

CA3170: HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE – CHINESE AND ASIAN

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

History of Architecture – Chinese and Asian

Subject Code

CA - Civil and Architectural Engineering

Course Number

3170

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 provide an understanding of Chinese and Asian architecture in the history and introduce the basic knowledge and method in the study of architectural history and historic architecture.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Evaluate the built environment and designed works from the periods of early architecture up to the industrial revolution in Western and Chinese cultures.	x		
2	Explain the key characteristics and development of the major stages of world architectural evolution before the industrial revolution.		x	
3	Compare representative architectural examples from various periods and locations and analyses their spatial, material, technological and stylistic characteristics in conjunction with their historical, political, and intellectual environments.		x	
4	Develop skills for the comparative analysis of historical precedents.		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	Explain the representative architectural works, ideas and figures of various historic period.	1, 2, 3
2	Tutorial	Require students to discuss and use the knowledge to reconstruct historic works.	1, 2, 3
3	Workshop	Require students to apply the knowledge to design.	3, 4

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

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

Mid-term test

Criterion

CAPACITY to GRASP the basic information of history of Chinese and Asian architecture.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Assignment

Criterion

ABILITY to ANALYSE the history of Chinese and Asian architecture and trends and reconstruct historic building on paper.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Examination

Criterion

ABILITY to COMPREHEND the history of Chinese and Asian architecture and its application to modern 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 levels

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

- Traditional Chinese architecture. Wood structure. Planning of the ancient cities. Feng shui practice in site planning. Chinese garden and landscape. Modular system. Building type in ancient China. Culture and heritage. Modern and contemporary Chinese architecture.
- Japanese architecture, Hong Kong architecture, Architecture of East, Southeast, Central and West Asia, Colonial and post-colonial architecture in Asia.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Nil

Additional Readings

	Title
1	Cruickshank, D. (Ed.) (1996). Sir Banister Fletcher's a history of architecture (20th ed). Oxford: Architectural Press.
2	Nute, K. (2004). Place, time and being in Japanese architecture. London and New York: Routledge.
3	Liang, S. C. (1984). A pictorial history of Chinese architecture. Cambridge: The MIT Press.
4	Rujivacharakul, V., Hahn, H., Oshima, K. and Christensen, P. (2013, ed.). Architecturalised Asia - mapping a continent through history. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
5	Yeang, K. (1992). The architecture of Malaysia. Amsterdam and Kuala Lumpur: The Pepin Press.
6	Nuttgens, P. (1997). The story of architecture. London: Phaidon.
7	Pan, G. X. (2001). The history of Chinese architecture. Beijing: China Architecture and Building Press.
8	Sadler, A.L. (2009). Japanese architecture: a short history. Rutland, Vt.: Tuttle Publication.
9	Xue, C. Q. L. (2006). The global impact: Overseas architectural design in China. Shanghai: Tongji University.
10	Xue, C. Q. L. (2016). Hong Kong architecture 1945-2015: from colonial to global. Singapore: Springer.
11	Xue, C. Q. L. and Ding, G. (2018). A history of design institutes in China: from Mao to market. London and New York: Routledge.