

**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE**

**CIVE 620-ENMG 631
PRE-PROJECT PLANNING AND FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS**

Dr. Issam Srouf

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on the pre-project phase of a project's life cycle and on the challenges faced by the pre-project planning team in helping the project owner with the go-ahead decision for the project. Topics tackled include: assimilation of client needs; market assessment studies; impacts of laws and regulations on the facility program; surveys of project area infrastructure conditions; investigation of site conditions; project scope validation; project execution planning, project costs and schedule estimation; project life-cycle analysis; financial planning; and financial feasibility framework design and analysis.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- The course is generally intended to tackle issues related to the pre-project phase of large construction projects.
- The course particularly aims at introducing the challenges faced by the pre-project team in helping the project owner with the go-ahead decision.
- The course furthermore sheds light on how to systematically evaluate and address such challenges as part of a proposed process model.

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Introductions, what is pre-project planning?
2. Why project planning?
3. What defines a project?
4. Pre-project planning models
5. Organize for pre-project planning
6. Select alternative(s)
7. Develop project definition package
8. Decision making
9. Financial planning and benchmarking
10. Pre-project planning for megaprojects

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The learning outcomes to be sought include:

- Students are expected to become familiar with the overall process of pre-project planning.
- Students are expected to develop an appreciation of the technical expertise injected into the pre-project planning process.
- Students are expected to develop a solid understanding of how the project site and technology play a crucial role in the decision making process.
- Students are expected to become well versed as to the project risks that need to be assessed and accounted for during the pre-project planning phase.
- Students shall become better prepared to devise the framework for a project's financial feasibility assessment.

SUGGESTED TEXTBOOKS

- *Creating the perfect design brief – Peter Philips*
- *Students are also directed to consult:*
 - *Reference Articles on Moodle*
 - *Construction engineering and management journals (e.g., Project Management Journal, International Journal of Project Management, ASCE's Management in Engineering and Construction Engineering and Management, Construction Economics and Management).*

OFFICE HOURS

W & Th 3.30-5pm in Engineering Bechtel Building (526) or by appointment, is04@aub.edu.lb

STUDENT EVALUATION

■ Class attendance and participation	10%
■ Individual assignments	30%
■ Group assignment	10%
■ Term project presentation	15%
■ Term exam	35%

Students are hereby instructed to review all relevant University rules and regulations including those related to attendance, cheating, plagiarism, misconduct, and academic integrity, among many others. It shall be expected that strict enforcement of these rules and regulations will be exercised.
