COURSE SYLLABUS

Introduction to Site Surveying Course Online (Coming Soon)

This course covers the foundational skills of interior site surveying, from tool selection and preliminary data collection to refined room notation and quality-assured as-built documentation. Students will develop the precision and professional habits needed to accurately capture and communicate spatial data from real interior environments.

Group classes (Live Online) and onsite training are available for this course. For more information, email partnerships@vdci.edu or visit: https://vdci.edu/courses/introduction-to-site-surveying



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Course Outline

Unit 1: Review of the Tools

- This unit provides a technical overview of the manual instrumentation required to perform high-precision interior field surveys.
- Each tool is selected for its specific utility in translating physical spaces into accurate 2D representations on paper.

Unit 2: History of the Tools

- This unit examines the mechanical evolution and standardization of surveying instruments.
- Understanding the transition from rudimentary physical benchmarks to modern precision manual tools provides the technical context for current measurement tolerances and professional field standards.

Unit 3: Preliminary Survey

- This unit defines the Reconnaissance Survey protocol, a high-speed data acquisition method used to capture essential spatial envelopes when time or site access is severely restricted.
- The objective is to secure primary dimensions and structural pinch points without the exhaustive detail of a full as-built survey.

Unit 4: Refined Room Notations

- This unit establishes the professional standard for annotating a more complete field sketch.
- The objective is to ensure that the raw dimensional data collected is communicated with close to enough technical specificity to allow a skilled CAD technician to reconstruct the interior volume and generally understand the space without further site visits.

Unit 5: A Proper Room Survey

- This unit establishes the professional standard for producing a definitive As-Built field record.
- Unlike preliminary sketches, this polished room survey integrates a fixed Point of Beginning (P.O.B.) and comprehensive vertical data, including viewable ceiling drops and plenum transitions, providing the specificity required for drafting by any CAD technician.

Unit 6: Quality Assurance & Control

- This unit establishes the rigorous auditing protocols required to validate the accuracy of a field survey before it is finalized for digital entry.

- The primary objective is to identify mathematical discrepancies, verify non-orthogonal (non-90-degree) geometries, and ensure that the documented data reflects actual physical constraints of the site.