

University of Mary Washington Department of Historic Preservation

Lab in Building Forensics

HISP 461-01 Fall 2019

Combs Hall #009

2:00 – 3:15 pm MW

Instructor: Mr. Spencer

Office: Combs Hall #132

E-mail: mспен1bi@umw.edu

Phone: (540) 654-1311

Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday, 10-11

Thursday, 9-12

Or by appointment

Course Outline:

Historic Preservation 461, Lab in Building Forensics, aims to assist the preservation student in developing skills for the physical **interpretation, diagnosis, evaluation, and conservation** of the historic built environment. Basic scientific experimentation as well as the utilization of old and new technologies used within the conservation field will assist in bolstering the student's skill sets already obtained throughout previous preservation courses, particularly HISP 205 and 305. Utilization of historic structures for class exercises and projects will provide further "practical" and "real life" opportunities for students before entering the professional field.

Goals & Objectives:

- Students will further developed and refine analytical skills.
- Students will learn basic principles associated with material identification and assessment.
- Students will learn to recognize and identify symptoms and causes of deterioration.
- Students will record and evaluate deterioration using traditional and non-traditional techniques.
- Students will learn the basic principles of conservation treatments and approaches.
- Students will learn basic principles associated with preservation project planning.

Required Text:

Weaver, Martin E. *Conserving Historic Buildings: A Manual of Techniques and Materials*. Revised Edition. New York: Preservation Press, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1997.

Other readings and online resources which may include videos, sound files, and web sites will be made available through Canvas.

Equipment:

You will need the same equipment as you used in HISP 205 and HISP 305. I strongly encourage you to have a notebook with graph paper as well as a good mechanical pencil. Also, get in the habit of bringing a camera with you during any field excursions.

Grading:

Grading will be based on a number of factors in an effort to be fair, transparent, and to provide the best possible feedback to the student. Completeness and accuracy of the assignment will play a large factor in the final grade as will legibility. Please note; I make an effort to provide you with extensive feedback on your assignments which will be useful in the class, future classes and professionally. This process takes time especially on larger research projects so please be patient.

Grading Scale:

As prescribed by the University of Mary Washington:

A	“Unusual Excellence”	(93% or higher = A ; 90-92% = A-)
B	“Work Distinctly Above Average”	(87-89% = B+ ; 83-86% = B ; 80-82% = B-)
C	“Work of Average Quality”	(77-79% = C+ ; 73-76% = C ; 70-72% = C-)
D	“Work of Below Average Quality”	(67-69% = D+ ; 60-66% = D)
F	“Failure, No Credit”	(0-59% = F)

*If at midterm a student has a grade of D (0-66%) a “U” (unsatisfactory) will be entered.

Assignments:

*****Detailed assignment sheets will be distributed.** Assignments will often entail working outside, with your hands, and sometimes dirty materials. **Please wear appropriate clothing on lab/field days including no open toe shoes (this means no sandals!!!).** Additionally, many of these exercises will build upon skills learned in 205 and 305 necessitating the use of your notes and text from those classes.

Attendance and Participation:

While there will be no attendance or participation grade, missed labs or site visits will not be repeated and may result in the student earning a 0%. The exceptions are excused absences (ex. conflicts with other classes) which will be determined on a case by case basis **before** the date in question or emergency situations, in which case the student must make efforts to notify the instructor as soon as possible. Students **will not** be excused for events such as leaving early for fall break, family reunions, family vacations, camps, etc. If you have conflicts such as these consider dropping this course.

Late Assignments:

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date noted in the syllabus. Unexcused late work will result in the loss of ten points (a full letter grade), if handed in after the start of class and an additional ten points for every 24 hours overdue. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Should a student be absent for whatever reason they will need to e-mail the assignment to the instructor before class begins on the date the assignment is due. The following class, or the next class they physically attend, they will need to hand in a **hard copy** of the assignment (please do not make it my responsibility to print your work). An absence does not excuse a late assignment. No e-mailed assignments will be accepted from students present on the day an assignment is due. Excused late work is determined on a case by case basis by the instructor before the assignments due date. If you have a valid excuse or

conflict please contact me as soon as possible. Documentation of your excuse may be required. Please be advised that it is not my responsibility to remind you of projects past due.

Final Grade:

Assignment #1	Existing Report Compilation and Formatting	10%
Assignment #2	Material Assessment	15%
Assignment #3	Condition Assessment and Damage Mapping	20%
Assignment #4	Scope of Work and Specifications (including cyclical)	20%
Assignment #5	Budgeting	10%
Assignment #6	Final HSR Compilation	25%
Total		100%

Honor Code:

You are expected to follow this, no exceptions. All graded assignment should be pledged and signed. Please see me if you have any questions regarding what is and is not considered plagiarism or cheating.

