



# PHSC 11800 1, ARCH 11800 1, CHST 11800 1 - Physics and Contemporary Architecture - Instructor(s) - Heinrich M Jaeger

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Spring 2024**

Number Enrolled: **48**

Number of Responses: **20**

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## Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

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Creation Date: **Thursday, July 11, 2024**

## What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments
Physics and how it connects with architecture
I learned a lot about architecture around the world and some crucial physics concepts.
Physics in architecture and buildings, graphic statics
Very rudimentary understanding of broad physics concepts, estimation problems, and awesome guest lecturers doing cool things in architecture.
Learned nothing – lectures suck. Truly physics professors – they talk a lot yet say nothing
Estimation
I learned how forces flow in a variety of architectural structures. I also learned more general physics concepts, architectural features, and about the future of architecture with the way the world is changing.
I learned about how to make reasonable estimations, as well as how to use graphic statics and other physics principles to analyze forces in constructions.
I learned about the confluence of physics and architecture, and how architecture negotiates challenges of physics like how to dissipate forces.
Basic concepts in physics and how that is reflected in architecture. Also, sustainability and other challenges for the future of architecture and how the field has developed.
Dimensional Analysis
Surface level understanding of many of the basic physics principles that govern everyday things, especially buildings
How physics and architecture are linked including concerns about sustainability, form and function.

## Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments
labs were interesting
Lectures and labs were challenging but also helpful to my learning.
Lecture and guest lectures
Lab was by far the thing that helped me develop a better intuition for the course material. The lectures were interesting, but the "intuition" for derivations often required outside knowledge that the professors insisted could be derived if one thought about things hard enough.
Labs
Discussion
The Monday lectures were helpful because we learned all of the general physics concepts. We then applied what we learned (in the Monday lectures) in our labs each Thursday. This let us put the information into practice and understand how things work when you actually go to make a construction of something. The Thursday evening guest lectures were fantastic. We heard from highly accomplished architects and engineers from around the world who are all working on different areas of architecture. We were able to learn how things are working in the actual world of architecture and what architects are doing for the future of architecture as the world changes.
I most learned from the guest lectures of the course, I learned a fair amount from class lectures as well but they were slower paced and a lot of time was spent on estimations.
nothing did, it was obvious the professors weren't putting much effort into the course
The lectures were pretty good, but sometimes they went on for far too long about dimensional analysis problems that went over most people's heads. The labs were good in terms of solidifying our learning, but the long lectures and long labs plus the guest lectures are a little much in terms of time and how efficiently time is used by the lecturers.
The guest lectures created an learning opportunity I could get no where else.
Guest lectures are super interesting, and the design/load test labs are pretty fun. Lecture was helpful just probably about an hour too long
The guest lectures were really really interesting.

## Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	3.82	4.00	0.00%	5.88%	35.29%	29.41%	29.41%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	3.47	4.00	11.76%	11.76%	23.53%	23.53%	29.41%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.06	3.00	23.53%	5.88%	29.41%	23.53%	17.65%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	3.44	4.00	12.50%	12.50%	18.75%	31.25%	25.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	3.35	3.00	5.88%	23.53%	29.41%	11.76%	29.41%
My work was evaluated fairly.	3.53	4.00	17.65%	5.88%	17.65%	23.53%	35.29%
I felt respected in this class.	4.06	4.00	5.88%	5.88%	5.88%	41.18%	41.18%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	3.59	4.00	11.76%	5.88%	23.53%	29.41%	29.41%

## Additional comments about the course:

Comments
n/a
Incredibly passionate instructors, terrible, and let me reiterate, terrible grading schema and organization. I'm filling this form out the week before finals and I still have no idea what percent of my grade is determined by homework, lab assignments, attendance and participation, and the final. Also, first day of class, the professors were clear that we didn't have to take notes during the class and that they would actually prefer if we came without our devices and notebooks to make the class more participatory. 3/4 of the way through the course when people began asking about finals, they mentioned that if we attended class and "referred to our notes" we would do well on the exam. The concepts were cool and the only redeeming quality about this course was the lab and SOME guest lectures.
Don't take – the guest lectures are available to the public. Tune into those without taking the class, the course is really shit.
Fun class but a bit stressful due to ambiguity about course expectations and grade breakdown plus lack of constructive feedback on homework.
I wish I received more feedback for the homework assignments. When points were taken off, I would have liked to know (briefly) what I did wrong/could have done better, rather than just seeing the score. Additionally, I wish that the final exam topics were announced sooner.
This class is great for people trying to fulfill a core requirement and the guest lectures are truly the highlight of the course. However, you won't know how to write the assignments until the first few weeks in. The professors don't really give much transparency on how you'll be graded— ESPECIALLY FOR THE FINAL.
HWs are guest lecture summaries and then one final exam of short answer questions. Great core class
It's clear that the instructors (Sidney Nagel and Heinrich Jager) are passionate about what they do, and I do appreciate their willingness to experiment/acknowledge that they don't know everything about architecture...to quote a famous Tweet, they did "model intellectual honesty." Early lectures were very strong and engaging. Debriefing guest lectures with them gave me a great chance to see how their gears turned. Samantha Livermore in particular was an excellent TA, evinced through her demeanor during labs and her receptiveness to my questions.
I will say that I did not have a clear idea of how I was going to be evaluated for pretty much the entirety of the course, and a formal grade breakdown was never made available to me and my classmates. I received what I perceive as beneficial, if occasionally nitpicky, feedback on some of my homework assignments (weekly essays about guest lectures). I would definitely appreciate more transparency about the weighting/expectations in future iterations of this course, especially since it's a Core and will attract people who don't already have the experience in being evaluated from a physical/architectural standpoint.

