ARCH 4303 / 5303  STRUCTURAL PRINCIPLES

INSTRUCTOR:  David J. Thaddeus, AIA, Professor
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Office Hours: By Appointment

SCHEDULE:  This course will meet in CHHS 161 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 08:30-09:45 AM

DESCRIPTION:  “Materials should be employed in a manner consonant with the formulation of a structure. Their proper use contributes to the clarity of the structural expression; their misuse, on the other hand, diminishes the effectiveness of the design”.  
Eugene Emmanuel Viollet Le Duc

A tripod represents stability, which in structural analysis is determined through the appropriate manipulation of the elements of the tripod: load, material and geometry. The artful manipulation of these parameters is of primary concern in architecture. Harmony in architectural design will not be realized unless accompanied by an inner harmony that comes only with an understanding of the structure of form. Nature is a witness to this harmony.

This course is a general introduction to statics and strength of materials. It is devoted to enhancing your intuitive understanding of the fundamental concepts that underlie structural design.

PROCEDURE:  Several fundamental topics and structural principles will be addressed in a series of lectures, presentations and projects. The course involves a fair amount of numeric calculations to arrive at practical conclusions. In essence, understanding the structural logic of any calculations is what really matters. Graduate students will have additional visits and documentation requirements of their projects

EVALUATION:  The following values for student evaluation and progress are tentative,

- 2 Exams x 20% Each 40%
- Final Exam 20%
- Pop Quizzes 12%
- Homework 08%
- Project(s) Adopt A Site 20%

Late submissions will not be accepted

TEXTBOOKS:  Required Textbooks:

Recommended Textbooks:

ATTENDANCE:  You are allowed three (3) absences. For any class you are absent, you will receive a grade of zero if a quiz, test, exam, or other graded activity is given that day. Additional absences (4 or more) will result in a letter grade reduction for each additional class missed. You are NOT allowed to use your laptop or cell phone during class for any reason.