

Arch 1202.03

“Science of the Built Environment 2”

Course Duration	Winter Term. Jan. 8th., 2025, to April.23rd., 2025
Location	Ralph Medjuck Bldg. B102 (formerly HA18)
Lecture Times:	Wednesday's at 2:30 until 5:30 PM
Lecturer	Douglas Pitcairn B.Sc.
Office: School of Architecture.	Room B1121 (Architecture Building)
Office Hours	Hang about after class.
Phone:	Cell Phone will be given out on an "as needed " basis.
E-mail (preferred)	douglas.pitcairn@dal.ca
Brightspace	Utilized (notifications, quizzes, handouts and possibly tests)

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 humour 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. If you need to contact me and would prefer to use email, my email is listed above. 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 "

I will use **BrightSpace** to distribute this syllabus, the study guides for the course, any additional handouts, as well as the assignments and the assignment drop boxes. They will be available in the **content** section under **handouts**, or in the **assignment** section.. The **quizzes** may be held online in the BrightSpace system, or may be done in regular class time. (TBA) I 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 for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation - Form A