

Assessment Progress Report

Calendar Year 2011

Construction Management

April 2012

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock Construction Management Department conducted several assessment activities and reviews during 2011. The department conducted surveys of Alumni and Graduating Seniors in addition to surveys about the department's online courses and class offering times. Additional assessment information was obtained from the results of the scores earned by graduating Seniors from the Associate Constructor (AC) Level 1 Examination.

This report is divided into two sections. Second one is a summary of the data collected and second two includes actions taken by the department as a result of the data collected.

1. Review of Assessment Data Collection Activities

a. A **Senior Student Exit Survey** is conducted during the Spring and Fall semesters to solicit information from the graduates their opinion of the program. 14 students completed the survey.

i. One hundred percent of the respondents stated that they would choose Construction Management as their major if they could do it over again. Thirty Six (36) percent indicated that they were Very Satisfied with their undergraduate education and the remaining sixty-four percent stated they were satisfied. Ninety three percent of the individuals that replied that they Strongly Agree that the CNMG course were well taught and the remaining seven percent Agreed with the statement. Twenty one percent of the respondents Strongly Agreed that the program well prepared them for employment in the construction industry will 71% Agreed and 7% was Not Sure.

ii. Sixty-four percent of the respondents had secured a job for after graduation at the time of the survey. The indicated salary ranges were:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Less than \$40,000 | 33% |
| 2. Between \$40,000 and \$50,000 | 44% |
| 3. Between \$50,000 and \$60,000 | 22% |

In addition the graduate reported that they were also offered health insurance (78%), retirement accounts (67%), a vehicle (22%), a vehicle allowance (11%), and a travel allowance (44%).

- iii. The graduates' responses to "What is good about the major that should not be changed" included:
 - 1. Everything was great I believe that nothing needs to be changed with the program. I however do think we need new computers and printers for the CNMG lab.
 - 2. The professors are knowledgeable about the courses in which they taught.
 - 3. The hands on experiences learned.
 - 4. The helpfulness of the staff and their ability to relate to the career field. They are all so down to earth, caring, and friendly. They genuinely make you feel like your family and that they care about your education.

- iv. In response to the statement: "I felt prepared for the CPC Exam by the previous courses that I took." The graduates answered:

1. Strongly Agree	7 %
2. Agree	43%
3. Not Sure	43%
4. Disagree	7 %

- v. The following table how the graduates felt that the CNMG courses meet their expectations. Due to changes in the curriculum the graduates may have not taken all of these courses.

	Exceeded my expectations	Meet my expectations	Average	Less than average	Poor	I did not take this course
CNMG 1301 The Construction Industry	7.1%	35.7%	7.1%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%
CNMG 1305 Drawings and Specifications	21.4%	42.9%	28.6%	0.0%	0.0%	7.1%
CNMG 2218 Building Information Modeling	7.1%	28.6%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%
CNMG 2310 Methods & Materials I	28.6%	57.1%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CNMG 2312 Methods & Materials II	21.4%	64.3%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CNMG 2313 Construction Materials	7.1%	14.3%	21.4%	0.0%	0.0%	57.1%
CNMG 2314 Service Systems of Buildings	14.3%	57.1%	21.4%	0.0%	7.1%	0.0%
CNMG 2316 Construction Surveying	57.1%	28.6%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CNMG 2323 Construction Administration	7.1%	64.3%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3% (2)
CNMG 3195 Community Service Projects	7.1%	28.6%	21.4%	0.0%	0.0%	42.9%
CNMG 3321 Structural Steel Construction	28.6%	42.9%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3% (2)
CNMG 3322 Concrete Construction	42.9%	35.7%	7.1%	0.0%	7.1%	7.1%
CNMG 3327 Field Operations	57.1%	28.6%	7.1%	0.0%	0.0%	7.1%
CNMG 3333 Statics and Strength of Materials	14.3%	64.3%	14.3%	0.0%	7.1%	0.0%
CNMG 3339 Bid Process	21.4%	50.0%	14.3%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%
CNMG 3347 Soils and Foundations	28.6%	50.0%	21.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CNMG 4218 Advanced BIM	0.0%	35.7%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%
CNMG 4310 Construction Financial Management	0.0%	14.3%	21.4%	0.0%	0.0%	64.3%
CNMG 4311 Estimating	21.4%	21.4%	21.4%	21.4%	14.3%	0.0%
CNMG 4329 Construction Planning and Scheduling	7.1%	28.6%	42.9%	21.4%	0.0%	0.0%
CNMG 4334 Construction Contracts and Law	42.9%	42.9%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CNMG 4342 Construction Safety	50.0%	35.7%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CNMG 4322 Building Structure Design	28.6%	35.7%	21.4%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%
CNMG 4345 Construction Management	14.3%	28.6%	14.3%	0.0%	7.1%	35.7%
CNMG 4399 Heavy Civil	0.0%	28.6%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	57.1%
CNMG 4399 Green Construction	14.3%	42.9%	14.3%	7.1%	0.0%	21.4%

