# CM Senior Survey - Spring 2017

21 Responses

# Will you have permanent employment after graduation?

Yes	20
No	1

# **Employer:**

International Management Company, LLC
FaverGray
CCS
Danis Construction
A. Harold and Associates, LLC or Orion Marine Group
The Stellar Group
Superior Construction Company
Hubbard Construction
AJAX Construction
Batson-Cook
Richmond American Homes
Marand builders
Charles Perry Partners Inc. (CPPI)
Sauer Inc.

## **Position Title**

Assistant Project Manager	
Assistant Superintendent	
Project Manager	
Project Engineer	
Field Engineer	
Construction Engineer	
Estimator Assistant	

# Where will you be located?

Jacksonville, FL	
Tampa, FL	
Jacksonville, FL or Tampa, FL	
Yuma, Arizona	
Lake Mary, FL	
Jacksonville Beach, FL	
Orlando, Florida	
Jacksonville, Houston (field assignment)	

# Average Starting Salary?

\$57,767

# Do you plan on continuing your education to a Masters Degree?

Definitely yes	0
Probably yes	8
Probably not	6
Definitely not	7

# If so, what kind of degree will you be pursuing?

MBA	5
MS in Construction	5
MS in Engineering	0
Other	0

# Within how many years would you be looking to start a Master program?

0-1 years	4
2-3	4
4-5	5
6 or more	0

When considering Advising, please evaluate each statement on a scale from 1-10 where 10 is the highest and 1 is the lowest AND 0 is not applicable (did not apply):

Question	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Advice in developing my program of study was helpful	38%	29%	14%	0%	5%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Advice in selecting courses to take each term was helpful	43%	29%	14%	5%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Advice in career preparation was helpful	43%	33%	5%	5%	0%	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%
I sought advice from my Advisor often	33%	19%	14%	0%	19%	5%	5%	0%	5%	0%	0%
I sought advice from CM faculty members often	48%	14%	14%	0%	5%	10%	5%	0%	5%	0%	0%
I spoke with CM faculty members concerning the profession often	43%	10%	19%	5%	10%	5%	5%	0%	5%	0%	0%

## Do you have any suggestions to improve the advising process?

Maybe take survey of what classes should be offered the following semesters

More advisors. Break down by last names and tend to just those names

Give the advisor a raise.

Have a more structured path and make sure classes go by semester to the end.

Nope he is a great advisor.

When considering the Facilities, please evaluate each statement on a scale from 1-10 where 10 is the highest and 1 is the lowest AND 0 is not applicable (did not apply):

Question	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
The CM computing facilities were sufficient	24%	10%	24%	19%	5%	0%	14%	5%	0%	0%	0%
Equipment for CM classes were sufficient	19%	29%	10%	24%	0%	5%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%
The classrooms were sufficient	33%	19%	19%	15%	0%	10%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%
The library was sufficient	48%	19%	14%	14%	0%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%

# Do you have any suggestions to improve the CM facilities?

Not the best software used in my opinion and there was really no "Construction" facility we could utilize

Get better computers for the labs, and more up to date construction scheduling, estimating programs

Student Lounge for CM only

We didn't have any materials for our materials class lab, the computer program versions we had didn't allow us to fully learn the programs.

More Lab hours.

Certain computer programs were only provided in the lab rooms which were frequently closed or occupied by classes which made it difficult to access them.

Keeping the computer lab in building 50 open, even on the weekends.

The software is a little outdated in the computer labs.

Would be nice if a program such as BlueBeam was incorporated into the computer labs. I know many companies are heading towards using BlueBeam now and it would be helpful for future students to learn about it. Also it would be helpful to be able to use the program outside of the class. I love using BlueBeam and there were many times where I could have used it for various school work but it wasnt available to me.

They were good.

Construction and project management software could be updated and improved. Revit, BIM and other virtual construction technologies would be beneficial to students graduating in the near future. The computer labs could definitely use an update.

