Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Ministry of Education
Qassim University
College of Architecture & Planning



المُملَكُ العَرَبِيِّ الْيَعُوْدِيةُ وُنَزَالْكِعُ الْلِحَيَّالُوْلِ جامعة القصيم كلية العمارة والتخطيط

Course name: THEORY OF ARCHITECTURE (1)

Course code: ARCH 141

Course hours: Credit hours 2, Contact hours 2

Course Pre-requisites: None

Course Description

The course is concerned with the architectural philosophy and intentions, meanings and identity, perceptions, components, articulations, trends, and esthetical satisfaction. An attention is also given to approach and solve design problems following theories and conceptual issues through a discipline of design principles, processes and analyses.

Course Main Objective

In this course, the students will be to:

- The course aims to understand the key theoretical ideas of 20th Century Architectural discourse and the subsequent movements that emerged as a result
- The relationship between theory and practice will be closely examined and discussed.
- Finally, focus will be placed on a critical understanding of context, historical precedence, aesthetics and the technological advancements that lead to the conscious collective birth of the 'modern' movement.

Course Learning Outcomes

After the completion of this course, the students will be able to;

- Identify, analyze and explain the principles of architecture of periods and their master buildings.
- Ability to recognize architectural styles and periods by the underlying design principles.
- Analyze architectural features in relation to their socio-cultural and historical contexts.
- Use historical architectural elements as design vocabularies in studios.

Course evaluation

- Quizzes, practical assignments
- Weekly/biweekly reviews
- Midterm examination
- Attendance
- Final examination

Course recommended books

• Moffett, M. et al. (2003). A World History of Architecture, Laurence King Publishing, London.

Course References

- Nuttgens, Patrick (1997). The Story of Architecture, Phaidon Press Limited, London.
- Trachtenburg, & Hyman (1985). Architecture from Prehistory to Post-modernism: the Western Tradition, PrenticeHall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey.