

Construction Management Senior Survey Fall 2019

28 responses

Which of the following BEST describes your PRIMARY status after graduation? Please select only ONE of the following categories:

Employed full time (on average 30 or more hours per week)	19
Employed part time (on average less than 30 hours per week)	0
Participating in a volunteer or service program (e.g., Peace Corps)	0
Serving in the U.S. military	0
Enrolled in a program of continuing education (ex. an MBA)	0
Seeking employment	6
Planning to continue education but not yet enrolled	0
Not seeking employment or continuing education at this time	1

Please select the category which BEST describes your employment:

Employed Permanently / Full-Time / Any other work category not listed below	19
Employed as an entrepreneur	0
Employed in a temporary/contract work assignment	1
Employed freelance	1
Employed in a postgraduate internship or fellowship	1

Employer Organization:

Whiting Turner
Miller & Falzone Landscaping
GL Homes
EUROVIA USA
Ash Brooke Construction
SeaWorld
Providence Homes
PCL
Superior Construction
Live Oak Contracting
LandSouth Construction
Stansell Properties & Development
Accelerated Contractors LLC
Perry-McCall
PCL
KHS&S Contractors
Batson-Cook Construction
Hurd Construction Management
Moss
The Haskell Company

Position Title

- Project Engineer
- Owner/ Landscaper
- Construction Management
- CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
- Estimator
- Ride Technician
- Superintendent
- Field Engineer
- Assistant Project Manager
- Assistant Superintendent
- Carpenter's Assistant/Intern
- Assistant Superintendent
- Associate Project Manager
- Assistant Project Manager I - C

Position location - city, state, and country:

- Ft Lauderdale, Fl
- South Florida
- Jacksonville, FL
- Ponte Vedra, FL
- Orlando, FL, USA
- Odessa, FL, USA
- Florida

Average Starting Salary?

\$51,332

Average first-year bonus:

\$5,562

How did you find this position?

CCEC Employer Showcase	9
UNF Job Board (Handshake / CareerLink)	2
A UNF Networking Event (Cornhole Tournament, Alumni Social, Etc.)	0
Conference or Competition (ABC, NAHB, etc.)	0
Other	12

Do you plan on continuing your education to another degree of higher education (ex. a Masters Degree)?

Definitely yes	1
Probably yes	9
Probably not	12
Definitely not	3

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

MBA	1
MS in Construction	0
MS in Engineering	0
Other	0

Name of institution:

UNF

Location of the institution - city, state, and country:

Jacksonville

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

0-1 years	1
2-3	6
4-5	2
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):

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Advice in developing my program of study was helpful	19%	12%	31%	15%	0%	12%	4%	8%	0%	0%	0%
Advice in selecting courses to take each term was helpful	19%	23%	12%	8%	12%	12%	0%	12%	4%	0%	0%
Advice in career preparation was helpful	19%	23%	15%	15%	8%	0%	8%	12%	0%	0%	0%
I sought advice from my Advisor often	19%	4%	19%	19%	0%	15%	4%	12%	0%	8%	0%
I sought advice from CM faculty members often	15%	8%	12%	31%	4%	15%	0%	8%	4%	4%	0%
I spoke with CM faculty members concerning the profession often	23%	8%	12%	15%	0%	15%	8%	12%	4%	4%	0%

Do you have any suggestions to improve the advising process?

I thought the advising was good.

No

Try to get students in the internship as early as possible.

Have a smoother class selection process

help get into required classes. some classes run out of room too soon or only one person is teaching it.

It was great when I used it

Advising was not helpful for me but career advisor was helpful and supportive

Advisor did a great job in advising, If I could suggest anything to improve advising it would be to make sure schedules are %100 complete before being put out to students.

The construction management department is small and has a limited staff. This makes it challenging to keep consistent class availability that correlates to developing student's schedules. Advising needs a 2 year look ahead to determine true class availability to create accurate maps for students that have the desire to graduate in a timely or accelerated manner. I do not believe the current advising situation is sufficient in creating this map due to miscommunications, lack of staff and inconsistent class time availability. I was fortunate to work with the Advisor to create a plan that worked and communicated with him about my plan at least twice each semester to ensure we were on track. With his progression from advising, I have received no follow-ups, requests to check my status or courtesy confirmations to ensure I am prepared for graduation. This is concerning and should be addressed.

Get another adviser. More than just 1

Pay more attention to the courses offered and what the majority of students need to move forward, also the times they are offered.

