



TMGT 455 – Project Planning & Scheduling COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall, 2012

Instructor: Jason Lee Davis, PhD – Associate Prof. & Sr. Grad. Faculty

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Faculty WebPage URL: <http://www.JDavis.us/> or <http://faculty.tamuc.edu/jdavis/>

Class WebPage URL: <http://faculty.tamuc.edu/jdavis1/tmgt/455/128/>

Courseware URL: <http://online.tamuc.org/>



COURSE INFORMATION

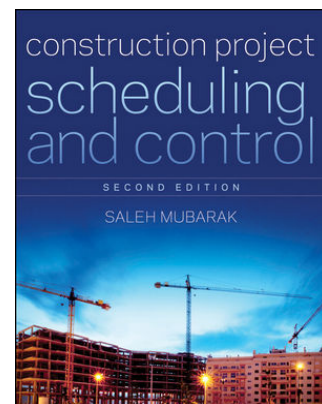
Delivery format: Online, Web-based. No required physical meetings.

Semester Credit Hours: 3 SCH

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook Required:

Title:	Construction Project Scheduling and Control, 2 nd ed	
Author:	Saleh A. Mubarak, PhD	
Format availability:	480 pages	List \$US
Hardcover:	ISBN-13: 978-0-470-50533-5	\$115.00
E-book:	ISBN-13: 978-0-470-91995-8	\$94.99
Publisher:	John Wiley & Sons, Inc.	
Publication date:	June, 2010	



Course Description: Study of the concepts used in planning and scheduling of projects in both industrial and construction applications. Prerequisite : TMGT 352 Principles of Cost Engineering

TAMU-C Undergraduate Catalog: <http://catalog.tamuc.edu/index.php>

Student Learning Outcomes:

No matter how large or small the construction project, an efficient, well-thought-out schedule is crucial to achieving success. The schedule manages all aspects of a job, such as adjusting staff requirements at various stages, overseeing materials deliveries and equipment needs, organizing inspections, and estimating time needs for curing and settling—all of which requires a deep understanding on the part of the scheduler.

Upon satisfactory completion of the course the learner should be able to apply:

1. Steps needed to devise a technologically advanced schedule geared toward streamlining the construction process.
2. Calculations needed by project schedulers, particularly related to time management.
3. Precedence networks as a viable solution to scheduling, the main part of project control.
4. The concepts of Dynamic Minimal Lag, a new CPM technique.
5. Risk management techniques in the areas of project scheduling and control.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

IMPORTANT NOTICE!!! Grading policies and requirements identified in this syllabus are non-negotiable and will be followed in this course with all students held to an identical standard. If you do not agree with any requirement herein, or believe any of them to be “unfair,” you should IMMEDIATELY DROP this course and re-evaluate your dedication to academic success!

Instructional Activities / Methods / Activities Assessments

All of the course and student performance objectives will be assessed using responses from topical quizzes, two scheduling project reports, and a comprehensive final examination. The learners will be expected to articulate appropriate comments, observations, answers, or treatise concerning each of the course objectives, during discussions, the final executive reports, topical quizzes and a comprehensive final examination.

In the workplace, employees are expected to produce documents that are clear, error-free, and visually effective. Written products from the course learners must also satisfy these general requirements, be appropriate for a specific purpose, and meet the needs of the audiences of the communication. The same expectations are required in this course. Competencies will be measured by student written assignments.

Grading

Evaluations of written assignments will reflect the basic concerns of providing clear, error-free and visually effective industrial communications. Generally each deliverable will be graded in accord with these requirements.

Additional grading criteria may be supplemented with more specific evaluation criteria including detailed grading rubrics for assignments or assignment sub-sets.

Assignments and Points

1. There are 14 topical chapter quizzes or exercises worth 20 points each (280 total points possible). These begin during week two. Quizzes automatically close at the posted deadline and will not be reopened for late submission. Each quiz **MUST** be completed by the posted deadline or a zero will be earned.
2. Professional appearing and accurate scheduling and control project data and graphics along with an executive summary is the comprehensive practicum embedded in this course. It consists of a two part calculated and graphic presentation of information. Each part is worth 200 points. Along with an accompanying written executive summary explaining, justifying, and convening pertinent scheduling and control information worth an additional 120 points. A total of 520 is possible in this

comprehensive and practical multi-part project.

3. A comprehensive final examination of 100 questions worth 2 points each (200 total points possible). The total points possible for the course are 1000.

It is critical that learners read the course textbook thoroughly and review each week's materials, and end of chapter questions and problems. The test banks of topical questions and problems have been provided by the textbook author. Learning how to use any of the supporting software selected by the learner is the sole responsibility of the learner and is not a part of this course. Learners may need to conduct additional outside readings and research relative to their choice of software.

Assignment Submissions

Submitted work must be readable and printable using a commonly available Microsoft product (included in Office Suite) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf format). Any other formats will not be accepted without prior approval. Students must retain electronic copies of all submitted works and available for resubmission should unforeseen technical circumstances warrant.

In the workplace, you are expected to produce documents that are clear, error-free, and visually effective in communicating the intended message. All work submitted for credit in this course must also satisfy these general professional expectations as well as be appropriate for the specific purpose and audience for which the communication is intended. Quality of work will be reflected in the assignment scores.

All work must identify the student and appropriate assignment identifier. Submissions without this required information will not be graded and a "0" will be assigned for that activity. This is part of "following instructions" and meeting the requirements of the course. Submissions **MUST** contain the following information at the top of the page:

1. Your name
2. Course number (TMGT 455)
3. Assignment name, chapter number, or relevant identifier

Electronic file submissions **MUST** conform to the following naming conventions:

Course Prefix&Number–Activity ID–LastNameInitial(s).FileExtension (no spaces in filenames)

Examples:

TMGT455-Part1-VollmerD.pdf

TMGT455-Part2-WalshK.ppt

TMGT455-ExecSum-PhelpsM.docx

Timely submission of assignments

Assignments **MUST** be completed and submitted by the designated due dates, in the designated location. Full credit cannot be earned by late or incomplete assignments. Assignments may lose up to 10% of their possible value each day late if submitted after the posted due date/time. (e.g. Assignments can lose all of their value at 10 days past due.) Further, **late assignment submissions may be rejected** at the instructor's discretion. Quizzes automatically close at the posted deadline and will not be reopened for late submission. Each quiz **MUST** be completed by the posted deadline or a zero will be earned. Unless indicated otherwise, assignments may be submitted early; however, students should be aware that this does not imply that assignments will be graded prior to the assignments' due date as assignments are typically evaluated as a group once all submissions have been received.

Make-up and extra credit assignments

No make-up or extra credit assignments are available in this course. Credit is earned exclusively by completing the required activities, as assigned, without exception.

Grade of "X" (Incomplete)

In accordance with the Academic Procedures stated in the TAMU-C Catalog, “students, who because of circumstances beyond their control, are unable to attend classes during finals week or the preceding three weeks will, upon approval of their instructor, receive a mark of ‘X’ (incomplete) in all courses in which they were maintaining passing grades.” The mark of "X" will only be considered in strict compliance with University Policy upon submission of complete medical or other relevant documentation.

Final Letter Grade via Points Earned

%	Total Points	Grade
90-100	895 - 1000	A
80-89	795 - 894	B
70-79	695 - 794	C
60-69	595 - 694	D
< 60	< 595	F

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS***General Technology Requirements***

This is an online course; thus, access to a modern computer with a reliable, high-speed, Internet connection is required. You must also have sufficient administrative authority on your computer to download, install, and run the necessary software applications.

Your courses will work with a PC with recent OS versions or Macintosh OS X. Supported browsers include recent releases of Firefox, Aurora, Internet Explorer, Safari, or Chrome.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of any on-line course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the “myCourses” tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

Course-specific Software

Students may use **any** graphic tool available to them to present PERT charts, Gantt Charts, Arrow and Node diagrams and other graphics needed to complete the final projects. Some of the software may include:

- MS Office Suite (Excel and Word)
- MS Project Management (loaded on student lounge computers and all lab computers)
- GanttProject (Free open source)
- OpenProj™ (Free open source)
- Freeplane (Free open source)
- MS Vista or MS Powerpoint graphics is a manual method
- Primavera (if saved in MS Project format)

Any open source tools that can be used if the outputs can be viewed with a MS product or pdf format.

Any other scheduling or project management software that can be viewed in MS product or pdf format.

AutoCAD or other cad program, but the submitted work must be in screen captures saved in pdf format.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx>.

In the event the myLEO portal is ever inaccessible and you need to login to eCollege, you should also bookmark the direct URL for eCollege: <http://online.tamuc.org/>

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

To participate in the online course environment, login to eCollege and follow the instructions provided for each week of the course. Instructions, project guidelines, and relevant resources will be provided as needed throughout the course. The Virtual Classroom should be monitored and contributed to regularly (3 days per week minimum). Special announcements or instructions may also be placed in the announcements area or sent directly to your leo email, which should be monitored regularly throughout your enrollment at TAMU-C.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with the Instructor

The instructor is available via a variety of avenues. The best path depends on the nature of the content you wish to convey or ask. If you have a general question about the class content, the syllabus and course materials are provided within the eCollege environment and may already provide the answer you seek. If you have a question or comment of the nature that would be presented in a traditional classroom environment, please do so in the Virtual Classroom so that others might benefit from and participate in the exchange. If it's not something of general interest to others in the course, my Virtual Office is a better choice. Personal content involving grades, progress, etc. should be addressed with me via private e-mail: Jason.Davis@tamuc.edu. Be sure your name and course number is included in any and ALL correspondence. Of course, if you'd like to meet up for a face-to-face visit, drop by during my [office hours](#), or just let me know and we'll set-up a time to meet at my office in the Charles Austin Engineering Technology (Ag/IT) building, 213C. As there are occasionally meetings scheduled that conflict with normally scheduled offices hours, an appointment is highly recommended.

eCollege Technical Support

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- Chat Support:** Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Email:** helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

- Help:** Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc...)

Writing Assistance

Both on-site and online writing assistance is available through the University Writing Center. The Writing Center is dedicated to helping writers take advantage of all opportunities for learning inherent in the writing process; to that end, center tutors can assist writers at any stage of the writing process. By working with students one-on-one or in small groups, tutors can help writers analyze the rhetorical demands of the writing task, generate and focus ideas at the prewriting stage, ensure they are addressing the writing assignment directly and effectively, elaborate and rework a rough draft after hearing the writer read the draft aloud, discover their strengths and weaknesses in a particular rhetorical context, strengthen arguments, spot weak rhetorical choices and make more effective choices, and address formatting or other surface-level concerns. At no point do center tutors write these papers for the students. All writers working in the Writing Center maintain control of their work; tutors simply offer support and feedback and ask questions they may not have been asking themselves (or may not have even known to ask themselves).

For more information refer to the Writing Center's web pages at:

<http://web.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/writingCenter/default.aspx>

Other Questions/Concerns

Contact the appropriate TAMU-C department relating to your questions/concern. If you are unable to reach the appropriate department with questions regarding your course enrollment, billing, advising, or financial aid, please call 903-886-5511 between the hours of 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Academic Honesty Policy

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), auto-plagiarism (duplicate submission of single work for credit in multiple classes), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. All works submitted for credit must be original works created **by the scholar** uniquely for the class. Works submitted are subject to submission to TurnItIn, or other similar services, to verify the absence of plagiarism. Consequences of academic dishonesty may range from reduced credit on the plagiarized assignment to petition for removal from the academic program or institution, depending on the circumstances and extent of the violation; however, in typical instances, an automatic F in the course is considered appropriate as a minimum consequence.

To avoid plagiarism, an individual must give credit whenever they:

- a) use another individual's idea, opinion, or theory;
- b) use facts, statistics, graphs, and drawings that are not common knowledge;
- c) use quotations of another individual's spoken or written words; or
- d) paraphrase another individual's spoken or written words.

Any works referenced should be properly cited in accordance with APA 6th edition style.

Web resources for reference regarding what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it include:

<http://www.plagiarism.org/>

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

Scholarly Expectations

Work submitted is expected to demonstrate higher-order thinking skills and represent the student's best possible effort on the assignment.

Late Work

Projects and assignments MUST be completed and submitted by the designated due dates. Full credit cannot be earned by late or incomplete assignments. Assignments may lose up to 10% of their possible value each day late if submitted after the posted due date/time. (e.g. Assignments can lose all of their value at 10 days past due.) Further, **late project submissions may be rejected** at the instructor's discretion. If a project incorporates peer review activities requiring that all projects be available at the beginning of the review period, one student will not be permitted to hold up the progress of the entire class and may be taken "out of the loop" if necessary to ensure the forward progress of the class.

Time Commitment (16-week term)

In a college-level course, it is a reasonable and accepted expectation that a student will spend between three and four hours outside of class for each hour spent in class. This applies to on-line and web-enhanced courses just as it does to a tradition course when determining the total expectation of time that should be spent on a particular course per week, or day in the case of summer or sub-term courses. The activities in this course are based on a 15-week instruction schedule. An understanding of this expectation can help serve as a gauge for you to determine a range of how much time you will need to allow for and devote to each course. The average time commitment range calculation for a three Semester Credit Hour (3 SCH) course, such as this one, is show in the following table:

Average expected time spent on class or class related work.	Minimum expected average time based on 3:1 time ratio.	Maximum expected average time based on 4:1 time ratio.
"In" class per class week	2hr. 30min.	2hr. 30min.
"Outside" class per class week	7hr. 30min.	10hr. 00min.
TOTAL Weekly Expectation	10hr. 00min.	12hr. 30min.
TOTAL Term Expectation	150hr. 00min.	187hr. 30min.

Attendance

All students must be active participants in class activities. In on-line courses, attendance is equated to the demonstration of an active, regular presence in the virtual course environment and appropriate progress toward timely assignment completion. An active presence may be shown through participation in, and contributions to, on-line class discussions and the Virtual Classroom. Regular attendance and assignment submissions are essential for success. If an extended situation arises during the course of the semester that prevents you being able to perform to a level allowing you to earn the grade you desire, it may likely be in your best interest to drop the course and re-enroll later. If you're planning an extended vacation during the

semester that will interfere with your ability to participate as required, this will not be the time for you to take this class. Go ahead, drop the class, enjoy your vacation, and re-enroll in a semester in which you are ready to dedicate the time and effort necessary to be successful in your studies. Bottom line... Academic studies require significant effort and dedication. Either you're all in and committed, or you need to step back until you're ready and able to rise to the challenge.

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

Student Conduct/Citizenship

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

Students are expected, at all times to recognize constituted authority, to conform to the ordinary rules of good conduct, to be truthful, to respect the rights of others, to protect private and public property, and to make the best use of their time and effort toward the educational process.

COURSE OUTLINE / SCHEDULE

The course schedule is maintained on the class public website at:

<http://faculty.tamuc.edu/jdavis1/TMGT/455/128/>

Students will need to monitor and reference this course schedule regularly.