

# Arch 1202.03

## “Science of the Built Environment 2”

<b>Course Duration</b>	<b>Winter Term. Jan. 8th., 2023, to April.10th., 2024</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Ralph Medjuck Bldg. B102 (formerly HA18)</b>
<b>Lecture Times:</b>	<b>Wednesday's at 2:30 until 5:30 PM</b>
<b>Lecturer</b>	<b>Douglas Pitcairn B.Sc.</b>
<b>Office: School of Architecture.</b>	<b>Room HA-31 (Architecture Building)</b>
<b>Office Hours</b>	<b>Not Applicable.</b>
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Cell Phone will be given out on an "as needed " basis.</b>
<b>E-mail (preferred)</b>	<b><a href="mailto:douglas.pitcairn@dal.ca">douglas.pitcairn@dal.ca</a> or thepitcairns@ns.sympatico.ca</b>
<b>Brightspace</b>	<b>Partially utilized (for quizzes and handouts)</b>

### Calendar Description.

ARCH 1202.03 Science of the Built Environment 2

CREDIT HOURS: 3

This course introduces a broad range of scientific principles that influence the relation between modern buildings and their exterior environment. Topics include heating, cooling, storms, water, and foundations. It uses a "common-sense" approach involving graphic images, practical understanding, and problem-solving. A background in mathematics or science is not required.

FORMAT: Lecture

### Additional Course Description.

Architecture has always been a technologically supported endeavour. Our ability to construct comfortable living spaces that reflect our status and culture continues this trend, as increasingly sophisticated technologies are finding their way into all buildings. Modern houses now include many complex innovations once reserved for only the most advanced buildings. Yet for much of the world, the crushing need for basic shelter continues to be paramount. We will see that technology has the potential for both comfort and simplicity, and perhaps make a case that both are desirable.

This course will introduce and explain the various forces and challenges which effect and shape the built environment. Why buildings work, and why they don't. The intention is to instil in students a targeted yet broad science knowledge base, to introduce and explain most of the relevant topics, and encourage further thinking about potential solutions for

shelter. Particular attention will be directed towards a building's interaction with the external environment, both above and below ground.

The Class will attempt to use a common sense approach involving graphics, practical understanding and (hopefully) some actual scientific thinking. This course is lecture based, with outline notes and a list of web sites provided. There may be suggested readings, but no official textbook. There is, however, a complete set of study notes covering the entire course. These will make up the material for your review for the tests. Lectures are available online (via a Google Link, which I will email to you.) and should be downloadable for long term study.

A background in science or mathematics is not necessary, indeed, the class assumes you have very little if any science background. Class discussions will be encouraged. A sense of humor is useful as always.

Grading will consist of 3 minor assignments together worth %50, and two tests worth 50%. Access to reliable email is essential in this class. You must have an active e-mail account. I will use your Banner email address, so be sure to monitor it regularly. All assignments are handled through email. Dates of assignments and assignment grades with comments are all done via direct email between the instructor and the student. I would ask that you use a consistent subject line with the course, your name and the reason for the email... like this:

" **Subject:** Arch 1202 Harry Potter a question "

The Quizzes will be held online in the BrightSpace system. I will also use BrightSpace to distribute the study guides for the course. They will be available in a module called "handouts". There is no formal class schedule, the below list of topics is followed closely on a linear basis. Time on each subject can vary with students interest.

Note: There is an overlap of a few classes between this course and the previous Arch 1201.03. This is intentional, as there is no prerequisite, I will have students who did not take Arch 1201.03, and we need to cover that material.

## Topics Covered.

### **Class Intro "A building as an insertion"**

(A quick overview of the course's study)

Avenues for Interaction.

Energy/Space/Light/Heat/Radiation/Sound/Air/Water/Flora/Fauna.

## **Sciences' place in the modern world.**

Science's necessity given the population.

The global rise in standard of living attributable to scientific knowledge?

Covid 19, The lesson we're all living in.

Technology History

Energy Consumption / Pollution

Food Production / Standard of Living

Human Life Expectancy\*

Art and science in Architecture, a synergetic antithesis.

Dependent yet exclusive.