## Did you take advantage of any of the following student support programs?

Question	Yes	No	Never Heard of It
ABC Student Club	29%	71%	0%
ABC Student Competition	0%	100%	0%
DBIA Student Club	8%	90%	5%
NAHB Student Club	48%	52%	0%
NAHB Student Competition	14%	86%	0%
Employment Showcase	95%	8%	0%
Hard Hat Banquet	81%	19%	0%

When considering the student support programs, please evaluate each of the student support programs on a scale from 1-10 where 10 is the highest and 1 is the lowest AND 0 is not applicable (did not apply):

Question	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
ABC Student Club	20%	20%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	0%	5%	0%	30%
ABC Student Competition	10%	15%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	0%	5%	40%
DBIA Student Club	10%	15%	5%	5%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	10%	45%
NAHB Student Club	20%	20%	10%	5%	5%	10%	0%	5%	0%	5%	20%
NAHB Student Competition	20%	15%	5%	10%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	5%	35%
<b>Employment Showcase</b>	71%	19%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%
Hard Hat Banquet	62%	14%	10%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%

## Any suggestions to improve the student support programs?

There's a lot of good ideas, but no one ever follows through... Maybe set dates for students to get clubs together by

Clubs need better structure and need to actually meet the anticipated goals. Never joined ABC because a simple project is still not accomplished yet

It's good.

more marketing so students know about these

Club meetings always seemed to conflict with class time.

When considering the CM Curriculum, please evaluate the contents of each course on a scale from 1-10 where 10 is the highest and 1 is the lowest AND 0 is not applicable (did not take):

Question	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
BCN1210C Construction Materials	24%	14%	14%	14%	5%	10%	5%	5%	0%	0%	10%
BCN1251 Construction Drawing	24%	10%	10%	24%	5%	10%	5%	0%	5%	0%	10%
BCN2405 Intro to Structures	19%	19%	24%	5%	5%	0%	10%	5%	0%	5%	10%
BCN3012 History of Construction	14%	10%	5%	0%	5%	10%	5%	0%	0%	0%	52%
BCN3223 Soils & Foundations	29%	14%	14%	14%	5%	10%	10%	5%	0%	0%	0%
BCN3224 Superstructures/Techniques	24%	19%	19%	0%	10%	10%	10%	5%	00%	0%	5%
BCN3611C Construction Cost Estimating	38%	14%	33%	5%	5%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BCN3762 Construction Design & Codes	10%	5%	5%	10%	10%	33%	5%	0%	5%	19%	0%
BCN3782 Intro to Const Computing	20%	10%	15%	20%	5%	15%	5%	5%	5%	0%	0%
BCN2280 Survey & Construction Layout	29%	19%	24%	14%	5%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%	5%
BCN4475 Structural Systems	24%	19%	24%	10%	14%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BCN4591C Mech & Electrical Systems	33%	10%	38%	5%	5%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BCN4587C Green Construction	24%	10%	24%	10%	5%	5%	14%	0%	0%	0%	10%
BCN4612 Adv Construction Estimating	24%	14%	19%	19%	14%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BCN4708 Construction Docs & Contracts	19%	10%	14%	19%	14%	14%	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BCN4709 Const Project Mgmnt Capstone	38%	19%	19%	10%	5%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BCN4720 Construction Scheduling	52%	14%	14%	5%	0%	10%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%
BCN4730 Construction Safety	24%	10%	29%	0%	10%	14%	10%	5%	0%	0%	0%
BCN4751C Housing & Land Development	19%	5%	14%	5%	10%	10%	5%	0%	0%	10%	24%
BCN4753 Construction Admin & Econ	14%	10%	24%	14%	14%	10%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BCN4759 Const Finance & Cost Controls	14%	14%	24%	10%	14%	10%	10%	0%	0%	0%	5%
BCN4870C Heavy Civil Construction	10%	5%	0%	0%	5%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%	67%
BCN4871C Commercial Construction	10%	10%	0.%	0%	5%	10%	5%	0%	0%	0%	62%
BCN4944 Construction Mgmnt Internship	38%	24%	14%	10%	0%	10%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BCN4956 Study Abroad	10%	0%	10%	0%	0%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%	67%
BCN4990 Special Topics	10%	0%	5%	5%	0%	10%	5%	0%	0%	0%	67%

For any courses above that you scored 3-1, please note what you would recommend to enhance the course.

Less Engineering and more CM related

New professors

#### Change times

Need more knowledgeable professors and a different curriculum that will prepare students for the real world. A book only does so much. Needs to be more hands on and allowing students to get used to materials, techniques, systems, etc. versus quickly go over them.

Construction Drawings.. Teach more applicable knowledge to navigating a set of construction drawings as a whole.