## I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	31.25%	68.75%
Anyone interested in the topic	37.50%	62.50%

## Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
lectures as well as labs
The way they presented the slides and went over examples.
Lectures and Labs
They were passionate about what they were doing and I like how cheerful Jaeger was. My only motivation to keep going to lecture was to see how cheerful that man was at 9 in the morning.
Nothing contributed to my learning except the guest lectures.
The Monday lectures were helpful because Professor Jaeger and Professor Nagel both explained the topics they covered, meaning that if one explanation didn't make sense, the other one was able to put it into different terms.
When doing estimations, it helped that we discussed solutions first to help us learn the thought process behind making them.
The very first lecture
The guest lectures and labs
loved the guest lectures
Lectures. Both professors are important and influential in their fields, I wish they spent more time talking about interesting physics things I could never grasp instead of wasting time covering the same things or talking in circles.
The guest lectures were best.

## What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
n/a
More descriptive slides and having more resources outside of class to expand my learning.
maybe making the lecture more fun
Be clear about grading schema and outline expectations for HW and all graded material. Again, the course was terribly disorganized, but at least I got to learn about some interesting research.
Learn to teach high level topics to introductory students. The professors are definitely smart, they just can't articulate their thoughts and ideas. They are horrible at giving lectures.
I wish there was more even distribution between the first half of Monday lectures (discussion of guest lecture & estimation/dimensional analysis problems) and the second half of the lectures during which we learned about new concepts. It felt skewed toward the first half and consequently I felt that the time when we could learn new concepts was rushed.
We did not spend as much time applying physics principles we learned in class, most assignments were based off of the guest lectures, so maybe to help remember physics principles some review problems would be helpful.
everything; very unorganized course and expectations were completely unclear; the visiting lectures were the most interesting aspect; the professors' lectures were perfunctory and they didn't put much effort into it; you could tell that the professors weren't super invested in the course and just wanted a reason to have a lecture series with different architects.
They were extremely unclear on what the final exam would look like and what the expectations were. I overstudied far too much and had very little idea it would look like it did. The final exam was easy in the end but giving non-physics students a final where you make it sound like dimensional analysis and graphic statics etc. will be a major component of it, is frankly terrifying. The Rayleigh's scattering component wasn't explained well enough in class or delineated in the slides well enough for us to understand it. The final was a major let down for me as I really enjoyed the class but felt pretty betrayed by these professors for the way they didn't give any accurate ways to prepare for the final exam and didn't release any sort of grade breakdown before it.
I really like Professor Nagel and Professor Jaeger and I am sure they are talented, intelligent physicists. They are not the best at explaining some of the more "complicated" (being a relative term) physics concepts to a lay audience. I would have appreciated if they were able to break it down more.
Not clear at all how the final grade would be comprised.
Talk about more physics! It kind of feels like the professors think we're humanities kids and won't grasp the physics. I would've wanted more theoretical discussions about, for example, the physics of a granular materials
Class meetings were often very slowly paced, or went over things in extreme detail that wasn't necessary.

## The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	3.20	4.00	26.67%	13.33%	6.67%	20.00%	33.33%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	3.53	4.00	13.33%	20.00%	0.00%	33.33%	33.33%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	3.67	4.00	13.33%	6.67%	20.00%	20.00%	40.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.00	5.00	13.33%	0.00%	13.33%	20.00%	53.33%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.00	4.00	13.33%	0.00%	6.67%	33.33%	46.67%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	3.80	4.00	13.33%	6.67%	13.33%	20.00%	46.67%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	3.21	3.50	26.67%	6.67%	13.33%	13.33%	33.33%	6.67%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.00	5.00	13.33%	0.00%	20.00%	6.67%	60.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.20	5.00	6.67%	0.00%	20.00%	13.33%	60.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	3.80	4.00	13.33%	6.67%	6.67%	33.33%	40.00%	0.00%

