Instructor  
Firas Shalabi, Ph.D.,  
Bobby Chain Technology Center (TEC) 247  
118 College Drive, Hattiesburg, MS 39406  
F.shalabi@usm.edu  
Phone: 601.266.5185

Office Hours  
- Online students may contact the professor via email (see instructions below).  
- On-campus students may reach the professor via email in addition to scheduling an appointment during the following times
  
  Tuesdays and Thursdays: 8:00 am – 11:00 am
  
  - If the previous times do not suit the student’s schedule, the student may contact the professor to schedule an appointment in a different time.

Drop Date  
**September 6, 2018** is the last day to drop full-term classes and receive 100% financial credit.  
**November 1, 2018** is the last day to withdraw from the University and receive a grade of W for full-term courses. *(The information can be accessed at https://www.usm.edu/registrar/fall-2017-academic-calendars)*

Prerequisite  
None.

Credit Hours  
3 hours

Course Description  
The course introduces various aspects associated with the construction industry and enables students to understand different functions related to managing a construction company. The course will cover Analysis and evaluation of social, cultural, and political factors and their influence on the evolution of architectural design.
Course Overview
The course provides an introductory understanding of various roles, players, and disciplines associated with the building industry. Certain topics from the Design and Construction industry will be introduced in this course, which will provide the students with a better understanding of the interactions between the different disciplines within the Design and Construction industry. Introduced concepts will provide a better understanding towards different professions contributing to the built environment.

Student Learning Outcomes
American Council of Construction Education (ACCE) Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):

#12. Understand different methods of project delivery and the roles and responsibilities of all constituencies involved in the design and construction process (ACCE SLO #12)

Course Objectives
Upon completion of this course, the students shall be able to:
1) Understand the possible roles one can pursue in the construction and design professions
2) Understand the diverse sectors that cooperate to complete a construction project
3) Understand the personal and monetary rewards gained by employment in the construction industry
4) Have an awareness of the nature and value of integrated design practices
5) Understand the social, political, and physical influences affecting historical change in design and construction of the built environment
6) Students understand significant movements, tradition, and related theories in architecture.

Instructional Strategies
The course aims at establishing critical thinking and intellectual engagement among the participants. Canvas discussions, supplemental readings, class slides, in class activities, and class videos will be the main methods used to enhance the critical thinking skills of the students.

Course Communication
- The primary mode of communication will be via Classes for on campus students and Recorded class lectures for Online Students. Students are required and expected to watch class videos. Many of the class questions will be asked orally in the video and Online students will be required to respond

Following protocols are established for communication with the professor and any email not complying with the following protocols shall not be responded to:
1) All emails shall be sent from a USM email address.
2) All questions Must be filled in the RFI form Posted on Canvas and send it to the professor via Email
3) All online students’ emails should have a subject that starts with “BCT174_ONL_Subject.”
4) All on-campus students’ emails should have a subject that starts with “BCT174_CMPS_Subject.” Or ACT321_CMPS_Subject
5) Please provide the professor with 72 hours of response time, for all emails.

BCT 174 / ACT 321, Fall 2018

Dr. Firas Shalabi
6) If no response is received from the professor after the first 72 hours, the student shall email a reminder. Professor realizes that things happen in real life and is more than willing to work with the students. The student should report any event that affects their performance to the professor, via an email. Also, Professor also recommends that students make use of academic resources available on campus to complete the assignments. The information about the available academic resources can be accessed at [http://www.usm.edu/arts-letters/now/student-resources/academic-resources.html](http://www.usm.edu/arts-letters/now/student-resources/academic-resources.html)

7) Emails should be professional; this means that they follow the stated above subject line, addressed professionally to the instructor as Dr. Shalabi, signed, and follow the common respect and politeness rules.

8) Any email that does not comply with the rules specified in point 6 will not receive a response.

9) Do NOT misspell the professor's name.

10) Do not start your email with phrases like Hey professor or Hi.

**Required Text(s) and Readings**
ISBN-10: 1588743470

Additional supplementary readings shall be posted on Canvas.

**Technology Requirements**

- Every student is required to bring a laptop to the class.
- Access to a scanner OR a smartphone app that scans and converts to PDF
- The major requirement for this course is proficiency in web browsing and Microsoft Office Suite (Microsoft Office Word, Microsoft Office PowerPoint, and Microsoft Office Excel).

**Class Procedures and Requirements**

1. The class will be taught through face to face lectures and a series of videos uploaded on Canvas. Additional reading material shall be posted on Canvas. It is highly recommended that students review the additional materials and class slides.

2. **No food or Drinks are allowed in the classroom**

3. No grade changes are allowed in the course unless there is an error on the part of the professor. It is the duty of the student to clarify the aims and objectives of the assignment by meeting or emailing the professor in advance.

4. Students will be tested on their understanding of the course using two exams. In addition, quizzes will be used. It is the responsibility of online students to view class videos regularly and review the material up to that point. Details about the material covered on each test can be located on the class schedule.
5. It is the responsibility of the students to attend the class and regularly review course materials (slides, tests, discussions, and others) uploaded on the Canvas.

