Course guides

310757 - 310757 - Traditional Materials and Techniques

Unit in charge: Barcelona School of Building Construction
Teaching unit: 753 - TA - Department of Architectural Technology.
Degree: BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY AND BUILDING CONSTRUCTION (Syllabus 2019). (Optional subject).
Academic year: 2020  ECTS Credits: 3.0  Languages: Catalan, Spanish

LECTURER

Coordinating lecturer: Judit Ramírez-Casas
Others: Belén González Sánchez
Antònia Navarro Ezquerra
Antoni Pidemunt Moli
Judit Ramírez-Casas
Edgar Segués Aguasca

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The course is based on theoretical sessions of general knowledge of traditional techniques and materials but sufficiently detailed to know how to identify them in the built heritage. The theoretical classes will be combined with practical classes in the form of visits to existing buildings, street routes and practices in the laboratory to help in the understanding of the identification of the subjects dealt with in class. Video sessions, lectures by experts and practical classes are planned.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBJECT

Within the framework of EPSEB’s most recent guidelines and with the recently launched curriculum, focused on intensifying learning and specialisation in intervention in built heritage, it has been deemed convenient and essential to be able to offer students in the final years of their studies, a complement in the knowledge of traditional materials and techniques that are difficult to include in the contents of the core subjects. Different experts from each of the themes and subjects will take part in the course in order to provide some insight into traditional production systems and showcase examples from the field.

STUDY LOAD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hours large group</td>
<td>30,0</td>
<td>40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self study</td>
<td>45,0</td>
<td>60.00</td>
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Total learning time: 75 h
### CONTENTS

**Topic 1.- Introduction to traditional materials and construction techniques**

**Description:**
Introduction to traditional architecture and construction. What are traditional techniques? Temporality in traditionality. Different areas, different techniques, different times. Building with local materials.

Types of traditional materials. Our environment.

**Related activities:**
Recognition of our environment. Different territories, different materials and techniques. Identification of the different materials and traditional techniques listed in class. Exposure of the coursework heading.

**Full-or-part-time: 4h**
Theory classes: 2h
Guided activities: 2h

**Topic 2.- Building with earth**

**Description:**
The territory, the climate and other conditioning factors of the earthen building area. Knowing the earth as a building material. History and examples of earthen constructions. Construction techniques: tapia, adobe, bahareque, cob, Btc, superadobe, prefabricated. Roofs, enclosures, pavements and coverings made with earth.

**Full-or-part-time: 4h**
Theory classes: 2h
Practical classes: 2h

**Topic 3.- Traditional binders and conglomerates**

**Description:**

Architecture with plaster is abundant in our territory, but very unknown. The use of traditional plaster in different construction systems will be analysed, going deeper into the most significant traditional construction techniques by means of real examples. We will learn to identify plaster in buildings and to distinguish it from lime.

**Full-or-part-time: 4h**
Theory classes: 4h

**Topic 4.- Coverings**

**Description:**
Discontinuous: ceramic, stoneware, hydraulic tiles.

**Full-or-part-time: 8h**
Theory classes: 4h
Guided activities: 4h
### Topic 5.- Arches and vaults as structural forms. Types and materials.

**Description:**

**Full-or-part-time:** 2h  
Theory classes: 2h

### Topic 6.- Traditional construction with wood. Structure, enclosures and finishes

**Description:**
Wood as a building material, properties and singularities. Methods of obtaining, most common species used traditionally. Uses and applications in traditional construction. Methods of identification, diagnosis and assessment of its state of conservation.

**Full-or-part-time:** 2h  
Theory classes: 2h

### Topic 7.- Foundry and forging elements

**Description:**
The main iron alloys used in traditional construction. Knowledge of its most practical side and experimentation with samples of some of them. Classification according to their composition, weldability, fields of use and most common construction typologies. Techniques and tools for their identification and knowledge of their properties. 19th century iron architecture.

**Full-or-part-time:** 2h  
Theory classes: 2h
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Basic:
- Nou llibre.

Complementary: