**Department of Civil Environment and Geomatics Engineering**

**Florida Atlantic University**

**Course Syllabus**

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| 1. **Course Title / Number of Credit Hours** | |
| SUR4403 - Cadastral Principles and Legal Aspects | 3 Credit Hours |
| 1. **Course Prerequisites, co-requisites, and where the course fits in the program of study** | |
| SUR3141 and SUR3141L both with minimum grade of "C"  This is an upper division course for BS Engineering Technology students to introduce fundamental legal theories that underlie the land surveying profession. Students will be taught types of land titles, non-possessory rights such as easements and licenses, the priority of calls that weigh field boundary evidence, and the land tenure systems of the United States. | |
| 1. **Course Logistics** | |
| Term: Fall 2018  This will be an online course in Canvas |  |
| 1. **Instructor contact information** | |
| *Instructors Name*  *Office Hours*  *Contact telephone number*  *emails* | Gary Pirtle – Adjunct Professor  Building 5 for this semester – Wed and Friday 1-3  954-658-7128  [gpirtle@fau.edu](mailto:gpirtle@fau.edu) or gpirtle.seabee@gmail.com |
| 1. **TA Contact Information** | |
| **N/A** |  |
| 1. **Course Description** | |
| Cadastral systems, legal principles of property boundary retracement, land descriptions, parcel identification, rights-of-way and legal descriptions of real property. Ethical and legal aspects of practice, surveyor as expert witness, surveyor-client relationship, responsibilities to the profession. | |
| 1. **Course Objectives / student learning outcome / program outcomes** | |
| 1. Describe the seniority of boundary evidence. 2. Know the methods and likely locations of land evidence. 3. Understand how to read and analyze case law. 4. Differentiate between easements, licenses, and land title. 5. Understand the differences between Metes and Bounds and the Public Land Survey System. | |

**Program Objectives**

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| ***Relationship to Civil Engineering educational objectives, ABET and Geomatics Engineering.*** |  |  |
| 1. Understand the significance of land boundaries and how they are created. | **M** |
| 1. Create and interpret property descriptions for deeds. | **L** |
| 1. Analyze the differences between metes and bounds and GLO/PLSS land systems. | **H** |
| 1. Know how easements are created, conveyed, and terminated. | **H** |
| 1. Retrace land surveys. | **H** |
| 1. Differentiate between sequential and simultaneous land conveyances. | **L** |
| 1. Know the role of the surveyor and what ethically permitted during the course of business. | H |
| 1. Apply regulations, case law, and mapping standards in their work. |  |
| 1. Exercise critical thinking in solving questions of proper boundary placement. |  |
| 1. Explain the various kinds of property evidence and their order of importance. |  |