Classroom Behavior:

Students **ARE** expected to participate in class discussions and lectures as well as treat both the teacher and students respectfully. All cell phones should be turned off and absolutely no text messaging, twittering or blogging. Furthermore, students should conduct themselves in a manner that promotes a good learning environment by refraining from actions that might disrupt the class. Some examples, although not exhaustive, of inappropriate behavior include sleeping during class, talking during class, loud outbursts, reading the newspaper, the use of profanity, and showing up to class intoxicated. Students may be asked to leave class should these rules not be followed.

Office of Disability Services:

The Office of Disability Resources has been designated by the college as the primary office to guide, counsel, and assist students with disabilities. If you receive services through the Office of Disability Resources and require accommodations for this class, make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss your approved accommodation needs. Bring your accommodation letter, along with a copy of our class syllabus with you to the appointment. I will hold any information you share with me in strictest confidence unless you give me permission to do otherwise.

If you have not made contact with the Office of Disability Resources and have reasonable accommodation needs, (note taking assistance, extended time for tests, etc.), I will be happy to refer you. The office will require appropriate documentation of disability.

Lee Hall, Room #401
540-654-1266
<https://academics.umw.edu/disability/>

Title IX Statement:

University of Mary Washington faculty are committed to supporting students and upholding the University's *Policy on Sexual and Gender Based Harassment and Other Forms of Interpersonal Violence*. Under Title IX and this Policy, discrimination based upon sex or gender is prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex or gender based discrimination, we encourage you to report it. **While you may talk to me, understand that as a "Responsible Employee" of the University, I MUST report to UMW's Title IX Coordinator what you share.** If you wish to speak to someone confidentially,

please contact the below confidential resources. They can connect you with support services and help you explore your options. You may also seek assistance from UMW's Title IX Coordinator. Please visit <http://diversity.umw.edu/title-ix/> to view UMW's *Policy on Sexual and Gender Based Harassment and Other Forms of Interpersonal Violence* and to find further information on support and resources.

Resources

Stefanie Lucas-Waverly,
Title IX Coordinator
Office of Title IX
Fairfax House
540-654-5656
slucaswa@umw.edu

Crystal Rawls
Title IX Deputy for Students
Assistant Director of Student Activities
540-654-1801
crawls@umw.edu

Confidential Resources

On-Campus

M.S. Talley Center for Counselling Services
Lee Hall 106, 540-654-1053

Student Health Center
Lee Hall 112, 540-654-1040

Off-Campus

Empowerhouse
24-hr hotline: 540-373-9373

Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault
(RCASA)
24-hr hotline: 540-371-166

Class Schedule:

8/26	Introduction, Review of Course Syllabi	
8/28	Lecture: Historic Structures Reports (HSR)	Reading: Preservation Brief #43, https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/43-historic-structure-reports.htm
9/2	No Class, Labor Day	
9/4	HSR Reviews	Assignment #1 distributed HSR samples posted on canvas (review)
9/9	Lecture: Supplementary Research Review (material and design integrity)	Reading: Review RST student HSR
9/11	Site Visit and Walkthrough (Photographs as needed)	
9/16	Lecture: Material Assessment	Reading: Weaver, 12, 13-19, 58-71, 99-103, 133-136, and 147-152.
9/18	Sampling Practice and Documentation	Assignment #1 due Assignment #2 distributed Reading: Material Assessment Lab Material
9/23	Site Visit, Sample Procurement (Sampling tools, documentation equipment)	
9/25	Material Analysis Lab	
9/30	Lecture: Investigating Old Buildings (condition assessment and equipment)	Assignment #2 due Assignment #3 distributed Reading: Weaver, 1-11
10/2	Lecture: Wood Deterioration	Reading: Weaver, 19-39
10/4	Visit to Colonial Williamsburg, Time TBA	
10/7	Lecture: Stone, Brick and Mortar Deterioration	Reading: Weaver, 71-88, 103-107, and 136-138
10/9	Lecture: Structural Movement and Performance	Reading: Weaver, 239-245 SPAB Control of Damp, handout (canvas)
10/14	No Class, Fall Break	
10/16	Site Visit (Observation)	
10/21	Site Visit (Investigation and monitoring)	
10/23	Site Visit (Investigation and monitoring)	
10/28	Review data (in-class)	Examples of data analysis (canvas)

10/30	Lecture: Establishing Scope and Specifications	Examples (canvas) Reading: Swanke Hayden Connell, 397-415 (canvas) Assignment #4 distributed
11/4	Lecture: Conserving Wood	Assignment #3 due Reading: Weaver, 39-57
11/6	Lecture: Conserving Masonry	Reading: Weaver, 107-109, 152-160, 161-173,
11/11	Conservation Exercise	
11/13	Conservation Exercise	
11/18	Conservation Exercise	Assignment #4 due
11/20	Lecture: Costs and Budget	Reading: Swanke Hayden Connell, 441-454 (canvas) Assignment #5 distributed
11/25	Lecture: Costs and Budget	Reading: Swanke Hayden Connell, 455-521 (canvas)
11/27	No Class, Thanksgiving	
12/2	Site Visit	Assignment #5 due
12/4	Guest Speaker	
12/11	Final Exam, Project due (assignment #6) at 6 pm	