A lot of times my advisor would not reply back to my emails which made it hard for me since I lived so far off campus and did not have the time to meet with them on campus.

Needs someone more organized and passionate in the advisor position. Career development advisor is doing amazing

Explain different positions responsibilities early such as a PM sits behind a desk

Needs a software that helps with finding the best route for situation rather than advisor's discretion

UNF needs to update their system, it is not the most user-friendly and this confusion carries on into the advising process

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):

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
The CM computing facilities were sufficient	39%	31%	15%	8%	4%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Equipment for CM classes were sufficient	39%	19%	19%	12%	8%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
The classrooms were sufficient	46.%	23%	19%	8%	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
The library was sufficient	5%	19%	15%	15%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Do you have any suggestions to improve the CM facilities?

Great facilities

They were great

I would suggest more study rooms specifically for construction students to work on group projects and on projects in general. Hard to understand how we have a brand new building and only one study room and conference room but too many rooms for engineers.

Dedicated areas for student study can greatly increase cohesion for the individual and group study process. For a brand-new building with ample empty space, designed for today's student, there is virtually no room to work on school related projects within the CM facilities. I'm not sure how many students utilize the building each day but I would estimate 250-300. These students are limited to a first floor common room that can host 6, a larger third floor study room that can host 16 (normally occupied by engineers), a small third floor study room that can host 4 and a fourth floor study room that has had its use changed and is no longer available. This means that at any given time, there can be up to 26 seats available for 250 students; 10% of the students have the opportunity that an area within the CM facility may be open where they can work on their own or with a group. As a student that drives just over an hour every day to get to school and an hour back, working on campus is absolutely necessary for group projects and the odds that there will be space to do so is slim. That creates more of a challenge and is disheartening. As a diligent student that is active within the program, I have built the trust of staff to allow myself and groups to use the conference room areas for projects and study time (when they are not booked). This situation can be improved by the re-purposing of space that is underutilized to create areas that promote studying.

could use software like Bluebeam and Revit on library computers

The library doesn't have the programs we use. Also the doors to the CM computer labs were locked most of the time, I appreciate the students that started having the lab rooms open this semester but a little too late for most of us graduating.

More effort into the labs.

More lab utilization for hands on setting, The Mech & Elec professor was the only professor that performed an applicable lab in the MEP class

Wifi needs to be better in the CM Building

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

	Yes	No	Never Heard of It
ABC Student Club	9	16	1
ABC Student Competition	1	23	1
DBIA Student Club	0	15	10
NAHB Student Club	1	22	2
NAHB Student Competition	1	22	2
Employment Showcase	26	0	0
Hard Hat Banquet	15	10	1

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):

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
ABC Student Club	24%	8%	8%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	56%
ABC Student Competition	4%	0%	4%	0%	4%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	79%
DBIA Student Club	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%	4%	0%	88%
NAHB Student Club	4%	4%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%	4%	4%	79%
NAHB Student Competition	4%	4%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	4%	0%	4%	79%
Employment Showcase	54%	19%	4%	12%	8%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Hard Hat Banquet	40%	24%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	36%

Any suggestions to improve the student support programs?

The programs worked well.

Make them more heard of throughout the program

Student programs sans the employment showcase seemed very dependent on the students within the group. There was little to no teacher/ staff oversight or conjunction with the programs and when there was, it seemed detrimental to the growth and success of the group. I believe positive attendance would be helpful to the growth of groups and advice can be shared but not forced as an ultimatum.

Honestly, the employer showcase needs to be re-worked. Not many of them actually hire within the first 3 months, and half of them should not even qualify to be internships for the programs they represent (some just want cheap labor and don't teach much) some more research into what they teach students should be done.

Show them appreciate, hype them up, be transparent about whatever "funds" are being set aside or donated to the clubs to use. Hype them up in the hallways, send out emails. It's hard to get this sector of students involved in stuff. Harder when you rarely hear the clubs being advertised.

It would be beneficial to have a Construction program orientation every fall where each club and resource is addressed formally

Make the banquet in the fall and spring

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):

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
BCN1210C Const Materials	6%	3%	7%	4%	2%	3%	7%	0%	0%	0%	2%
BCN1251 Construction Drawing	5%	3%	4%	5%	6%	3%	7%	8%	25%	0%	1%
BCN2405 Intro to Structures	3%	5%	5%	4%	8%	10%	0%	8%	0%	0%	1%
BCN3012 History of Const	1%	2%	0%	3%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	12%
BCN3223 Soils & Foundations	7%	3%	6%	6%	2%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
BCN3224 Techniques	3%	6%	5%	6%	2%	3%	7%	0%	0%	0%	1. %
BCN3611C Const Cost Estim	3%	6%	4%	6%	2%	3%	0%	17%	0%	50%	1%
BCN3762 Const Design & Codes	3%	8%	1%	0%	12%	7%	7%	8%	0%	0%	1%
BCN3782 Intro to Constr Comp	4%	3%	4%	9%	6%	7%	0%	8 %	0%	0%	1%
BCN2280 Survey & Const Layout	3%	5%	6%	6%	8%	0%	7%	0%	0%	25%	1%
BCN4475 Structural Systems	2%	3%	10%	8%	2%	10%	0%	8%	0%	0%	1%
BCN4591C Mech & Ele Systems	4%	9%	7%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
BCN4587C Green Construction	2%	2 %	2%	4%	6%	3%	7%	0%	0%	0%	7%
BCN4612 Adv Const Estimating	5. %	5%	2%	4%	6%	3%	0%	8%	25%	0%	2%
BCN4708 Docs & Contracts	3%	6%	7%	4%	2%	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
BCN4709 Proj Mgmt Capstone	3%	7%	10%	3%	2%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
BCN4720 Const Scheduling	3%	4%	5%	9%	4%	0%	7%	8%	25%	0%	1%
BCN4730 Construction Safety	4%	3%	8%	5%	2%	3%	14%	8%	0%	0%	1%
BCN4751C Housing & Land Development	3%	2%	4%	0%	8%	7%	29%	0%	25%	25 %	4%
BCN4753 Const Admin & Econ	2%	2%	0%	3%	6%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%
BCN4759 Const Fin and Cost	5%	4%	4%	4%	8%	7%	0%	17%	0%	0%	1%
BCN4870C Heavy Civil Const	2%	2%	0%	0%	2%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	13%
BCN4871C Commercial Const	2%	2%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	13%
BCN4944 Internship	16%	4%	1%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
BCN4956 Study Abroad	4%	2%	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	12%
BCN4990 Special Topics	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%

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

Did not change anything

There needs to be an enforced lesson plan

I didn't score any 3-1

I didn't take the course or I haven't seen it available to take

Heavy Civil elective was not offered the two years I attended and many students wanted to take it

For estimating, both advanced and regular: providing more education about HOW to do takeoffs for the appropriate divisions that ARE used daily in construction. When you get to capstone, unless estimating is something you do at your job, you might as well have never taken the class based off of what was taught. I think the drawing class should not be one of the first classes available to take in the program. Fast forward nearly 3 years later and I can hardly recall what was learned in that class. Because at the time you're taking it, you don't realize the weight of how important it is until years later. I don't think that scheduling should be offered online, because honestly, I learned almost nothing from it based on that fact that most of what my class in particular did was busy work. Again, fast forward a year and I don't know all that I feel I should about scheduling at this point in my schooling.

Better curriculum

Most of these I had the Visiting Instructor as a professor, she talked mostly about her business and didn't teach the classes thoroughly. The construction drawing book has too many mistakes and is a waste of money, the class is also given too early for us to even remember when it matters in other classes.

Better teachers

Better teachers. More transparency as to what is being taught in each class so that we aren't overlapping.

I would remove the survey course and include a construction writing course, more construction drawings courses, and add a management course discussing project management and subcontractor and vendor management

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

Soils and MEP explained a lot and dealt with a lot of things I've dealt with on a job.

Internship, Capstone, BCN4591C. I felt this was the most relatable to what I'd be doing at work

Estimating, Contracts and Docs, Techniques, Seminar

Any class that involved actual techniques and technology used in the industry, it's more practical.

construction drawing. because it's the only class that taught you how to read a set of plans

Scheduling and estimating

My internship was very useful to obtain real world experience

Capstone was the most beneficial because it was the end of the program which brought everything that we learned together

Surveying, contracts and docs.

The construction management internships were by far the most beneficial courses I took. The real-world experience and ability to work with professionals of the trade on a daily basis provided more education in a week compared to a semester in any other class. The people we work under have practical experience and volunteer their time to ensure that we are trained properly and learn the way of the business how it is performed and operated. Additional classes that were beneficial were taught by adjunct teachers that have day jobs and teach students as their way of giving back. The Estimating/Finance adjunct was the best teacher I had at UNF. I took his construction finance class and advanced cost estimating. Those classes taught me what I would see in the field and

after interning for a year, his teachings are true. That same advanced estimating class taught by a professor resulted in students completing takeoffs and did not capture the real-world sense of estimating and completing costs analysis and bid comparisons. Another beneficial class was taught by the Construction lawyer adjunct. His documents and contracts class has inspired me to return to school if the economy turns down, his passion and thoroughness for contract law makes me want to practice it myself. He is clearly versed in what he does and translates it well to the classroom. While I didn't care for the project or teaching style of the senior capstone project, that class has the potential to be the most beneficial class to students that truly want to succeed in the construction field. It is a way to create your own company and chase after a job. I would improve the class by offering projects that have been built and grant access to the real submitted subcontractor bids so that students can verify accurate pricing and takeoffs within budgeting.

I think construction finance was the super beneficial because it taught (Visiting Instructor taught) super applicable ideas and concepts that she used in the everyday life of her company. I also thought that techniques were good classes, because it taught about things in construction that are dealt with day-to-day. (but it again was taught by someone who actually worked in the industry). I think the MEP class was informative but could've been even better if we had more labs about plumbing and electrical than just 2. I thought that having to take an internship (2 even) was very beneficial and got student/ myself out of their comfort zones.

Construction Scheduling adjunct made me more passionate about pre-construction. Construction Computing, I liked learning about the different software used especially Revit and Bluebeam.

Estimating because it helps for future career

Hands on ones, Soils, Materials, and Mechanical and Electrical

Construction Finance and Advanced Estimating. These courses were both taught in a way that makes them relevant to actual work practices.

Surveying, Soils, and MEP has the most hands on and applicable knowledge that translates well to the field. Estimating, contracts and Docs, and Scheduling was most beneficial for the office route

Capstone because it gave me the opportunity to gain real world experience

Internships, nothing beats learning hands on out in the field.

Internship and Techniques gave you an idea of the field side and an understanding of what professionals and professors were referencing to

Finance because as a PM, you have to deal with cost controls the most. Also, drawings because this sets the basis of learning how to read plans

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

All the course have some value to apply to the job.

I felt all the courses would provide value to me throughout my career

The more theoretical courses, easy for teachers to blow off.

construction documents, this is meant for a lawyer. mechanical and electrical, felt like I was learning the work that a sub or even private contractor would do rather than a job I would get with a degree.

They were all useful

Intro to estimating, structures and scheduling at least for me weren't very helpful because of the teachers I had either did not teach material well at all.

Some classes that were taught were very important but poorly taught and left much to be desired. This was not the fault of the course, only the teacher that led it. An example of this is Scheduling, a cornerstone of almost all student's construction careers. I took my class with an adjunct teacher from Haskell that was extremely difficult and forced me to work on that class at least 8 hours a week outside of the classroom on projects that were assigned each week. At the same time, the Visiting Instructor taught my peers scheduling and it was a laughable class that required the time in the classroom to complete three projects over 2 months, many classes were cancelled as well. In that situation, I

truly learned how to schedule and my peers didn't. I received my only A- within the course catalog while they skated through with A's.

I didn't think the Housing and Land Development was very valuable. I felt like we talked about the same thing over and over and over.

Design and Codes, reading through a code book for a whole semester is awful especially when you learn that half the students 'F5-ed' all the answers.

Structures and finance and business classes

estimating classes, scheduling class, finance, housing and land development. Teachers and lack of content

Construction Safety. We essentially took the OSHA 30 class online. That was the bulk of it.

Materials didn't really cover anything at all. Physics was not necessary.

surveying- not applicable to me, housing and land development- focused more on residential than commercial,

Structural systems, I don't think it is applicable in day-to-day project management.

Construction Design and Codes

Marketing because it is totally unnecessary

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

More experience with industry entry level responsibilities.

I think it's a good curriculum

Theoretical courses.

More classes based on the jobs I would get. Why isn't there a project manager class? Get into the specifics of each job type to give students a feel for what they may want to do in the work force.

More real-world experience

Choosing what teachers teach the courses

All classes taught by those that are not adjuncts.

I think more should go into the estimating classes- taught more from a real-world point of view rather than the textbook. I also think there should be a class about how to manage people, since that's essentially what this degree is. Also, I think there should be a higher-level plans reading class because I feel like that was definitely an area that this program undervalued.

More classes that bring together other things we have learned, so that it connects better and we don't forget by the time we get to Capstone.

More hands-on classes and things that will be used more often as new assistant project managers/supers

I have sent detailed notes to the curriculum committee. Better teachers that have industry experience and can command a room confidently. More hands-on labs. More appropriate material for our jobs.

The curriculum needs to standardize its syllabus for each course. A student cannot take scheduling and never touch a program such as P6, only to have the next semester's class work with the program every day. It makes for disgruntled students who feel as though the value of their education is less than that of other students.

More job site time required, collaborate with NEFBA, expand residential- not everyone wants commercial

Offer more elective courses each semester typical offering was 1 elective opportunity per semester, I was not given an option to take "Commercial Construction"

Estimating and scheduling.

Not Sure

Construction computing

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:

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Have the ability to work with all types of people	58%	27%	4%	12%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to think and reason logically	42%	31%	19%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to understand and solve construction problems	27%	27%	23%	15%	0%	0%	4%	0%	4%	0%
Have the ability to make sound economic decisions	27%	27%	23%	4%	12%	0%	0%	0%	4%	4%
Have the ability to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing	36%	32%	8%	16%	4%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Are computer literate and internet capable	46%	27%	23%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Know and uphold ethical standards of the field	65%	27%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Are prepared for successful entry into the construction industry	35%	38%	15%	4%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to lead in the construction industry and the community	42%	35%	8%	15%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Any comments or suggestions to enhance your skills and abilities?

Use more technology

More experience

Create more pressure for students to work in internships during the beginning of the program.

Having more guest speakers about how to give a good presentation at the beginning of the curriculum path would have been more helpful, than at the end.

The pride of this program needs to bleed from more people than just the student leaders and the CMAB and the Office Manager. For a program getting more money donated than any other major on campus one would never guess. There was not enough hands on learning in labs and not enough applicable information being taught. My notes have been sent to the curriculum committee in depth.

Teach us how to take care of our hourly workers

Add more courses covering actual project management techniques

What influenced your decision to study at UNF?

Location	11
Wanted to attend UNF	1
CM Program	6
Family	2
Cost	2
Other	4

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

Definitely yes	5
Probably yes	16
Might or might not	2
Probably not	3
Definitely not	0

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

Definitely yes	9
Probably yes	11
Might or might not	3
Probably not	1
Definitely not	2

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

Definitely yes	13
Probably yes	10
Might or might not	3
Probably not	0
Definitely not	0

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

I would try and get as much real-world experience as possible, understand what you'll be doing the first couple years in the industry, along with the courses offered.

More help in advising early on in program

Structure the classes where all the students graduating at a certain time are taking the same classes so that the classes can build on each other better.

More people with teaching experience

More classes based on the jobs I would get. Why isn't there a project manager class? Get into the specifics of each job type to give students a feel for what they may want to do in the work force.

Utilize employers that are actually trying to hire people instead of just market their name around.

More site visits

The advising for classes could be a lot more helpful, everything else was very helpful/enjoyable

I would change what teachers taught certain classes because there were not helpful in the ways they taught.

Hiring competent teachers that have real world experience and are familiar with construction practices in the region that they are teaching in.

Teaching more things that real-life construction companies do. We all know that they do these things, and we all talk about them doing these things (professors included) but I feel like it wasn't actually taught/ covered until my last semester.

Good permanent professors, because the ones that couldn't teach really messed up a lot of students and it really shows in the end with who got better professors.

Replace the Structural Systems professor with someone who is field smart and a good leader and good teacher so we don't waste time and money anymore just to get frustrated and excused from classes early because she spent 45 minutes doing a question only to realize she did it all wrong.

The courses need to be regimented to where the core materials taught do not change from semester to semester with the introduction of new professors. Professors are more than welcome to put their own style and thought to how they teach, but ultimately the material taught needs to stay consistent from one semester to the next.

More residential, more hands on, more field time requirements

Stop focusing solely on large scale construction projects/New construction and graduate salary

The estimating courses, I ended up learning everything I most of what I know about estimating through my internships.

The professors

More equipment we could use and test out

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

The help in finding a job or internship is fantastic

One of the best things about this major is how the students get to know each other through the different projects and learn to work together even though we all hated it. It was very beneficial.

There needs to be branch section on the post graduation section about having a job

The office manager keeps the department organized and is an asset to the students that she serves. The old Advisor wants to see the program succeed and teaches in a way that supports curiosity in the field and how to improve it. We need more individuals like them as full-time professors and staff to develop successful students and future industry leaders.

Thank you for your hard work :)