

Construction Management Senior Survey Fall 2020

19 Responses

This semester was heavily affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Questions were added to the survey to help capture those affects.

Which of the following BEST describes your PRIMARY status after graduation

Employed full time (on average 30 or more hours per week)	15
Employed part time (on average less than 30 hours per week)	1
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	3
Planning to continue education but not yet enrolled	0
Not seeking employment or continuing education at this time	0

Please select the category which BEST describes your employment:

Employed Permanently / Full-Time / Any other work category not listed below	15
Employed as an entrepreneur	0
Employed in a temporary/contract work assignment	0
Employed freelance	0
Employed in a postgraduate internship or fellowship	1

Employer Organization:

Orion Marine Group
FLC Contracting
Hensel Phelps
Carlton Construction
Duval Concrete
Amazon
Ajax
Stellar Group
Batson Cook
Drees Homes
The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company
Danis Construction

Position Title

Field Engineer
Project Engineer
Intern
Assistant Project Manager
Superintendent/ Estimator
Logistics
Assistant Superintendent
Assistant Project Manager - Project Manager immediately after graduation.
Not yet known
Builder-Trainee/Assistant Project Manager

Position Location

Tampa, FL
Jacksonville, FL
South Eastern United States
Fleming Island, FL
Not yet known
Ft. Lauderdale

Average Annual Salary

\$57,907.69

Average first-year bonus

\$4,833.33

How did you find this position?

CCEC Employer Showcase	11
UNF Job Board (Handshake / CareerLink)	0
A UNF Networking Event (Cornhole Tournament, Alumni Social, Etc.)	0
Conference or Competition (ABC, NAHB, etc.)	0
Other	5

Do you feel that COVID-19 / Coronavirus impacted your employment search?

Yes	5
Maybe	5
No	6

You answered Yes or Maybe, can you please detail how COVID-19 / Coronavirus impacted your selected employment search?

Jobs became harder to find.
It took spring, summer, and half of fall semester to find a job. Everyone waiting for COVID to calm down.
Didn't feel like I got to meet as many employers as I did in the past
COVID-19 made it harder to connect with employers through UNF because there weren't any in person employer opportunities this semester.
Impacted the interview process
There were hardly any construction companies that attended the career fair this year.
I had gotten a different job early this year, but it was postponed because of corona
Covid-19 caused many businesses to put hiring on hold.
Internships were delayed due to COVID-19 pandemic spread. I was unable to receive course credit.

You stated that you are still seeking a position. Can you please select any of the below that relates to your full-time position search?

Have not applied to positions	2
Applied but have not heard back	1
Interviewed but have not heard back	0
Interviewed but was declined	0

Was a position you interviewed for or were offered rescinded (taken back) due to COVID-19/Coronavirus?

Yes	5
No	12
Unsure but believe this contributed	2

Would you like to schedule an appointment with the Career Development Center to discuss your job search and how we can assist you in finding employment in your field?

Yes	0
No	3

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

Definitely yes	0
Probably yes	2
Probably not	12
Definitely not	5

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

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

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

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

Was your decision to enter a program of continuing education impacted by the outbreak of COVID-19 / Coronavirus?

Yes	0
No	2

While at UNF did you have the opportunity to Intern or Co-Op with an employer in your field?

Yes	16
No	3

Internship Company Name:

Orion Marine Group
Sauer Incorporated
FLC Contracting
DR Horton
Ashco.
W.W Gay
Ajax
Stellar Group
Batson Cook

Petticoat Schmitt Civil Contractors
Canaday Construction
The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company
Danis Construction

Internship Position Title:

Intern
Project Engineer
Construction Intern
Co-op
Office intern
Laborer
Assistant Project Manager
Field Intern
Full Time Assistant Project Manager with Experience
Engineering Intern

Internship Hourly Wage:

\$16.00
\$17.00
\$12.00
\$15.00
\$17.50
\$11.00
\$25.00
\$18.00
\$13.00
\$18.75
\$20.00

Internship Position Location (City, State):

Tampa, FL
Mayport, FL
Jacksonville, FL
Gainesville, Florida
Tallahassee, FL
Nocatee, FL
Sanderson, Florida
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Internship Company Name:

Sauer Incorporated
Felco Electric
Stellar Group

Ajax
Lighthouse Construction of North Florida
The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company

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	21%	11%	32%	0%	5%	11%	0%	5%	5%	0%	11%
Advice in selecting courses to take each term was helpful	21 %	11%	26%	16%	5%	16%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%
Advice in career preparation was helpful	16%	21%	21%	16%	11%	5%	0%	0%	0%	5%	5%
I sought advice from my Advisor often	21%	11%	16%	5%	16%	11%	0%	0%	5%	11%	5%
I sought advice from CM faculty members often	16%	5%	21%	21%	11%	0%	0%	5%	5%	11%	5%
I spoke with CM faculty members concerning the profession often	16%	11%	16%	21%	5%	5%	5%	0%	5%	5%	11%

Do you have any suggestions to improve the advising process?

Possibly more connections to industry professionals.
I think it works
In my time at UNF I think that some of the teacher were very excellent. However, I feel that a lot of the other professors did not have any experience in the CM field in order to be able to teach us. I do not think that this is doing justice to any of the students that are currently in the program to have a successful career if the teachers they have are not qualified with real life experience.
Make it easier to learn which classes you need to finish your degree.
Advisors should make sure students know how to use the career center services when searching for jobs.
Make course maps (with completion) easier to access.

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	37%	21%	21%	11%	5%	0%	0%	0%	5%	0%	0%
Equipment for CM classes were sufficient	37%	21%	16%	21%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
The classrooms were sufficient	42%	26%	21%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
The library was sufficient	42%	26%	11%	11%	%	0%	%	0%	0%	0%	5%

Do you have any suggestions to improve the CM facilities?

Yes, have a computer lab at the building open during business hours, where we can use certain programs
I think they facilities had everything needed to succeed. However, I feel that I did not get my money's worth that I spent since my last 2 semesters were all online.
Computing facilities should be available to students for extended hours.

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

	Yes	No	Never Heard of It
ABC Student Club	4	11	4
ABC Student Competition	0	15	4
DBIA Student Club	0	9	10
NAHB Student Club	1	14	4
NAHB Student Competition	1	15	3
Employer Showcase (Career Fair)	19	0	0
Hard Hat Banquet	0	16	3

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	18%	12%	6%	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	59%
ABC Student Competition	18%	6%	0%	0%	0%	12%	0%	0%	0%	0%	65%
DBIA Student Club	12%	6%	0%	0%	0%	12%	0%	0%	0%	0%	71%
NAHB Student Club	12%	6%	0.00%	0%	0%	12%	0%	6%	0%	0%	65%
NAHB Student Competition	18%	0%	0%	0%	0%	12%	0%	6%	0%	0%	65%
Employer Showcase (Career Fair)	68%	11%	5%	16%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Hard Hat Banquet	12%	6%	6%	0%	0%	12%	0%	6%	0%	0%	56%

Any suggestions to improve the student support programs?

Professors or advisors involved in the clubs and larger entry of students.
More encouragement to join. I knew they existed, but they were never presented to me.
Get qualified teachers that have real life construction experience to teach these kids rather than engineer major professors that have no life experience and feel that they are better than us just because they have a degree.
These programs must improve their outreach.
Continually make sure the Employer Showcase falls outside of the week of most mid-term exams.

Did you participate in any construction related activities (clubs, volunteering, etc.) while you were in high school?

Yes	7
No	12

Were you involved in the Ace Mentor Program in high school?

Yes	1
No	18

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 Construction Materials	4%	7%	3%	8%	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	11%	1%
BCN1251 Construction Drawing	5%	9%	4%	5%	0%	0%	0%	20%	0%	0%	1%
BCN2405 Intro to Structures	4%	5%	4%	5%	15%	4%	13%	0%	0%	0%	1%
BCN3012 History of Construction	2%	0%	1%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	0%	11%
BCN3223 Soils & Foundations	4%	7%	4%	5%	0%	8%	25%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BCN3224 Superstructures/Techniques	5%	0%	7%	3%	0%	8%	13%	0%	10%	0%	1%
BCN3611C Constr Cost Estimating	5%	2%	6%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	0%	1%
BCN3762 Construction Design & Codes	3%	5%	7%	5%	8%	0%	0%	0%	10%	11%	1%
BCN3782 Intro to Constr Computing	5%	2%	7%	3%	0%	8%	0%	0%	10%	0%	0%
BCN2280 Survey & Constr Layout	3%	7%	4%	3%	0%	17%	0%	20%	10%	0%	1%
BCN4475 Structural Systems	3%	2%	6%	3%	15%	17%	0%	0%	0%	11%	0%
BCN4591C Mech & Electrical Systems	4%	5%	3%	8%	8%	4%	0%	20%	0%	0%	1%
BCN4587C Green Construction	3%	7%	3%	3%	0%	4%	0%	0%	10%	11%	4%
BCN4612 Adv Construction Estimating	6%	5%	4%	3%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
BCN4708 Construction Docs & Contracts	5%	5%	7%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
BCN4709 Constr Project Mgmt Capstone	4%	0%	4%	10%	8%	4%	0%	0%	10%	11%	0%
BCN4720 Construction Scheduling	4%	9%	6%	3%	8%	0%	13%	0%	0%	0%	1%
BCN4730 Construction Safety	4%	9%	4%	2%	0%	0%	13%	0%	10%	22%	1%
BCN4751C Housing & Land Development	3%	2%	3%	2%	8%	0%	0%	0%	10%	0%	9%
BCN4753 Construction Admin & Econ	2%	2%	1%	2%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%
BCN4759 Constr Finance and Cost Controls	4%	2%	7%	3%	15%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
BCN4870C Heavy Civil Construction	2%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	13%	0%	0%	0%	11%
BCN4871C Commercial Construction	3%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	13%	0%	0%	0%	11%
BCN4944 Constr Management Internship	9%	5%	1%	2%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
BCN4956 Study Abroad	1%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	20%	0%	0%	13%
BCN4990 Special Topics	1%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	20%	0%	0%	13%
BCN1005c Introduction to Construction	4%	5%	4%	2%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	22%	3%

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

All are okay. Getting and internship was really difficult for me.
Surveying- The class was not very structured and hard to follow. It would've been easier to understand if we had more time with the instruments. Mechanical & electrical systems- A majority of the class was spent reading and understanding case studies about mechanical systems. It would've been more beneficial to break down how the mechanical systems work and what the components do. Same for the electrical part.
Professor never responded to emails and gave us no direction. More instructor responsiveness and information on what each task was for.
I feel like these classes weren't hands on enough or did me any good to help better my future career
Materials was taught my freshman year and it was a 1000 level class that felt like a 4000
Housing and Land Development is based around a competition and the curriculum is pointless unless going into the sector of master planned communities. Construction cost estimating needs to spend more time focusing on how to estimate in the real world.

Break down the steps needed to develop a community.
The drawings course could be so much better.

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

Drawing
Scheduling/Safety/Estimating/Contracts, all are crucial when stepping into a professional role within the construction industry.
Safety, Scheduling, Computing, and Advanced Estimating.
Any classes that the structural professor and Visiting Instructor teach
Cost estimating was very beneficial because it broke down construction components by price and I feel I will use the methods in the future. Housing and land development was a great class as well because it outlined the entire process of developing land for residential use. Construction scheduling was another great class that outlined an important part of construction. The methods I learned in scheduling will be something I use in the future.
Drawing, you need to know how to read site plans
Advanced cost estimating (and cost estimating). Both prepared me to use blu-beam and being able to look through documents and estimate what was need on multiple types of drawings and using the software correctly
Capstone, this puts all of the classes combined into one for the final project
Green Construction & Structures were great as they provided information that you may not learn in the field.
Drawing, scheduling because I use them at my job
Construction computing was very beneficial because it taught me basic knowledge in programs that I would use in later classes. Construction Capstone is the most beneficial because it wraps up everything we have learned and has us start a project from beginning to end as a group.
Construction drawing- Very important to read blueprints
Estimating, even if you're not an estimator you will estimate all the time.
Advanced Cost Estimating - I learned the finer details of the preconstruction process and pricing a job of variable size. Contracts and Documents - I learned the AIA Contracts and how they are frequently written to allocate risk.
Green construction, estimating. I liked those the most
I believe the internship course was the most valuable and the school should maintain it as a requirement.

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

Contracts
Soils/Surveying, I believe these classes could have been more useful if the professors were not so vague.
Soils and foundations and materials. the labs and knowing the science behind these things were not needed. At all.
Any classes that the structural professor and Visiting Instructor teach
Safety, it was something that I would have done on the job
Construction Surveying. I have yet to use the surveying skills and unless I gravitate towards being involved in that type of pre-construction, I will most likely find a job where I don't need that skill.
Housing and Land, I do not plan on being a developer or I never planned on doing the competition and that is all this class really is.
Intro to Construction Computing but this is definitely useful for those who don't know the softwares already.
Materials because he went way too in depth like it was the highest-level master biology class
All estimating courses. I feel like the courses did not focus on teaching us how to estimate but rather estimating techniques.
Housing and land development- Uninformative
Green Const. BIM elective. Physics 2.
Surveying, not the best professor but he left

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

Contracts
I hope Materials/MEP/Drawing are intense for students to grasp an early idea of the industry.
Its good.
It would be nice to see improvements in the curriculum with regards to mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems. How they work and are assembled is great to know.
More electives offered and different professors
None. The degree program is pretty solid
Qualified teaching and advising
Safety.
Some of the electives should be made mandatory in the curriculum.
Materials
Estimating curriculum needs to be improved.
The program should put some focus on the process of getting the GC License.
I would like to see a few professors more engaged in their duties as educators- with a syllabus and teaching curriculum already developed before the start of their semester.
More in depth 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%	11%	21%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to think and reason logically	58%	5%	32%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to understand and solve construction problems	42%	5%	42%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to make sound economic decisions	47%	5%	26%	16%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing	47%	16%	21%	11%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Are computer literate and internet capable	58%	11%	21%	0%	11%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Know and uphold ethical standards of the field	58%	11%	21%	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Are prepared for successful entry into the construction industry	44%	17%	28%	6%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Have the ability to lead in the construction industry and the community	42%	16%	26%	11%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Any comments or suggestions to enhance your skills and abilities?

I will Survive, hey hey.
I have 8 years CM experience prior so all I needed was the degree to get more money.
More club activity would be very beneficial.

What influenced your decision to study at UNF?

Location	10
Wanted to attend UNF	0
CM Program	6
Family	1
Cost	1
Other	1

How did you first hear about Building Construction at UNF?

Online
An Engineer I was working with prior to attending university.
It was not nursing.
Business school Admin
From my wife
Research
When I went to a NSBE meeting
As a change to do something of similar interest but not in the mechanical engineering major I was in
I know a lot of people who have gone here
Google
Stellar Group
Researched it myself
My uncle and family friend.
Community college
Dr. Sorce came to my Econ class
I first heard about Building Construction by researching the program on the UNF website.
Career services
A friend.

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

Definitely yes	5
Probably yes	11
Might or might not	3
Probably not	0
Definitely not	0

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

Definitely yes	8
Probably yes	5
Might or might not	2
Probably not	2
Definitely not	2

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

Definitely yes	11
Probably yes	5
Might or might not	2
Probably not	1
Definitely not	0

While at UNF was there a Faculty or Staff member who went above and beyond for you? If so could you please let us know who and how they positively impacted your experience at UNF?

Dr. Jiang
Professor Hargis. His courses were challenging which caused his students to integrate and manage their time.
All did their job.
James Sorce was a great professor and will be missed dearly.
Dr. Jiang, Dr, Baker, and Scott Curry
Professor Jiang was a great professor that always went above and beyond to help me understand the concepts she was teaching. She was my professor in cost estimating and structural systems and I enjoyed her classes.
Ms. Kathy made sure I know of events that could help me network. She was always encouraging no matter what
Dr. James Sorce. Dr. Sorce had helped me in the multiple classes of his that I took and had been my advisor in the past when I first entered the program. He was always very friendly and would listen to what you had to say but would also give candid advice about classes and what to do in the program that would help. He had helped me in my multiple attempts at the Career-Fair and vouched for me to several companies. He was always very knowledgeable about the topics at hand and was easy to get ahold of through email, as well as easy to talk to about his classes. If it wasn't for his passing I'm sure he would be continuing to help and guide the program in a good direction.
Dr. Jiang and Dr. Baker were the two professors that I would give my left arm for. They always went above and beyond and was always available if you had questions.
Scott Curry and the career fair.
Michele Lamarsh and April Flores both went well above and beyond for me (and other students). They both spent a lot of time helping me transfer to UNF and navigate the program.
April Flores and Michelle Lamarsh helped me get into summer classes I needed to graduate very late and it was a tremendous help. Tamara Baker is a great CM teacher as well as James Sorce, and I was very sad to hear about his passing.
Tamara Baker and Aiyin Jiang were teachers most invested in the success of their students. Eric Canoura taught me some of the most relevant construction finance information I will be able to use for years in the construction industry. He was great with students, challenged students to be better, and taught all the right information. He was by far my favorite professor.
Scott Curry- very informative and helpful on making construction a career
Dr. Baker is awesome.

Dr. James Sorce - he was the first to meet me on campus in April of 2018 and got me started on the degree program that I am graduating from now. He explained to me the curriculum, the outlook as far as employment opportunities, and the requisites I would need to enroll. Professor Ed Whelan - was a plethora of knowledge in construction law and offered a myriad of real examples for each lecture topic. His guest speakers were also very informative for the class.

Mrs. Lamarsh was always helpful answering questions. Dr. Hargis helped in research.

James Sorce.

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

Be more selective for professors.

Make it more fun.

Advising

How the courses are offered.

A larger number of stable professors.

Teachers

The advisor.

More involved clubs/activities/competitions. Concrete Bowling Ball or Concrete Canoe would be a good start.

A stronger push towards preparing students for a full-time job.

Focus more on estimating.

I would add site visits for different classes whenever possible. Guest speakers from various parts of the construction industry are also great for learning.

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

I did not gain enough knowledge for how much I paid for. But I got a degree so that's all that matters.