**Please include the name of the TA/CA/Intern you are evaluating. What aspects of the TA's teaching contributed most to your learning? What could the TA modify to help you learn more? Please include any additional feedback for the TA/CA/Intern.**

Comments
Lei Su, was the TA that I interacted the most with and he was always helpful whenever I was confused about a physics topic and was very supportive.
Samantha Livermore
– Samantha Livermore is undistinguished and lack luster in the classroom. Additionally, she is a hamas supporting idiot.
– Lei su does not have clear standards for grading homework
Sam was a great TA, especially during labs.
Samantha Livermore. Great TA!
Lei Su.
Lei was most helpful during the lab section of this course. However, I wish the TA would check in throughout the time and talk through concepts with us, rather than asking us to explain everything to him at the end and then tell us we are incorrect.
Samantha was particularly helpful in the lab portions of class.
Both TAs Samantha Livermore and Wei Lu were helpful
Samantha Livermore
Sam was super helpful, especially when the professors weren't keying us into much. The labs she led were super fun and engaging!
Primarily evaluating Samantha Livermore, the TA for my lab section

## The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.27	5.00	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	36.36%	54.55%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.09	5.00	9.09%	9.09%	9.09%	9.09%	63.64%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	3.91	4.00	9.09%	0.00%	27.27%	18.18%	45.45%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.00	4.00	9.09%	0.00%	18.18%	27.27%	45.45%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.36	5.00	9.09%	0.00%	9.09%	9.09%	72.73%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.36	5.00	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	27.27%	63.64%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.09	4.00	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	54.55%	36.36%	0.00%

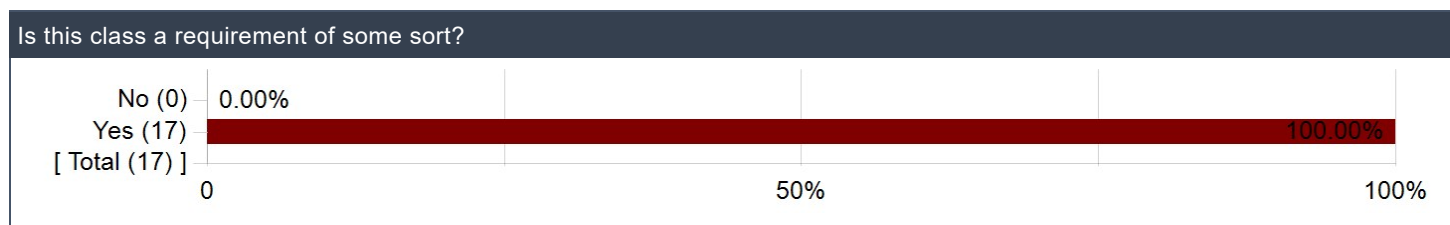
## How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	3.92	4.00	7.69%	0.00%	30.77%	15.38%	46.15%	0.00%
Field Trips	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Library Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

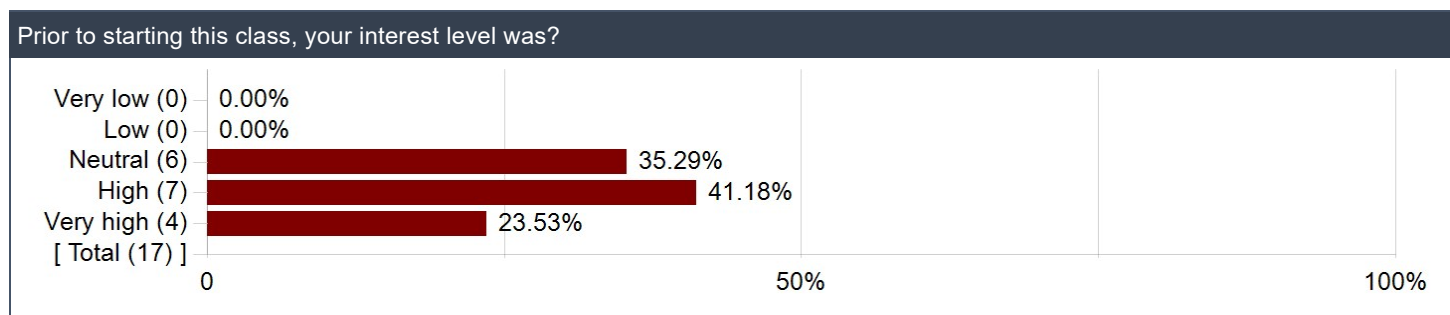
## Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
Guest Lectures
Thursday guest lecture series with renowned architects from around the globe. Very interesting, though some were better than others.
Guest lectures