"Shelter most basic" class discussion / exercise

## **The Scientific Principle, A Path to Knowledge.**

A process to determine the truth.

Systematic, repeatable, logical, peer reviewed

Math vs English, Communication of ideas...

## **A Little Physics goes a long way.**

Atomic structure Tiny bits on which it all depends...

Molecules, Atoms, Protons to Quarks,

Atomic structure

Four Forces of Nature (The 4 fundamental forces which explain everything.)

Electromagnetism

The Nuclear Brothers

Newton & Motion & Gravity

Einstein

Electromagnetic Theory+

Nature of Light

Waves vs Particles

Light and Colour

White light & why

Absorption/emission?

The Other Bands+

Infrared

Ultra Violet

Radio

X Rays

Gamma

Danger/Temp/Energy/ Wavelength

Blackbody radiation in general.

Blackbody radiation in Architecture:

Spectral Lines

Emission and Absorption

Radiation in the Environment

Types of Radioactivity

Radioactivity in the Natural Environment

Radiation Damage

Half lives, Dosages and Effects

Medical Uses

Nuclear Reactor Accidents

Radioactive Dating

Radiation in buildings.

A little Astronomy (I couldn't resist!)

Where we are.

The long distance view, Threats to the species.

Motions and effects.

Calendar

Seasons

Solar angles and uses and implications

## **Keeping your Cool.... keeping your heat...**

Temperature... Keeping Warm in a frozen Universe.

Absolutes and scales.

Thermodynamics

Warm interior?

Envelope loss and Infiltration.

Heat in motion

Conduction

Thermal Conductivity

Coefficient of expansion

Convection

Weather

Stack Effect

Chimneys

Radiation

The thermos bottle

Evaporation and Phase changes

Heat Transfer in the Built environment.

Insulation from A-Z,

Heat Load.

Surface area/ Volume Ratios

Shapes and efficiencies

Heat Island and micro climates.

## Thermal Performance of Windows

- Transmittance

- Reflectance

- Absorption

- Emittance

- 4 EM classes

- Low E, Argon, Krypton and jargon

## Domestic Heating/cooling systems

- Hot Air

- Hot Water

- Radiant Heating/Cooling

  - Concept

  - Task (spot)

  - Electric

  - Hot Water (in floor)

- Heat Pumps

  - Air, Water & Earth.

- Thermal Mass Storage Domestic Units

- Auxiliary Options

- Thermostats.

- Zones.

## Commercial heating and cooling.

- Cooling in January?

- Cost now, cost later

- Some concepts

  - Passive / Dynamic Thermal effects

  - Thermal mass Generally

  - Phase Change Materials

  - Stack effect

  - Pressure equalization

  - Exhausts and why

  - Fresh Air and Consequences

  - Moisture

- A quick look at System design

## Human Comfort

- Air Temperature

- Surface (Radiant Temperature)

- Humidity

- Air Velocity (2 air Ch/Hr.)(20 cfm/person)

- Activity Effects Watts per person.

- Clothing.

# Energy For Buildings

## History of Primary Energy Sources

- Muscle (Human/ Animal)

- Wind

- Water

- Wood

- Steam engine

- Coal

- Oil

- Hydro

- Nuclear Fission

- Fusion vs Fission

- Waste Storage issues.

## Alternate Energy Sources, Pros and Cons\*

- Solar Energy

  - Thermal Passive

  - Thermal Active

  - Photovoltaic.

- GeoThermal Energy

- Tidal Power

- Wind Energy

- Biomass

- Biogas

- The Atmosphere

- Focus for the Future

## Air

The “Ocean we Live in” The Earth’s atmosphere

- Atmosphere/Meteorology

  - History of the atmosphere.

  - Gas behavior temp, pressure, humidity

  - Global Circulation

  - Coriolis Force

  - Lows, Highs and Fronts

## Storms and Furies

- Two sources, Front and System

- Tornadoes

- Hurricanes

- Implications for Building design.

Amateur Meteorology

Crossed winds  
Mackerel Sky  
Watery Sun  
Sunrise/sunset  
Barometer trends  
Farmer's Almanac

## A World Out of Whack

Climatic vs weather  
Climate records.  
Climate Change  
    The Carbon Cycle  
    The Greenhouse Effect,  
    Climate Gauges  
        Glaciers  
        Sediments  
    Ozone and Holes therein.