#### Better teachers

Codes was the only class I felt I got absolutely nothing out of. I would change the set up, get rid of the online lectures and take a different approach to the material.

Construction computing is based on obsolete software and the primary method of teaching is YouTube. It is likely that this class could have been more beneficial as an independent study.

## List courses that were most beneficial to you and explain why.

#### More Relevant Material

Cost and finance- relates heavily to CM

Mechanical and electrical - I use it all the time at work

#### **Estimating**

Courses rated higher than a 5 I felt were worth it in material presented, professor teaching, and was able to gain knowledge from.

Estimating, It taught you what goes on behind the scenes when requesting bids from subcontractors

Internship - hands on experience.

scheduling, estimating, drawings, those three are essential to know

Scheduling, Estimating, Structures

Scheduling, Estimating, Drawings because they teach the basics that construction students need to learn.

Estimating, techniques - saw many construction sites, drawing - helped with reading plans, scheduling - able to understand how to use popular industry program, mechanical/electrical systems - more in depth understanding on how some of the systems worked

scheduling- practical approach

BCN 2591C Mechanical and Electrical. I learned a lot about wiring and plumbing, which is very applicable to real life situations.

All the class I rated a 10 were the ones I felt I learned a lot from. Most of the professors used real world experience to help teach.

Scheduling, Soils, Capstone, Internship: I guess I'll go through them one by one. Honestly with scheduling I just enjoyed it, I wouldn't want to schedule all day every day but I enjoy that area of setting up for a project and I

personally feel I'm pretty good at it. Soils: I felt the soils class was very interesting because many of our classes in the BCN program focus on numbers, or concepts and such but soils focused on the actual ground the structures will be built on and how to prep that soil and since that is a subject that isn't covered in any other class I feel it was very helpful to go through it, especially in the civil engineering style that I was taught the course since it was a mixed class with the civil students. Capstone: Clearly capstone is as close to the "real world" as any class I think that was very important and beneficial because of that. Internship: I am of the belief that although there are many wonderful classes in the program, the construction industry is an area that you learn so much more at work then you ever will in a classroom. Having an internship requirement is a wonderful thing and the fact that internships are sent out to students as young as freshman is huge because if a freshman can run through 4 different internships at their time it will be incredibly helpful to them. Not a lot of programs in schools promote internships to freshmen but I think that since the BCN program does its fantastic since having internships is so helpful.

Scheduling, Capstone, Surveying

Schedule was one of the best classes due entirely to the professor's knowledge and expertise in the industry. Construction contracts and documents is equally as beneficial for the same reason. The adjunct is one of the most informative professors I've ever witnessed. I feel the same way about the Mech & Elec professor. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the classroom and does an incredible job of conveying it to students. Admin and Econ is another class that has been very informative due to the experience and knowledge of the professor. Construction techniques has also been extremely eye opening due to the fantastic site visits conducted by the adjunct. In general, I feel that the best classes were the ones taught by industry professionals, adjunct professors, with the exception of the Mech & Elec professor.

Internship. The best experience you can get.

## List courses that were of least value to you and why.

Designs and codes - Course was extremely boring and we should have done more site visits.

Structures- too much engineering

Codes. Material was not explained, just read off the PowerPoint

Residential didn't apply to me

Anything 4 and below fit this category. Need to have more hands on experience rather quickly go through a book.

Codes. All the teacher did was pick a random spot in the Florida building code and read directly.

Estimating - teaching how the traditional way doesn't help in place where everyone uses technologies. It's painfully slow.

Housing and land development because I want to focus on commercial.

#### Codes

Design and codes was pretty much useless as all the class consisted of was looking up specific codes in the current edition of the building codes.

all were valuable

Codes. Very boring subject to begin with, online short lectures didn't really explain much, I felt I didn't learn anything and had to guess my way through the class.

I felt that design and codes was not very helpful. Mainly because the class was taught in a way that the professor just stood in front of the class and read the code line by line. I feel this is a class that really should only be offered online.

#### soils, repeat of materials

Computing was, frankly, a bad class. The class had very little content or structure and did not even remotely achieve the learning outcomes described in the syllabus.

## What areas of the curriculum would you like to see improved or changed?

more technical information and hands on

The amount of engineering is unrealistic and unnecessary for CM students

#### Class times

Less book more actually doing. Taking site visit was super helpful and providing more labs that will use techniques and skills in construction.