vi. In response to the statement; “I learned a lot from course(s) that I took from...” the following was recorded.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Applicable
Dr. Akhnoukh	14.30%	50.00%	14.30%	7.10%	7.10%	7.10%
Mr. Bank	0.00%	28.60%	14.30%	0.00%	0.00%	57.10%
Dr. Blacklock	42.90%	50.00%	0.00%	7.10%	0.00%	0.00%
Ms. Melanie Blacklock	0.00%	25.00%	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%
Mr. Blackmon	7.10%	21.40%	14.30%	0.00%	0.00%	57.10%
Mr. Carr	12.50%	87.50%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Mr. Gram	14.30%	28.60%	7.10%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%
Mr. Phillips	14.30%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	35.70%
Mr. Ray	30.80%	46.20%	0.00%	7.10%	0.00%	15.40%
Mr. Sanders	7.10%	35.70%	21.40%	0.00%	0.00%	35.70%
Dr. Shi	0.00%	35.70%	7.10%	28.60%	28.60%	0.00%
Mr. Squires	14.30%	50.00%	21.40%	0.00%	0.00%	14.30%
Mr. Tinnel	64.30%	35.70%	7.10%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Mr. Tramel	71.40%	28.60%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Mr. Woodard	85.70%	14.30%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Dr. Xie	21.40%	35.70%	14.30%	14.30%	0.00%	14.30%

- b. During the fall semester a survey was distributed to all of the programs **Alumni** using email address collected by the department. The main goal of this survey was to obtain current contact information from our alumni but some information was collected to determine if and how the alumni are involved in the construction industry. 27 responses were received. This was affected by inaccurate information contained in the email list thus did not reach all of the department's graduates. The email announcing the survey encouraged alumni

to share the link to the survey with other graduates that they knew. Also, returned emails were used to eliminate incorrect contact information.

i. In response to the current industry were Alumni are working the following responses were received:

1. Commercial	59%
2. Heavy Civil	15%
3. Subcontractor	11%
4. Vendor/Supplier	7%
5. Real Estate	4%
6. Insurance and Bonding	4%

ii. In response to their current position the following information was received:

1. Entry Level	30%
2. Mid-Level	37%
3. Senior Level	19%
4. Executive Level	7%
5. Chief Executive	7%

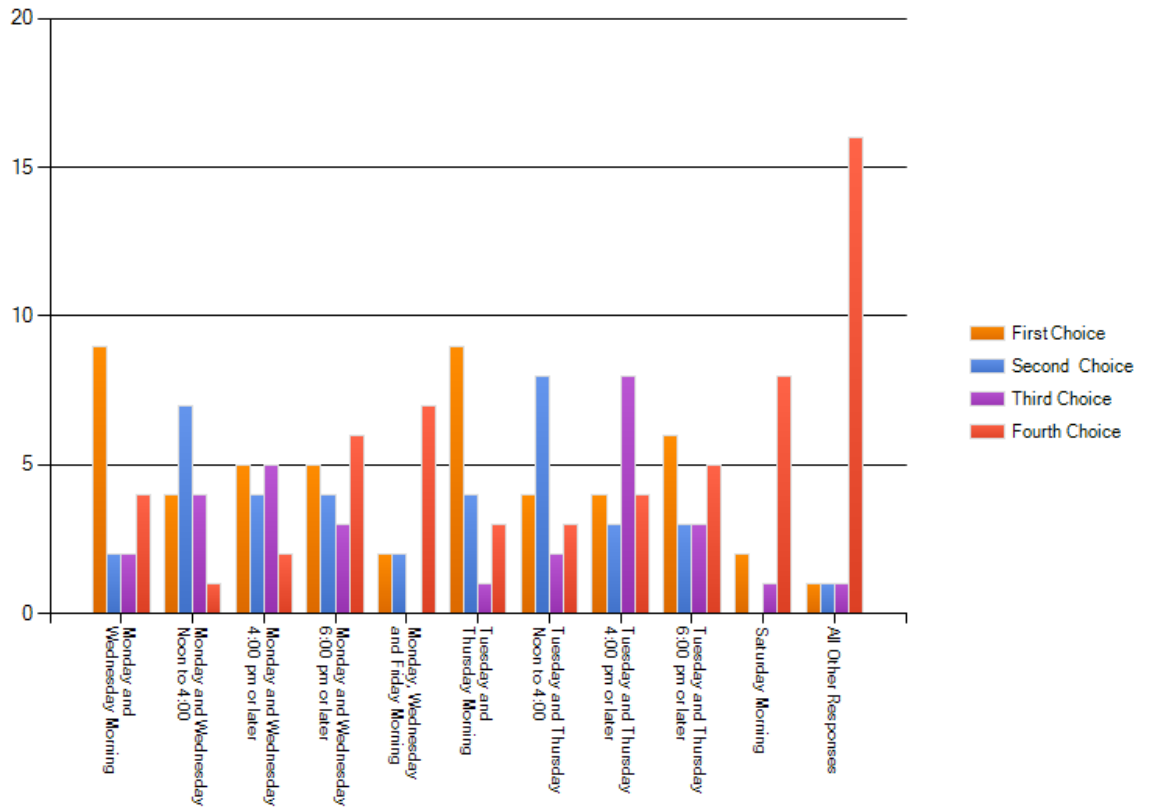
c. Another survey was also conducted to assess the student's opinion of the **Online Course Offerings** of the department. 28 students completed the instrument.