Implications and uses for design.  
    Snow load  
    Storm drain sizing  
    Wind loading  
    Insulation cost effectiveness.  
    Foundations and Erosion

## Air as a Force.

Airflow around Buildings  
    Positive vs negative pressure zones  
    Asymmetry for ventilation  
    Problems from Tall Buildings  
        Solutions  
        Skirts  
        Pedestals  
        Aerodynamics

## Snow

Snow vs wind dilemma  
Snow loading  
Snow control

## Air quality, Sick buildings.

Indoor Air Pollution  
    Efficiency vs toxicity  
    Biological  
    Chemical

## Radiation

### Air Supply to Buildings,

#### Passive Ventilation

Attics

Soffets

Ridge Vents

Venmars

Fans

Windows

Stack effect.

Passive circulation

#### Active supply

Heat exchangers

Exhaust makeup air

Air structures

Systems and options

#### Filters

Replaceable

Washable

Mechanical

ElectroStatic

Spring Break.?

## **The Earth beneath your Feet.**

The Earth as a Planet. "A terrestrial world"

Formation

Overall structure / How we Know...

Geological Time Scale

Impacts/Tectonism/Volcanism/Gradation

Earthquakes

Earthquake damage/ earthquake proofing?

Tsunami

Mudslides

Surface structure

Soils and Layers

Thermal Gradient

Heat Exchange

Permafrost

Implications for Buildings



## Foundations for Buildings

- Basics / Normal Construction

- Cracks and Repairs

- Loads and Piles

## Man's Environmental Impact

### Soils for Crops. Feeding the Human Parasite.

- Bio/Geo Cycles

  - Carbon/Water/Nitrogen/Phosphorous

- Value of dirt (Soil Maintenance / management)

- Food production limits

  - Biological engineering

  - Genetic engineering

  - Climatic change

- Land sat and Land Use Planning

### Architecture's Role

- Leeds, a softer impact. An environmental rating System

  - Sustainable Sites

  - Water efficiency

  - Energy and Atmosphere

  - Materials and Resources

  - Indoor Environmental Quality

  - Bonus for design and regional Priority

### Sewage and Disease, Separating Waste and People....

- Domestic septic systems/Municipal Systems

- Treatment methods

  - Screening

  - Settling

  - Anaerobic / Aerobic

  - Chemical

  - Organic

### Garbage, garbage everywhere....(Solid Wastes)\*

- Disposal Methods

- Historical Patterns in Waste Disposal

- Sanitary Landfills Site Selection

- Pollution from Sanitary Landfills

- Incineration

- Source Reduction

## **Water Water everywhere....**

Water, Unique matter for a complex chemistry.... the Liquid of Life

- Some Basic facts
  - Basic Chemistry
  - Waters origins
  - Heat issues
  - Solvent issues

- Hydrologic cycle

- Fresh vs salt

- Water as a resource. Water as a weapon.

- Resource depletion

- Costs

- Ground Water\*

- The Water Table and Movement of Groundwater

- Porosity and Permeability

- Aquifers

- Changes in the Groundwater System

- Water Quality and Groundwater Contamination

## **Moisture in the Built environment.**

- Humidity sources,

- Cooking

- Respiration

- Bathing

- Infiltration

- Standards for comfort.

- Temperature vs Relative Humidity

- Psychrometric Chart

- Seasonal Changes

- Destructive nature of humidity

- Passive methods of adding and removing interior moisture.

- Condensation

- Vapor barriers

- Good old open Windows

- Active methods of adding and removing moisture.

- Dehumidification.

- Pressurization

- Stack effect

- Air/Heat exchangers

- R2000 issues

- Exterior Water

- Roof details and materials

- Gutters and storm drains

- Wall Claddings as “waterproofing”

- Rain screen principles

- Get types from references.

- Flashing

## Wind pressure

### **Accommodation**

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic under the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act. Students who require academic accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams should make their request to the Advising and Access Services Centre (AASC) prior to or at the outset of the regular academic year. Please visit [www.dal.ca/access](http://www.dal.ca/access) for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation - Form A