MEMORANDUM FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN CENG 4399

SUBJECT: Independent Study Administrative Instructions, AY101S

1. Welcome to a three hour independent study, a course that allows you to explore a topic in depth. Leaders are required to be creative, life-long learners who understand contemporary issues and how they influence projects. An independent study course will require students (you!) to tackle a real problem, teach themselves skills beyond what has been covered in the curriculum while studying and considering the current contemporary issues influencing possible solutions. During the upcoming course, you will find your in-depth study to be interesting, challenging, rewarding, and fun! We will meet once a week at a mutually acceptable time to discuss your progress and review your prepared material (a date is selected as a starting point in Encl 1). My bio and contact information is attached (Encl 2). Your work supervisor bio will be provided once assigned.

2. Independent study provides an opportunity to study a topic in depth which has not been covered in previous course material and is related to future employment opportunities. The three hour independent study project normally focuses on the development of a paper/project/or lab report on a special topic and a resulting presentation to render the results. If the independent study is covering course material for a course not being offered, the requirements will match normal course requirements (projects, homework, exams, and a final exam) and submissions. This means that the student is doing an independent study of course material. The actual topic/focus will be decided upon with the course director and work supervisor while accomplishing the following objectives:

   - Apply the STEM thought process to develop creative solutions for open-ended problems.
   - Produce a publishable design/analysis/laboratory report or demonstrate understanding of course material through homework, projects, exams and a final exam.
   - Present a high-quality oral presentation.
   - Prepare for life-long intellectual growth, through self-directed learning

3. The professor supervising your work will meet with you once a week at a mutually agreed upon time to allow you to report on your progress and receive feedback.

4. If you need additional time to meet, you are encouraged to seek additional assistance during office hours during posted office hours …..for the course director those are M-F 1-3 PM. Use their e-mail to coordinate a time outside of office hours. If you need to meet with me, please use my e-mail to set-up a time (ronald_welch@uttyler.edu).

5. Weekly Procedures:
   a. We will take weekly time survey data – please ensure the Time Survey Sheets represent billable time.
   b. Bring note-taking material, etc. to every meeting. Meeting preparation is your individual responsibility. You will present during the meeting what you have accomplished since the last time you’ve met and what are your goals for the next week.
c. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Representation of other’s work as your own will not be tolerated. Cheating on examinations, quizzes, and homework and the false representation of work will be interpreted as academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined by the UT Tyler Student Guide on Conduct and Discipline.

6. Exams and Grading:

a. Grade Breakout and Cutoffs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Points</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Grade Scale</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Problem Sets, projects or Papers</td>
<td>700 (35%)</td>
<td>A+ 96.67%.1933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (2 or 3 each, 200 or 300 pt each) (if one)</td>
<td>600 (30%)</td>
<td>A 93.33%.1866</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam (if one) and/or presentation</td>
<td>500 (25%)</td>
<td>A- 90.00%.1800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Grade</td>
<td>200 (10%)</td>
<td>B+ 86.67%.1733</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2000 (100%)</td>
<td>B 83.33%.1666</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B- 80.00%.1600</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>C+ 76.67%.1533</td>
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<td>C 73.33%.1466</td>
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<td>C- 70.00%.1400</td>
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<td></td>
<td>D 65.00%.1300</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>F &lt;65.00%.&lt;1300</td>
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</table>

If you get less than 65% on all individual events you may fail the course, regardless of your course grade. Of course, final grades are only A, B, C, D, F. Therefore, a C- is a C for a final grade. This distribution is to graphically remind you of how well you are doing.

7. How You Should Prepare for Lessons

1. **Study:** President’s policy states that you are expected to spend **120-180 minutes on average** outside of class for each hour that you spend in class. Since this is a three-credit hour course, you should be spending 660-720 minutes per week on the course.

2. **Solve Problems:** This is the absolute key to success in this course! No scientific or mathematical subject can be mastered without working problems and practicing the skills that are required. The more problems you work yourself, the better you will understand the principles involved. Do not be satisfied with just getting the answers. Always try to understand the principles and process you used to solve each problem.

3. **Prepare Your Notebook:** The record shows that the best students keep the best notebooks. You should organize your notebook so that all material for each topic can be easily referenced.

8. Graded Events: All Graded Events (based on supervisor and focus of independent study) are **mandatory** and becomes part of your grade, failure to submit any required work will **result in an incomplete**. As a leader your goal is to make a clear, logical, and professional presentation of your work, which is both accurate and correct. As such both your presentation and the accuracy of your work are important, and both will be graded. All submissions are due by 5 PM.

9. Late Submissions. It is a basic principle of professionalism that “Professionals are not Late.” A “COORDINATED LATE” submission occurs when you will miss the suspense for a graded homework assignment and you contact me in advance. Notification immediately before the submission will not
suffice. Point cuts up to the amounts below may be assessed for a “COORDINATED LATE” submission:

1. 0-24 hours late a deduction of 25% of the earned grade
2. 24-48 hours late a deduction of 50% of the earned grade
3. More than 48 hours late No credit. Assignments must still be submitted.

Obviously there are circumstances that will occur and make a timely submission impossible and I will work with you when and if they occur.

