

**IE 1055 - Facility Layout and Material Handling  
Syllabus  
Spring 2025 - 2026**

**SCU course number:** 312023030

**Instructor:** Prof. Robert T. P. Lu

**Credit Hours:** 3

**E-mail:** [robertlu@scupi.cn](mailto:robertlu@scupi.cn)

**Office Hours:** Monday and Tuesday  
12:00 PM - 13:50 PM  
16:25 PM - 17:35 PM

**Office:** SCUPI building, room N414

**Teaching Assistant:**

Kiko Jian 简项君

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**Lectures:**

Tuesday, 13:50 - 16:25

**Classroom:** SCUPI building, room S206

**Textbook** Facilities Planning (Fourth Edition), by Tompkins, White, Bozer, and Tanchoco, Publ. John Wiley and Sons.

**Course Objective**

This course is to study the design, planning, selection, implementation, and management of production facilities and material handling systems, including location, flow, layout, space, and operation. Emphasis will be on production systems, automation, material handling systems, storage systems, and warehouse operations aiming at improving quality, cost, and delivery. The overall objective is to learn how to conduct a new facility design or redesign of an existing facility together with the material handling systems.

**Course Outline**

This course provides an introduction to facility layout, location, and material handling systems. The course topics tentatively include an overview of why facility layout and material handling systems are important and its relationship with supply chain, activity relationships

analysis, manufacturing flow pattern design, space and personnel requirements, construction and improvement layout planning algorithms, systematic layout planning techniques, manual and computerized layout techniques, facility location, introduction to material handling equipment, material handling system design, and warehouse operations. Topics may vary depending upon the actual student composition and time constraints.

**Applicable ABET Outcomes for this course:**

1. Identify, formulate, and solve complex engineering problems by applying principles of engineering, science, and mathematics
3. Communicate effectively with a range of audiences
5. Function effectively on a team whose members together provide leadership, create a collaborative and inclusive environment, establish goals, plan tasks, and meet objectives
7. Acquire and apply new knowledge as needed, using appropriate learning strategies

**Pre-requisites** No specific courses but students must show sufficient academic maturity

**Co-requisites** None

**Grading**

Project (1 meeting, 4 project phase, and final design)	50%
Semester Exam	35%
Homework and paper study	10%
Class participation - (Think and Discuss)	5%

**Final grades:**

等级成绩 (Level score)	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F
等级成绩 (Level score)	优秀 (Excellent)		良好 (Good)		中等 (Average)		合格 (Qualified)			不合格 (Failed)	
百分制成绩 (Percentage score)	100~90	89~85	84~80	79~76	75~73	72~70	69~66	65~63	62~61	60	<60
成绩绩点 (Grade point)	4	3.7	3.3	3	2.7	2.3	2	1.7	1.3	1	0

**Course Policies:**

- Students are expected to come prepared for each lecture by reading the appropriate material prior to class

- Unless announced otherwise, questions concerning the grading of homework assignments, project-related materials, or exams must be presented to the instructor or the TA within one week (7 calendar days) after the materials have been made available to the student
- Late assignments will NOT be accepted and all assignments, projects, examinations, etc. must be completed/taken at the scheduled time. No exceptions will be made unless there are truly extenuating circumstances
- Cheating or academic dishonesty in any form will result in a grade of F for the course; there will be no exceptions to this policy.
- Professional classroom demeanor is required; in particular, all cell phones and personal electronic devices must remain off or silent during the lecture.
- Do not conduct side conversations during the lecture as it is distracting to the lecturer and other students.

### **Email Policy**

I will respond to emails as promptly as I can, usually within 2 days. For detailed technical questions, please come to TA or me during office hour. I will not be addressing detailed technical questions via email as it is not efficient.

### **Project**

The semester project will be by phase. Detail description of the project and project phase will be provided during class. The project will be team-based, applying facility layout and material handling system design techniques to solve a real-world problem. Evaluation of the project will be based on both the presentation and the written report. In the team-based project report, you will need to identify which part of the report you were responsible for. The overall performance of the team report and presentation will account for 50% of your grade and your personal performance of the report and presentation will account for the other 50%. That means, while the project will be team-based, the evaluation will be individual-based.

### **Reference Material**

[www.mmh.com](http://www.mmh.com) – *Modern Materials Handling*

[www.idsystems.com](http://www.idsystems.com) – *ID Systems*

[www.mhpn.com](http://www.mhpn.com) – *Material Handling Product News*

[www.mhi.org](http://www.mhi.org) - *Material Handling Industry* (a trade association)

[www.cicmhe.org](http://www.cicmhe.org) – *College Industry Council for Material Handling Education* (an educational group within the Material Handling Industry of America)

[www.develocity.com](http://www.develocity.com) – *DC Velocity*. Discusses equipment and best practices for warehouse and distribution center operation

<http://www.apics.org/> – *APICS* is the association for supply chain management

**Audio-Video Recording Statement**

To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussions and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance should be used solely for the student's own private use.

**Make-up exam Policy**

Make-up exam grading is only to replace your semester test grading. Students who pass the course after the make-up exam will receive only a passing grade as the final grade.

**Attendance Policy**

Abide by the SCU regulations.

**Special Accommodations**

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact the instructor.

**Tentative Schedule**

Week 1: Introduction and overview of strategic facilities planning  
Week 2: Product, process, and schedule design  
Week 3: Scrap and rework calculations  
Week 4: Machine fractions  
Week 5: Planning departments, product, process, cells  
Week 6: Activity relationships  
Week 7: Flow patterns and measuring flow  
Week 8: Space allocations, aisles, and personnel requirements  
Week 9: Location Problems  
Week 10: Material handling equipment and systems I  
Week 11: Layout types  
Week 12: Systematic Layout Planning  
Week 13: General algorithmic layout approaches  
Week 14: Computerized layout packages  
Week 15: Warehousing and material handling system design  
Week 16: Final project presentation.  
Week 17: Semester exam

**Semester Exam Schedule**

TBD