

# CA2346: EXPERIENCING ARCHITECTURE

---

## Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

## Part I Course Overview

### Course Title

Experiencing Architecture

### Subject Code

CA - Civil and Architectural Engineering

### Course Number

2346

### Academic Unit

Architecture and Civil Engineering (CA)

### College/School

College of Engineering (EG)

### Course Duration

One Semester

### Credit Units

3

### Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

### Medium of Instruction

English

### Medium of Assessment

English

### Prerequisites

Nil

### Precursors

Nil

### Equivalent Courses

Nil

### Exclusive Courses

Nil

## Part II Course Details

### Abstract

This course aims to introduce you to the various social, cultural and historical aspects that influence architectural design.

**Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)**

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Describe the nature of architecture and building.		x		
2	Recognise the impact of various social and human factors on architectural design.		x		
3	Solve building design problems relating to the requirements of ergonomics and anthropometrics.			x	
4	Explain the reasons of emergence, growth and termination of prevailing architectural trends.		x		
5	Assess the merits of an architectural design in terms of key social, aesthetic and functional aspects.			x	
6	Incorporate considerations of the social aspects into the process of building design.			x	

**A1: Attitude**

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

**A2: Ability**

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

**A3: Accomplishments**

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

**Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)**

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lecture	Consists of oral presentations by instructors intended to present information on a particular subject. Other forms of teaching and learning activities will also be used to stimulate your participation during a lecture.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

2	Tutorial	Activity complementary to the lecture classes to provide more opportunities for student-instructor and student-student interaction. Students will be engaged in more detailed discussions on the lecture materials and/or assessment tasks in a tutorial.	2, 4, 5	
3	Seminar	Consists of oral presentations by instructors and/or external guests, which focuses on a selected topic relating to the integrated studio or the various subject area courses.	6	

**Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)**

ATs		CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Assignment	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	60	-	No
2	Mid-term test	1, 2, 3, 4	20	-	No

**Continuous Assessment (%)**

80

**Examination (%)**

20

**Examination Duration (Hours)**

1.5

**Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)**

30

**Minimum Examination Passing Requirement (%)**

30

**Additional Information for ATs**

To pass a course, a student must obtain minimum marks of 30% in both coursework and examination components, and an overall mark of at least 40%

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)****Assessment Task**

Assignment

**Criterion**

1.1 Excellent understanding of the reasons of emergence, growth and termination of prevailing architectural trends.

1.2 Skillful and innovative development of building design relating to the requirements of ergonomics and anthropometrics.

1.3 Excellent discovery of key social, aesthetic and functional aspects in architectural design.

1.4 Comprehensive incorporation of considerations of the social aspects into the process of building design.

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

High

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Significant

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Moderate

**Marginal (D)**

Basic

**Failure (F)**

Not even reaching marginal level

---

**Assessment Task**

Mid-term test

**Criterion**

2.1 Thorough and correct explanation of various social and human factors on architectural design.

2.2 Clear and comprehensive outline of the merits of an architectural design in terms of key social, aesthetics and functional aspects.

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

High

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Significant

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Moderate

**Marginal (D)**

Basic

**Failure (F)**

Not even reaching marginal level

---

**Assessment Task**

Examination

**Criterion**

3.1 Thorough and correct explanation of various social and human factors on architectural design.

3.2 Clear and comprehensive outline of the merits of an architectural design in terms of key social, aesthetics and functional aspects.

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

High

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Significant

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Moderate

**Marginal (D)**

Basic

**Failure (F)**

Not even reaching marginal level

## Part III Other Information

### Keyword Syllabus

Architectural vocabulary; role of architects; definition of architecture; appreciation of architecture; evaluation of architecture; architectural aesthetics; human activities and needs; anthropometrics & ergonomics; Social, cultural & political factors of Architecture; Architecture and Nature, Architecture and context; Architecture, community and heritage; Globalization of Architecture.

### Reading List

#### Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Ching, D. K. F. (2002). Architecture: space, form and order. Hoboken, New Jersey : Wiley.

#### Additional Readings

Title	
1	Ching, F. D. K., Jarzombek, M. and Prakash, V. (2007). A global history of architecture. New York: Wiley and Sons.
2	Architectural Manual Compiling Team (1995). Architectural design manual. Beijing: China Architecture and Building Press. 《建筑设计资料集》1-10集，北京：中国建筑工业出版社
3	Bussagli, M. (2007). Understanding architecture. (Chinese translation). Hong Kong: Joint Publication Ltd.
4	Heath, T. (1984). Method in architecture. New York: John Wiley & Son Ltd.
5	Nuttgens, P. (1983). The story of architecture. Oxford: Phaidon.
6	Rapoport, A. (2005). Culture, architecture and design. Chicago: Locke Science Publication Co.
7	Rapoport, A. (1969). House form and culture. New York: Sage.
8	Wolfgang, P. (1988). Post-occupancy evaluation. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold.
9	Xue, C. Q. L. (2001). Contemplating on architecture. Hong Kong: Pace Publishing Ltd., 2001. 薛求理，《思考建筑》，香港：贝思出版有限公司
10	Weston, R. (2004). Plans, sections and elevations: key buildings of the twentieth century. New York: W.W. Norton.
11	Clark, Roger H. and Pause, Michael (2012). Precedents in architecture: analytic diagrams, formative ideas, and partis . Hoboken, N.J. : John Wiley & Sons. (online access)
12	Fawcett, A. Peter. (2003). Architecture design notebook. Oxford: Architectural Press. (online access)