6. The student is expected to review regularly any videos uploaded and actively participate in the discussion (via Canvas). Class participation via Canvas discussion is highly recommended, and the professor expects the students to be actively involved. Active participation in Canvas Discussions and review of videos shall count towards the class participation grade.

7. The class will follow the Flipped classroom instructional technology. Therefore, the Students are required to read the assigned materials from the text book before the lecture, and 30% of the weekly quiz questions will be covered in the following lecture.

**Evaluation Criteria**
The following percentages are with respect to the total grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>points</th>
<th>Percentage of Overall Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>300 -- 30 each</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm (10-04-2018)</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (12-04-2018)</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus quizzes</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>900-1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>800-899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>700-799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>600-699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Less than 600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Late Assignments or Projects**

*Late assignments and quizzes will not be accepted.* It is the responsibility of the student to submit the assignment on time, and failure to do so can severely affect grades.

**Exam proctoring:**

The Midterm and Final Exams are to be proctored. Dr. Shalabi will proctor a session for each exam for the Face-to-face students. The instructor and the students enrolled in the course both have responsibilities to ensure that this process is successful. Be sure to read all instructions about your responsibilities related to fees, forms, and follow-up. The exam is password protected and only your verified proctor will be issued the password. The window to take the exam aligns with the University official schedule for taking the final exam for the course.

Please note that you will be given the following amount of time to take the exam:
For online students:
- **Midterm Exam**: Opens: 12:01 am CST on 10-04-2018. **Closes**: 11:59 pm CST on 10-04-2018 (24-hour window)
- **Final Exam**: Opens: 12:01 am CST on 12-04-2018. **Closes**: 11:59 pm CST on 12-04-2018 (24-hour window)

For Face to Face students:
- Midterm Exam: Class time on 10-04-2018 (bring your laptop)
- Final Exam: According to the university schedule, 12-04-2018 @ 12:30 pm in the class room. (Please Bring your laptop)

**Please note that the final exam must be attempted and completed by both Online and on-campus students at the same time. If you are an online student, please arrange your time accordingly and early in the semester to take the exam in the specified time above.**

For Online students, and those on-campus who cannot attend the proctored session please contact the Office of Online Learning on https://online-learning.usm.edu/ for the rules and accommodations and see what examination centers are accepted. you MUST complete an application to proctor and secure someone else to proctor your exam. https://online-learning.usm.edu/proctoring/.

For Online Students, you will take your tests remotely and they will be proctored.
- You have the option to setup a face to face proctor by going to https://online-learning.usm.edu/proctoring/
  OR
- You can be proctored by a service called Examity®. Here is the Student Quick-Guide on how to use Examity®. Please log in as soon as possible to set up your profile. You will not be able to schedule exams until your profile is complete.

Examity® system requirements are:

- Desktop computer or laptop (not tablet)
- Webcam and microphone (built-in or external) – test your webcam at www.testmycam.com
- Connection to network with sufficient internet speed: at least 2 Mbps download speed and 2 Mbps upload – test internet speed at www.speedtest.net
- Operating systems: Windows XP or newer, Mac OS X 10.8 (Mountain Lion) – or newer
- Browser with pop-up blocker disabled: Google Chrome v39 or later, Mozilla Firefox v34 or later, Internet Explorer v8 or later, Microsoft Edge, Apple Safari v6 or later

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Examity’s technical support team 24/7 via email at support@examity.com or phone at (855)-392-6489.

**Grading Scale**
- 90 to 100 A – Excellent Work: Goes Beyond the requirements of the subject
Criteria: Advance understanding of the subject, thoughtful analysis of the problem, clear communication of ideas, depth of understanding in connecting theory to practice, provocative, scholarly treatment of the subject, and creative/imaginative connections or examples

- **80 to 89 B – Good Work: Fully achieves the requirements of the subject**
  Criteria: Knowledge and depth of understanding of the subject, clear communication of ideas, examines the implications of theory to practice, analysis of the problem, and implementation of solutions.

- **70 to 79 C – Average Work: Substantially completes the requirements of the subject**
  Criteria: Knowledge of the subject, adequately communicates ideas but lacks insight, implications drawn are limited in scope and not connected, not attempt to go beyond the minimum requirements of the subject.

- **60 to 69 D – Inferior Work: Inadequate attempt in completing the requirements**
  Criteria: Limited knowledge of the subject, inadequate communication of ideas, completes less than minimum requirements of the subject.

- **0 to 59 F – Failure: Noncompliance with basic requirements of the class**
  Criteria: Blatant disregard for requirements.

**Academic Honesty**

All students at the University of Southern Mississippi are expected to demonstrate the highest levels of academic integrity in all that they do. Forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to):

- Cheating (including copying from others’ work)
- Plagiarism (representing another person’s words or ideas as your own; failure to properly cite the source of your information, argument, or concepts)
- Falsification of documents
- Disclosure of test or other assignment content to another student
- Submission of the same paper or other assignment to more than one class without the explicit approval of all faculty members involved
- Unauthorized academic collaboration with others
- Conspiracy to engage in academic misconduct

Engaging in any of these behaviors or supporting others who do so will result in academic penalties and/or other sanctions. If a faculty member determines that a student has violated our Academic Integrity Policy, sanctions ranging from resubmission of work to course failure may occur, including the possibility of receiving a grade of “XF” for the course, which will be on the student’s transcript with the notation “Failure due to academic misconduct.” For more details, please see the University’s Academic Integrity Policy: https://www.usm.edu/institutional-policies/policy-acaf-pro-012 Note that repeated acts of academic misconduct will lead to expulsion from the University.

