ARCH A4124

Avery 115 (Wednesday) and 114 (Friday)

Structures Systems & Materials Wednesdays & Fridays 9:00-11:00 AM

George Wheeler, Norman Weiss, Richard Pieper, Dan Allen, John Childs, Chris Gembinski, Theo Prudon Fall 2014

Description

This course surveys historic architectural materials and building systems and structures. The first part focuses on traditional building materials such as stone, brick, terra cotta, metal, concrete, cast stone, mortar, and wood) and explores sourcing and production of the materials, identification, use in the fabrication of architectural elements, basic properties that limit or allow their use and performance as architectural materials. This part of the course also serves as the foundation for most of the subsequent material-based conservation courses such as: 1. Architectural Metals, 2. Concrete, Cast Stone and Mortar, 3. Brick, Terra Cotta and Stone, and 4. Wood.

The second part of the semester surveys historic structures and systems and approaches the building not from its constituent materials and their properties but as an assembly of particular materials and building elements. It studies the design, detailing and material together to understand how materials interact and assess their collective performance. The question will not be the condition of the individual material but are the design, detailing and material the right solution for the visual and technical performance required. The latter will take into account also such issues as environmental, public health and fireproofing considerations, which played an important role throughout the 19th and 20th centuries.

This part of the course is itself is divided into sections. The first is dedicated to an examination of more traditional building technologies and focuses on primarily load bearing wall systems. The second part will examine fundamental changes that occur in the building trades as a result of the Industrial Revolution. It deals with more developed building technologies as they began to emerge by the middle or the end of the 19th century with steel or concrete structural framing systems and their exterior cladding of masonry, glass and metal curtain wall systems or concrete and stone panels.

At all times not only will the historic technology be presented but also how it performs and what types of failures may be anticipated will be integral to the part of the discussions.

Readings and Assignments

Readings are posted to the *Shared Files* folder in *CourseWorks*. Students should be prepared to answer questions on the readings during class.

Grades

Attendance & class participation 20% Assignments 30% Examinations 50%

Schedule

3 September Introduction to Course and Field Trip Faculty Team

5 September Stone: extraction, production and historical use Wheeler

10 September Stone: properties and identification and Field Trip Wheeler

Assignment 1, due 17 September

12 September	Brick and Terra Cotta: raw materials and production	Weiss
17 September	Brick: properties, historical use, classification, bond	Weiss
19 September	Terra Cotta: properties and historical use and Field Trip Assignment 2, Due 26 September	Weiss/Allen
24 September	Lime, Gypsum and Cement: raw materials and production	Weiss
26 September	Concrete, Mortar and Plaster: production and historical use	Weiss
1 October	Concrete and Cast Stone: properties & performance & Field Trip Assignment 3, Due 8 October	Weiss
3 October	Metals: raw materials, production, identification	Pieper
8 October	Metals: properties, performance & historical use & Field Trip Assignment 4, Due 15 October	Pieper
10 October	Wood: extraction, production and historical use	Childs
15 October	Wood: properties performance and identification Assignment 5, Due 22 October	Childs
17 October	IN CLASS MIDTERM EXAMINATION	
22 October	Foundations: introduction to early foundation technologies and their use	
24 October	Wall Systems: evolution of wall and partition systems in the 19 th and early 20 th centuries	
29 October	Floor Structures and Systems: the evolution of flooring systems taking into account such issues as span, fireproofing and sound transmission as early considerations	
31 October	Windows and Doors: openings, windows and doors are essential parts of wall. Admitting light and air, their configuration, size and operation underwent considerable changes through the last two centuries	
5 November	Wood Framing and Cladding	
7 November	Roofing and Roofing Structures: with the increase in building size	

and span the development of new structural systems and spanning	
methodologies because necessary. A gradual understanding of	
engineering requirements and the introduction of new materials	
new forms and techniques developed.	

12 November Introduction to High Rise Framing Technology: with the arrival of

the industrial revolution and the demand for different and larger structures, building technology and building construction processes

underwent significant changes

14 November Steel and Concrete: steel and concrete technologies were important

factors in the evolution of buildings in both height and span

19 November Steel and Concrete: continuation of steel and concrete framing

discussion

21 November Masonry Cladding - Brick and Terra Cotta: with the increase in technology

for high framing also came the need to find different technologies. After an

initial transfer of loadbearing technologies, new systems developed.

27 November NO CLASS: Thanksgiving Vacation

3 December Masonry Cladding – Stone, Cast Stone and Pre-Cast: aside from using

traditional material technologies, new cladding systems developed using

traditional materials

5 December Curtain Wall – Metal and Glass

12 December IN CLASS FINAL EXAMINATION