All work in this course must be properly documented. As you are having your work reviewed it is likely that you might receive help from your classmates, just simply document it. Information from the course textbooks (equations and outlines of procedures), class notes, or me is considered immediately available to all students and need not be acknowledged or documented (unless you directly copy or paraphrased content). You are required to acknowledge and document all other assistance and references used. Documentation will be accomplished in accordance with any manual for writing, footnote or endnote, for papers, but for written homework, just place the documentation right at the point you received help using Who and What assistance.

10. Students Rights and Responsibilities. To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link:
http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/StudentRightsandResponsibilities.html

11. Grade Replacement/Forgiveness. If you are repeating this course for a grade replacement, you must file an intent to receive grade forgiveness with the registrar by the 12th day of class. Failure to do so will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates will receive grade forgiveness (grade replacement) for only three course repeats; graduates, for two course repeats during his/her career at UT Tyler.

12. State-Mandated Course Drop Policy. Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the 12th day of class (See Schedule of Classes for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule include, but are not limited to, the following: totally withdrawing from the university; being administratively dropped from a course; dropping a course for a personal emergency; dropping a course for documented change of work schedule; or dropping a course for active duty service with the U.S. armed forces or Texas National Guard. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Registrar's Office and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Registrar's Office if you have any questions.

13. Disability Services. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodation must provide documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Support Services counselor. If you have a disability, including a learning disability, for which you request an accommodation, please contact Ida MacDonald in the Disability Support Services office in UC 282, or call (903) 566-7079.

14. Student Absence due to Religious Observance. Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

15. Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities. If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two
weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

16. Social Security and FERPA Statement. It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

17. Emergency Exits and Evacuation. Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do Not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Encls

As

Ronald W. Welch
Dr. PE (VA)
CENG 4399 Course Director
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lesson Title</th>
<th>Paper/Project/Lab Report option/ Notes</th>
<th>Course Coverage option/Projects and homework as assigned/Notes</th>
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<td>30-Aug</td>
<td>In Progress review (IPR)</td>
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<td>6-Sep</td>
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<td>8-Sep</td>
<td>Withdraw without Penalty</td>
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<td>8-Nov</td>
<td>IPR</td>
<td>Draft paper/project/lab report due</td>
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<td>15-Nov</td>
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<td>22-Nov</td>
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<td>29-Nov</td>
<td>IPR</td>
<td>Paper/Project/Lab report due</td>
<td>Exam 3</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>6-Dec</td>
<td>IPR</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
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<td>Final</td>
<td>13 Dec</td>
<td>Monday 5:00-7:00 PM (if required)</td>
<td>Required</td>
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Dr. Ronald W. Welch

**Duty Position:** Chair, Dept Civil Engineering

**Office Building/Room:** RBS 1005 (Ratliff Building South)

**Office Hours:** M-F 1 - 3 PM

**Civilian Education:**
Ph.D. Civil Engineering, University of Illinois, 1999
MS, Structural Engineering, University of Illinois, 1991
Bachelor of Science, USMA, 1982

**Military Education:**
Command and General Staff College, 1995
Engineer Officers’ Advanced Course, 1986
Junior Officer Maintenance Course, 1983
Engineer Officers’ Basic Course, 1982
Airborne School, 1980

**Key Military Assignments:**
Associate Professor, United States Military Academy (USMA)
S3, 536th Engineer BN (CBT HVY), Ft. Kobbe, Panama
EOBC Platoon Trainer, EOAC Small Group Instructor
Commander, HHC, 554th Engineer Battalion, Ft. Belvoir, VA
PL, SPT PL, XO, S-3 8th Engineer BN (CBT), Ft Hood, TX.

**Courses Taught at USMA:**
- CE404 Design of Steel Structures
- EM 302 Statics and Dynamics
- CE 483 Reinforced Concrete Design
- CE491 Advanced Structural Analysis
- CE300 Fundamentals of Mechanics and Design

**Courses Taught at UT-Tyler:**
- CENG 3325 Structural Analysis
- CENG 4341 Ldrship, Business, Public Pol, Asset Mgt
- CENG 3306 Mechanics of Materials
- CENG 2301 Statics
- ENGR 1200 Engineering Methods
- UNIV 1300 Freshman Experience
- CMGT 3315 Construction design Theory

**Personal Information:**
- Wife, Laura
- Daughter, Ashley, Age 25 years, Son-in Law Chuck, 26 years
- Daughter, Samantha, Age 23 years, Son-in-Law Chris, 27 Years

**Professional Registration:**
Civil Engineer, Virginia, 1987

**Professional Organizations:**
- Society of American Military Engineers
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- Structural Engineering Institute

**Favorite Movie:** Lord of the Rings (All three)

**Hero:** George Washington Roebling; **Super Hero:** Batman
CENG 4399 Course Objectives:

- Apply the STEM thought process to develop creative solutions for open-ended problems.
- Produce a publishable design/analysis/laboratory report or demonstrate understanding of course material through homework, projects, exams and a final exam.
- Present a high-quality oral presentation.
- Prepare for life-long intellectual growth, through self-directed learning
- Any other objectives established at the beginning of the semester by the self-directed supervisor as appropriate to the project