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| 1. **Course Grading and Scale** |
| Quizzes and projects – 30%, Mid-Term Exam – 30%, Final Exam – 40%  **(Curves and Scaling will be up to Instructor)** |
| 1. **Policy on makeup tests, late work, and incompleteness.** |
| SUR 4403 Online Course material will be open for all students to review. It is suggested that homework be attempted for student review of the material but typically not required to be turned in. Quizzes will be assigned for students to taken and normally quizzes can be retaken multiple times to improve scores. Make up tests are given only if there is solid evidence of a medical or other serious emergency that prevented the student of participating in the exam. Make up tests will have to be scheduled based on Professors schedule. |
| 1. **Special Course requirements** |
| Students must check in with the official FAU electronic mail accounts and official course website such as Canvas. This should be done on a daily basis to check for announcements, assignments and other instructions. TBD on exams. Online exams will typically not be given and students will have to attend exam dates face-to-face. |
| 1. **Classroom etiquette policy** |
| University policy requires that in order of enhance and maintain a productive atmosphere for education, personal communication devices, such as cellular phones and laptops are to be disabled in class sessions.   1. Cell phones and beepers should have the ringers turned off as a courtesy to the instructor and your fellow students. 2. Exams will be given only at the scheduled times and places. No make-ups except in documented emergencies are allowed. 3. Attendance to class sessions is required. You are expected to attend and participate in all class sessions and lab work to add value to the team projects. Final grades will be reduced by one letter grade for every three unexcused absences. Attendance to a least one professional meeting is required. 4. You are expected to read the assigned reading prior to date indicated on the on the class schedule, do all homework assignments, and to participate fully in group projects. 5. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date indicated on the class assignment sheet. The instructor will consider late assignments but late assignments may affect the final grade. 6. Tests will typically be open book but internet use will not be allowed. |
| 1. **Disability policy statement** |
| In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) – Boca Rotan, SU 133 (561-297-3880), in Davie LA 131 (954-236-1222) or in Jupiter SR 110 (561-799-8585) and follow SAS procedures. |
| 1. **Code of Academic Integrity** |
| Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the FAU mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the FAU community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and place high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. See University Regulation 4.001 at [www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/401](http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/401) Code of Academic Integrity.pdf |
| 1. **Required Textbook / reading** |
| 1. Walter G. Robillard and Donald A. Wilson.   *Brown’s Boundary Control and Legal Principles, 7th Edition*. Wiley 2014  It is recommended that this textbook be purchased. There are different international versions that typically are very poor quality. E-versions are allowed but students typically do not use this version with success. |
| 1. **Supplemental / recommended reading** |
| TBD from Professor. |
| 1. **Other** |
| 1. College of Engineering and Computer Science (COECS) Technology Services Group (TSG). TSG provides support for students with issues related to the use of College computing resources such as lamp.sce.fau.edu, the student web server, and GENIE, the Citrix Remote Application Server. TSG also supports the Microsoft Developer Network Academic Alliance portal through which students taking courses in CEECS can obtain free copies of many software products from Microsoft. Details of these and other resources are described on the TSG web site at tsg.eng.fau.edu.   For support issues not covered on the web site students must send email to [Help@eng.fau.edu](mailto:Help@eng.fau.edu). TSG responds to help requests only through this email address. Do not attempt to phone them or contact them personally. TSG support is limited to assistance with COECS computing resources such as having your password on lamp reset. They do not handle specific course related questions. Those should be directed to the instructor for the course.   1. FAU Information Resource Management (IRM)   IRM provides support for general computing and network issues at FAU. General information and many resources can be found on the IRM site, [www.fau.edu/irm/index.php](http://www.fau.edu/irm/index.php). IRM provides direct student assistance through an online Help Desk at [www.fau.edu/helpdesk/](http://www.fau.edu/helpdesk/) The help desk includes extensive online support resources and “Ticket” submission system for support requests. Areas of particular concern to students in this course covered by the Help Desk included general Blackboard, Canvas, FAU Netid and network login, and FAU Google Email. The Help Desk can also be accessed by phone at (561) 297-3999. Phone access should generally be used only if you are unable to log in to FAU systems. For most other issues the phone consultant will simply record your concern and submit a help ticket on your behalf. The help ticket will get the same treatment as on you submitted directly.   1. College of Engineering and Computer Science (COESS) Division of Engineering Student Services (ESS).   ESS provides general advising and academic support for students in COESCS including free tutoring support for all students in computer science courses. Additional information can be found on their website at www.eng.fau/engineering -student-services.   1. FAU University Center for Excellence in Writing (UCEW)   The UCEW, sometimes referred to simply as the Writing Course, provides assistance to students with writing assignments through consultants. They can assess student writing skills and suggest approaches to dealing with problem areas. The center web site is at [www.fau.edu/UCEW/WC](http://www.fau.edu/UCEW/WC). |
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| **Online Lecture**  **SUR 4403 Legal Aspects of Land Surveying** | | |  | | |
| **Course topical outline, including tentative dates for exams, quizzes, assignments, completion of reading. Students must refer daily to Canvas for specifics.** | | | | | |
| **Date** | **Topic** | **Activities** | **Date** | **Topic** | **Activities** |
| Week 1 | **Chapter 1 History and Concept of Boundaries** | Read Chap. 1 | Week 1  Aug 21 | **History and Introductions Online** | Syllabus  Professors Resume and contact information |
| Week 2 | **Chapter 2 How Boundaries are created.** | Read Chap 2 | Week 2  Aug 28 | **Lecture Chapter 2 Online** | Quiz 1  Case Studies |
| Week 3 | **Chapter 3 Ownership, Transfer and Descriptions** | Read Chap 3 | Week 3  Sep 4 | **Lecture Chapter 3 Online** | Review Quiz 1  Case Studies |
| Week 4 | **Chapter 4 Boundaries, Law and related Presumptions** | Read Chap 4 | Week 4  Sep 11 | **Lecture Chapter 4 Online** | Case Studies |
| Week 5 | **Chapter 5 Metes and Bounds and Descriptions of Property** | Read Chap 5 | Week 5  Sep 18 | **Lecture Chapter 5 Online** | Quiz 2  Case Studies |
| Week 6 | **Chapters 6, 7 and 8. GLO, Laws, Easements** | Read Chap 6, 7 and 8 | Week 6  Sep 25 | **Lecture on Chapters** | Review Quiz 2 and Review for Mid Term Exam |
| Week 7 | **Mid Term Exam** | **Mid Term Exam** | Week 7  Oct 2 |  | **MID TERM**  **EXAM** |
| Week 8 | **Chapter 9 Riparian and Littoral Boundaries** | Read Chap 9 | Week 8  Oct 9 | **Review Mid Term Exam** | Review Mid Term Exam  Case Studies |
| Week 9 | **Chapter 10 Relocating and Resurveying Sectionalized Land** | Read Chap 10 | Week 9  Oct 16 | **Lecture Chapter 10** | Quiz 3  Case Study |
| Week 10 | **Chapter 11 Locating Sequential Conveyances** | Read Chap 11 | Week 10  Oct 23 | **Lecture Chapter 11** | Review Quiz 3  Case Study |
| Week 11 | **Chapter 12**  **Locating Old Boundaries** | Read Chap 12 | Week 11  Oct 30 | **Lecture Chapter 12** | Case Study |
| Week 12 | **Chapter 13 Locating combination Descriptions** | **Read Chapter 13** | Week 12  Nov 6 | **Lecture Chapter 13** | Quiz 4  Case Study |
| Week 13 | **Review Material and Role of the Surveyor** | **Review** | Week 13  Nov 13 | **Lecture** | Review Quiz 4 |
| Week 14 | **Thanksgiving Break** |  | **Week 14**  **Nov 17** | **Review** | **Review** |
| **Week 15** | **Review for Final** |  | **Week 15 Dec 1** | **Review** | **Review** |
| **Week 16** | **Final** |  | **Week 16** | **Final date and time tbd** |  |