**Academic Support Resources**

Please see our Student Success Website: http://www.usm.edu/success for information on where you can find tutoring and other academic assistance, as well as the location of key resources on campus.

If a student believes that they have a disability which is covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and makes them eligible to receive classroom or housing accommodations, they should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information regarding the registration
process. Disabilities covered by the ADA may include but are not limited to ADHD, learning disabilities, psychiatric disabilities, physical disabilities, chronic health disorders, temporary illnesses or injuries and pregnancies. Students should contact ODA if they are not certain whether their documented medical condition qualifies for ODA services. Students are only required to disclose their disability to the Office for Disability Accommodations. All information submitted to ODA by the student is held with strict confidentiality.

**Contact information:**
The University of Southern Mississippi
Office for Disability Accommodations
118 College Drive # 8586
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001
Voice Telephone: 601.266.5024 or 228.214.3302 Fax: 601.266.6035
Individuals with hearing impairments should contact ODA using the Mississippi Relay Service at 1.800.582.2233 (TTY) or email ODA at oda@usm.edu.

**Mental Well-Being Statement**
USM recognizes that students sometimes experience challenges that make learning difficult. If you find that life stressors such as anxiety, depression, relationship problems, difficulty concentrating, alcohol/drug problems, or other stressful experiences are interfering with your academic or personal success, consider contacting Student Counseling Services on campus at 601-266-4829. More information is also available at https://www.usm.edu/student-counseling-services. All students are eligible for free, confidential individual or group counseling services. In the event of emergency, please call 911 or contact the counselor on call at 601-606-HELP (4357).

**Nondiscrimination Statement:**
The University of Southern Mississippi offers to all persons equal access to educational, programmatic and employment opportunities without regard to age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, pregnancy, gender identity, genetic information, religion, race, color, national origin, and/or veteran status pursuant to applicable state and federal law.

**Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting**
As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create and maintain a safe learning environment on our campus. I also have a mandatory reporting responsibility related to my role as a faculty member. I am required to share information regarding sexual misconduct or information about a crime that may have occurred on USM’s campus with certain University officials responsible for the investigation and remediation of sexual misconduct. The information will remain private and will only be shared with those officials necessary to resolve the matter. If you would like to speak in confidence, resources available to students include Confidential Advisors with the Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention, the Counseling Center, Student Health Services, and Clergy. More information on these resources and University Policies is available at https://www.usm.edu/sexual-misconduct.

**Course partners:**
1) Industry Partner: Brian Vernado, DBIA.
2) Academic Partner: Dr. Beth Hartmann

*The professor reserves the right to change the syllabus. The class will be notified when such scenario occurs.*

**BCT 174 / ACT 321 Class schedule Fall 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Ch.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>08/29</td>
<td>Course / Construction Introduction</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>09/04</td>
<td>The evo. of Civilization and culture</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09/06</td>
<td>The evo. of Civilization and culture</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>09/11</td>
<td>Profile of “the Builder”</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09/13</td>
<td>Profile of “the Builder”</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>09/18</td>
<td>Learning from the Built Environment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09/20</td>
<td>Learning from the Built Environment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>09/25</td>
<td>John Garrison (Garrison Steel)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09/27</td>
<td>Learning from Failures</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10/02</td>
<td>Structural Forces</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10/04</td>
<td>EXAM 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Will be open for 24 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10/09</td>
<td>Career Fair</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>Fall break (No Class)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>10/16</td>
<td>Structural Forces</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10/18</td>
<td>Controlling the Interior Environment</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10/23</td>
<td>Controlling the Interior Environment</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10/25</td>
<td>Construction Workers</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10/30</td>
<td>The Pyramids</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11/01</td>
<td>Benjamin Crosby (Yates Construction)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>11/06</td>
<td>The Pyramids</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11/08</td>
<td>Cathedrals</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>11/13</td>
<td>Cathedrals</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11/15</td>
<td>Globalization and Construction Today</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>11/20</td>
<td>Online Quiz</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11/22</td>
<td>Thanksgiving break (No Class)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>11/27</td>
<td>Globalization and Construction Today</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11/29</td>
<td>TBA**</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>12/04</td>
<td>Final EXAM</td>
<td>12:30 pm – 2:30 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* All quizzes are due at 11:30 of the date shown on the schedule.

**This slot is reserved for guest speakers; their coming date will be determined later.
**Note:** The instructor reserves the right to change the schedule of this course as appropriate to course productivity.

**List of Holidays**

- Labor Day, September 3rd
- Fall Break, October 11th & 12th
- Thanksgiving, November 21st – 23rd