

Dr. Luca Quadrifoglio
Associate Professor
Zachry Department of Civil Engineering

Undergraduate course with International Experience

The proposed program will modify and enhance an existing undergraduate course (CVEN322 or CVEN307). The proposed innovation consists of partnering and collaborating with a similar/related course simultaneously taught at the Dipartimento di Ingegneria Civile at the Politecnico di Torino in Italy. The synergistic collaboration will primarily consist of forming teams composed by students from both the TAMU's class and the Politecnico's class to collaborate on a common project, which will be a requirement for completing both classes. To foster and promote significant collaboration and expose students to a true International Experience, they will be required to communicate via video conference. The constraining time difference would also represent an opportunity for the students to learn how to effectively overcome the challenge, which often exists in real life situations. The proposed significant interactions with peers from a different country will directly address and align with University's learning outcomes, such as expose students to an experience able to enhance their "social, cultural, and global competence" and to train them to "live and work effectively in a diverse and global society", "articulate the value of a diverse and global perspective" and "recognize diverse economic, political, cultural and religious opinions and practices". The main goal is to enhance and promote international exposure for our students and their education and increase the visibility of our School to an international audience. The assessment plan will consist of developing an evaluation questionnaire tailored to capture the knowledge and value gained by students of both classes. A successful outcome of the proposed program will encourage more students to take advantage of these opportunities, provide more students with meaningful international experiences and eventually fine-tune the format and include it as regular requirement within the Engineering curriculum.