## Is this class a requirement of some sort?

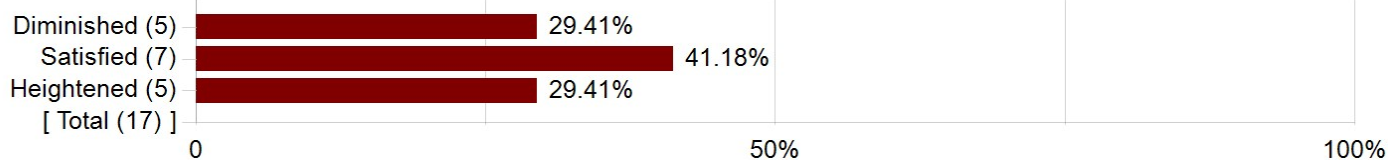


## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

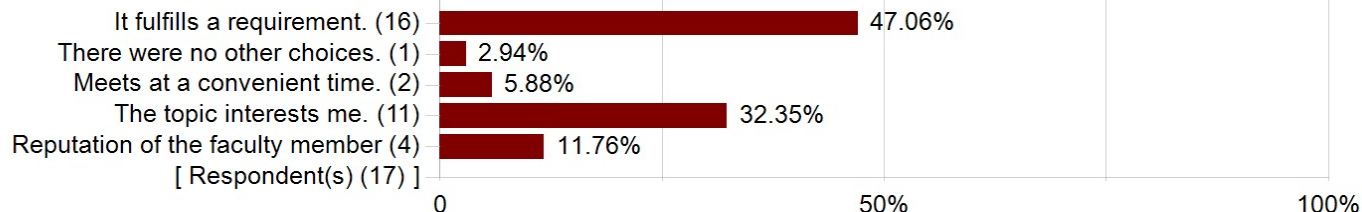


## Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

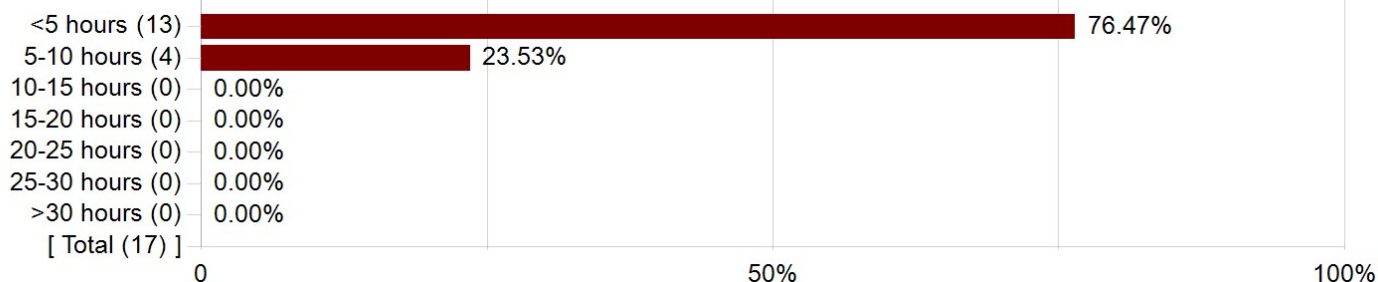


## Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



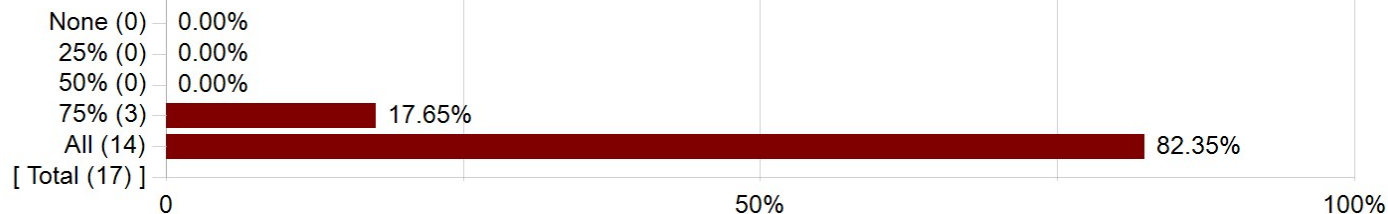
## How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?

How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



## What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?



**Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.**

Comments
not hard
It does get a bit difficult throughout the quarter if you don't understand topics right away, but by practicing concepts and keeping up with lectures everything should feel better.
Easy
Stupid class
No need to have prior physics experience
Not difficult
I had very little background experience and this class did not feel unapproachable. I learned a lot and Professors Jaeger and Nagel did an excellent job explaining everything in layman's terms.
Most content was fairly straightforward, guest lectures were a little more challenging because they were experts in their respective fields but overtime, they became more comprehensible.
good
Core class, designed as such
Easy to pick up