ARCHITECTURE 5520: BUILDING CONSTRUCTION II AU 2012
The Ohio State University, Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture
Lecture: Tuesdays, Thursdays 11:30-12:25
Lab: Tuesdays, 3:55-5:15

Instructor: Beth Blostein (blostein.3@osu.edu)
Office hours: Tuesday, 12:30-1:30, or by appointment

GA’s:
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Course Description
This course will introduce students to contemporary construction practices and techniques; emphasis this semester is on concrete, steel, and glass. The trajectory will move from methods based in forming/casting to those based in industrialization; from those that are solid and load-bearing, to those that are frame-like. We will focus on typical construction practices, but we will also feature innovations, discuss history, ideology, urban form, and sustainability as they pertain to the systems covered. General issues that relate to detailing and documentation of a project and working within the building industry will also be included.

Course Structure
The intent of this course is to explore construction as an essential component in the ideation and elaboration of architectural form and to understand the built artifact’s materiality as a lens for engaging other discussions. These other discussions include the state-of-the-art, aesthetic and environmental concerns. Proficiency in the language of construction ultimately comes through professional practice; this course will provide the fundamentals upon which one can develop that proficiency.

The course has two components: lectures and labs. Lectures are given twice weekly and provide an introduction into theories, methods and key principles of construction. They supplement and broaden the scope of inquiry present in the course readings; where the textbook tends to focus on pragmatic issues surrounding building construction, the lectures will present construction systems within a wider context. Students should do assigned reading for any given week before Tuesday so they are familiar with the issues and systems discussed.

The second component of this course is the construction lab. Exercises concentrate on structural and enclosure systems at the scale of both the building and the detail. In most cases the student is required to demonstrate through precise drawings and/or models their understanding of issues of wall, frame, and enclosure. Typically lab assignments will be distributed in class on Thursdays and will be due at the beginning of class on the following Thursday.

Most lab exercises will use Knowlton Hall as a case study. The following quote from “Knowlton Hall”, Source Book in Architecture edited by Todd Gannon will provide our provocation.

"If the Knowlton School of Architecture encourages students to question the nature of the wall, the dynamics of space, the allure of transparency, the power of reflection, the necessity of exploration, the limitation of systems, the nature of liquid materials, the secrets of structural impossibilities, the relationship to the building of a simple farm house on a flat plane, of the necessity, difficulty, and complexity of contemporary architecture, then the building will have succeeded. p. 134"
This book is available online at http://rave.ohiolink.edu/ebooks/ebc/1568986637 and on reserve in the library. It will be a useful resource for completely the lab exercises.

**Learning Objectives**

Students should have an understanding of concrete, metal and glass building materials and assemblies.
Students should have an understanding of concrete, metal and glass envelope systems.
Students should have the ability to technically document concrete, metal and glass.

**Texts**

**Required:**

**Recommended:**

**Other sources in the KSA library:**

**Course Policies**

**Evaluation**
Grading is done by teaching assistants using uniform criteria established by the instructor. Final grades are calculated as follows:

**POINTS for the course:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lab Exercises (5 @ 35 pts each)</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Lab Exercise</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Quiz</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Quiz</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>325 POINTS</strong></td>
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**EXTRA CREDIT:**
Perfect attendance – 20 points
Ask a good question (“good” as deemed by instructor and GA’s) - 5 points possible per question
Letters grades are assigned based on a standard scheme:

- **A**: 93-100
- **A-**: 90-92
- **B+**: 87-89
- **B**: 83-86
- **B-**: 80-82
- **C+**: 77-79
- **C**: 73-76
- **C-**: 70-72
- **D+**: 67-69
- **D**: 60-66
- **E**: <60

No credit is awarded for late assignments or unexcused absences from labs and exams. Extensions and make-up exams are granted by the instructor only, and only in serious cases; written documentation or explanation should be provided.

**Attendance:**

Students are expected to attend lectures and labs. Students who miss deadlines due to valid extenuating circumstances may submit the required work at a date agreed upon with the instructor. University regulations limit such circumstances to serious personal illness and death in the immediate family, and both cases require written documentation: a doctor’s note or a newspaper obituary. Unexcused late projects are not accepted, incomplete projects are evaluated in relation to their degree of completion. Attendance will be verified through a sign-in sheet. Signing in for someone other than you can be considered academic misconduct. A student with three unexcused absences will be immediately dismissed and given an “F.”

**Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University’s *Code of Student Conduct*, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University’s *Code of Student Conduct* and this syllabus may constitute “Academic Misconduct.”

The Ohio State University’s *Code of Student Conduct* (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process.” Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University’s *Code of Student Conduct* is never considered an “excuse” for academic misconduct, so I recommend that you review the *Code of Student Conduct* and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by University Rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that you have violated the University’s *Code of Student Conduct* (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University. If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include:
- The Committee on Academic Misconduct web pages (COAM Home)
- *Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity*
- *Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity* (www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.html)
**General Issues:**

O.S.U.’s Sexual Harassment policy, which applies to all faculty, staff, and students, includes in its definition of sexual harassment a “display of inappropriate sexually oriented materials in a location where others can see it.” Sexual harassment may also include lewd remarks and inappropriate comments made in the studio environment, classroom, and computers labs. Students can file a complaint by contacting Student Judicial Affairs at 292-0748. Sanctions may include reprimand, suspension, and dismissal from the University.

If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, you should contact the instructor to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. At the appointment we can discuss the course format, anticipate your needs and explore potential accommodations. The Office for Disability Services will be contacted for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted the Office for Disability Services, you are encouraged to do so.

Clean up after yourself. The studio is public space and you must respect others who use the space. Failure to do so can result in being asked to leave the space, and consequently losing credit for the work of that day.