

Steve Thomas – Shums Coda

Instructor Ratings



Past AEI Courses Instructed

2025

Building Inspector 101 (Strategies, Process, Soft Skills, Technologies, & Effective Communication)

★★★★★ 5

Student Comments:

“Instructor is knowledgeable, funny, and keeps material/class engaging.”

“Class is very relative to positions that deal with the community.”

“The instructor is knowledgeable and knows how to make dry material more interesting and engaging for the audience.”

Egress & Accessibility In the 2021 IBC

★★★★★ 4.5

Student Comments:

“The instructor has the ability to interact and keep participants engaged in class. Also great use of pictures to illustrate points in the code book for easy and better understanding.”

“Comedy and light hearted conversation made it easy to listen and learn.”

“Instructor was really engaging and the content of slides were relevant to his class. Loved that he provided real time examples, plans and photos that emphasized points, and opportunities for class participation which offered more in depth content.”

Legal Aspects of Code Administration (CBO Test Preparation)



Student Comments:

“A fresh perspective on legal aspects of development processes!”

“A great instructor who covers the material well. Class was organized and Steve took the time to answer all questions. I’ve been taking classes over 22 years, my first class was with Steve and this is likely my last (retiring). In my opinion he is the best instructor for code classes.”

“Well prepared. Well spoken. Great materials and presentation. Steve made the course interesting while still presenting some dry material.”

2024

High-Rise Buildings



Student Comments:

“Steve has a perfect balance of detail and depth, without getting too technical or boring.”

“Instructor is healthily enthusiastic and engaging, has lots of examples, and leads good discussion.”

“Instructor encourages conversation, idea sharing, and professional differences of opinion. The realistic examples he gives are great and opinions of code interpretation were greatly appreciated.”

Advanced Occupancies



Student Comments:

“I like the instructor's philosophy – he starts with reading code language then goes into the interpretation of the code.”

“A very informative class with instructor providing situational analysis base on the provided examples.”

“Instructor engages with students, had a clear and precise PowerPoint, and had a nice look at code intent vs. language.”

“Great class, I enjoyed it all! The presenter was well prepared and kept us engaged.”

Written Communications

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.5

Student Comments:

“I appreciated the balance of good communication and how things can take a turn and go bad. Class had funny videos and good personal stories.”

“Course highlights the use of proper communication while dealing with the general public and then managing the type of physical communication.”

“A nice review of the workflow and standard forms/documents that are used throughout the process.”

“Presenter is always prepared, always entertaining, and holds lots of knowledge.”

2023

2021 IBC Update

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 5

Customer Service and Public Relations

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.5

IBC Means of Egress

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 5

2022

Permit Technician Leadership

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.5

Student Comments:

“Steve Thomas knows a lot about everything. He keeps everyone engaged and has great, useful ideas.”

“Instructor did a good job presenting topics and is able to keep the class lively. Really liked the videos. He's one of the best presenters!”

ICC A117.1 – 2017 Update

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.5

Fire Rated Assemblies, Firestopping, and Joint Systems



Student Comments:

“Great material and a thorough presentation.”