> The final quiz will cover the entire course.