A set standard across the board. Rules shouldn't vary from professors to professors.

have more resources for students inside the classrooms, maybe have another class for drawings

#### **Different Programs**

I feel like more hands on learning experiences are needed.

#### **Construction Computing**

#### More electives to choose from

Not anything major I can think of. I would completely get rid of codes or try to restructure the class.

I believe that the curriculum as a whole is fantastic. As far as changes I think that there needs to be more of a standard for the type of construction classes are focused on. I understand that it is hard to do that and enforce that but it's very weird when you go from one class that focuses on road construction, to one that focuses on housing, to commercial and so on. Yes the program doesn't have the ability right now to create different "tracks" based on what a student feels they would like to do in the industry but if that is something that could be offered in the future I think it would be helpful. Yes learning about all different areas of the industry is important but it can get confusing when teachers contradict one another.

Speech, had at least 1-2 presentations my last semester compared to 1 max a semester prior. I wish I had better presenting skills before my last semester.

I think creating a course for the student competitions is a wonderful improvement to the curriculum and will promote a better sense of responsibility and community within the program.

Courses that actually deal with the building process.

# Educational Objectives: As a result of your Construction Management education, please rate your abilities of the following on a scale from 1-10 where 10 is the highest and 1 is the lowest:

Question	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Have the ability to work with all types of people	55%	15%	25%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to think and reason logically	50%	30%	15%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to understand and solve construction problems	35%	30%	30%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to make sound economic decisions	35%	25%	30%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing	40%	35%	15%	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Are computer literate and internet capable	45%	35%	10%	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Know and uphold ethical standards of the field	50%	35%	10%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Are prepared for successful entry into the construction industry	45%	30%	10%	15%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to lead in the construction industry and the community	50%	20%	25%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

# Any comments or suggestions to enhance your skills and abilities?

This section depends more on the type of person and how interested they are in the subject.

I wish I had a better ability to read plans. Drawings is so early in the program and is very entry level.

Teach takeoff programs in estimating, or advanced estimating

More hands on experience.

# What influenced your decision to study at UNF?

Location	24%
Wanted to attend UNF	5%
CM Program	52%
Family	10%
Cost	0%
Other	10%

# Was the program at UNF what you thought it would be?

Definitely yes	43%
Probably yes	29%
Might or might not	29%
Probably not	0%
Definitely not	0%

## If you had to do it all over again would you still choose UNF?

Definitely yes	67%
Probably yes	24%
Might or might not	5%
Probably not	5%
Definitely not	0%

## If you had to do it all over again would you still choose Construction Management?

Definitely yes	81%
Probably yes	19%
Might or might not	0%
Probably not	0%
Definitely not	0%

## If you could improve one thing about the Construction Management Program, what would it be?

Better teachers but school is making changes

more night classes

Get rid of professors with low ISQ scores... It will do our students much good

More hands on work as well as more real world work

More site visits, and real world PM training

More hands on experience - have more labs, classes that are about contracts and documents or paperwork per say can be online classes.

More Hands on

make capstone presentation the very last thing that you need to do before graduating

bring more technology to the program

More site visits

Offer more classes at more times.

The Office Manager needs her own private lounge because she deserves it.

My only suggestion would be to continue to utilize adjunct professors as much as possibly within the requirements of our accreditation. As brilliant and hardworking as fulltime professors are, they easily lose sight of the students' best interest and get lost in the challenges that are unique to academia. Adjunct professors have a much better knowledge of what is happening in the construction field in real-time. This allows them to convey that information to students and help students prepare to be the next generation of construction innovators and professionals. The CM program at UNF does a fantastic job of incorporating these industry professionals into the academic experience and balancing accreditation requirements with local knowledge and experience that comes from adjunct professors.

**More Course Options** 

# Is there anything else you would like to add to the survey?

#### **SWOOP**

UNF has a great construction program.

I'd like to honestly thank everyone in the department. Every person in the department has been so helpful to me during my time here and I truly couldn't have gotten where I am as a student and couldn't have gotten my new job without the help and support of everyone.

A construction management alumni association might be a good initiative to start in the current economic climate. There are numerous young construction professionals who would like to stay involved with the program specifically much more than the university as a whole.