i. 75% of the respondents had taken an online course and 78% indicated that the department should add more online courses. In regard to the overall quality of the department's online courses the following:

1. Excellent	14%
2. Good	32%
3. Average	32%
4. Below Average	0%
5. A waste of time	4%

d. During the Fall semester 28 students completed a survey about Class Offering Times. The results are summarized in the following chart. The chart does not show a need for changing from the current offering of courses on a Monday – Wednesday or a Tuesday – Thursday offering. The survey did indicate a slight preference for morning classes.

What time of day would you prefer to have CNMG AND CNEG classes?



e. All graduates are required to take and score a minimum score of 60% on the Associate Constructor (AC) Level 1 Examination offered by the American Institute of Constructors and the Constructor Certification Commission. The Associate Constructor Examination is a national taken by students close to graduating from a Construction Management Bachelors Degree program. Many Construction Management programs utilize this examination as a part of their assessment program.

i. The results of the 2011 exam are show in the table below.

Area	April 2011				November 2011					
	UALR Average		National Average		Minimum Acceptable	UALR Average		National Average		Minimum Acceptable
Communication Skills	11.37		10.68		12	10.28		9.57		11
Engineering Concepts	19.44		18.91		19	19.72		18.81		19
Management Concepts	8.93		9.54		9	8.76		9.26		8
Materials, Methods, and Plan Reading	23.56		22.88		22	19.44		20.24		21
Bidding and Estimating	34.89		35.46		36	35.72		35.15		36
Budgeting, Costs, and Cost Control	20.67		21.74		21	21.72		22.26		22
Planning, Scheduling, and Control	34.44		35.34		34	33.60		35.64		35
Construction Safety	16.74		15.81		15	15.36		15.45		15
Surveying and Project Layout	4.22		4.52		4	4.32		4.28		4
Project Administration	38.63		39.49		39	40.40		39.30		39
Students taking	21		766			25		728		
Passing	10	48%	467	61%		11	44%	394	54%	
Not passing	11	52%	299	39%		14	56%	334	46%	

2. Actions taken by the department

- a. In response to data collected from the **Senior Exit Survey** the following actions have occurred or are being considered by the Construction Management Department.
 - i. The comments reinforce the need for the “hand on” Construction Methods I and II class that were introduced during the Fall 2011

semester. These classes utilize laboratory experiences to reinforce the material taught in Construct Materials and Service Systems of Buildings.

- ii. Additionally, the survey verifies the need for revisions to the Capstone Courses to provide additional support for the Associate Constructor (AC) Level 1 Examination. The addition of CNMG 4145 Professional Constructor that reviews content related to the examination to the curriculum was implemented for the Fall 2011 semester.
 - iii. From information from the questions “I learned a lot from course(s) that I took from...” and **Student Evaluation of Faculty** conducted at the end of each class some changes were made to some faculty assignments.
- b. In response to data collected from the **Senior Exit Survey** and the results from the **Associate Constructor (AC) Level 1 Examination** the following actions have occurred or are being considered by the Construction Management Department.
- i. Modifications to the method in which the Bid Process and Estimating courses are taught are being implemented. Classroom activities will utilize the plans and specifications for the same projects in both of these courses and will also be utilized for the planning and scheduling courses. In prior course the instructors based project on differing construction documents. Having the same construction documents for all three courses will allow the students to deeply explore each project.
 - c. The scores in the Business Management of the **Associate Constructor (AC) Level 1 Examination** have continued to be low. The Department has added MGMT 4372 Construction Business Management to the curriculum to provide additional content in this area.
- d. The information retrieved by the **Alumni Survey** verified that the department should continue to maintain its emphasis on commercial construction.
- e. The Department is considering increasing the number of online courses it offers.