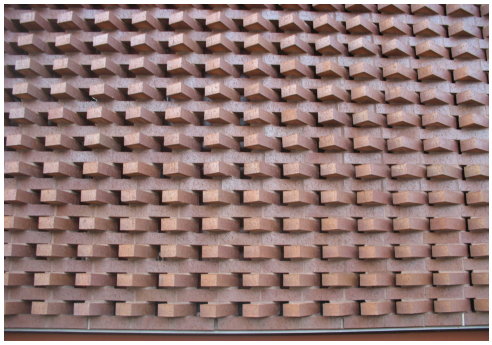
ARCH 4050 | ARCH 5050
The Structure of the Everyday
Spring 2022



Instructor: David J. Thaddeus, FAIA, Professor
Office #247, (704) 687- 0130
Thaddeus@uncc.edu
Office Hours: By Appointment.

Schedule Course meets on Tuesdays from 2:30 - 5:15 PM (Room TBD, but mostly off-campus)

Details are the strange and interesting remarks we make in our work. Steven Holl

Premise To understand the sublime in architecture, students must first learn to appreciate the everyday and the practical and economical considerations that mandate it. This is especially true in the selection of materials and structural systems. By visiting manufacturing plants, construction sites and architectural offices, this course examines the materials and structural systems of everyday architecture. With a good understanding of construction techniques, material properties and methods of assembly, a student in architecture will certainly become a more informed designer.

Objectives The objectives for this course are to expose the student to a wide array of manufacturing and construction systems that make architecture possible.
After completing this course, students should develop a better understanding of the following:

- Production, design and application (site visits) of timber engineered products
- Fabrication, design and application of structural steel products
- Manufacturing, design and application of precast-prestressed concrete members
- Observation of Post-tensioned concrete (site visits)
- Production, design and application of brick and concrete masonry

Method and: Procedure Through a combination of lectures and discussions, office, site and manufacturing plant visits, this course aims to broaden the students' understanding of material and construction systems in order to explore the potential of structure in architectural design. Students must wear a hardhat, close-toed boots and other Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) to all site and plant visits. A tape measure is also required on all site visits.

The course is designed around common construction materials organized into modules including timber, steel, concrete, masonry and glass. Each module begins with a visit to a plant where the material is produced. This is typically followed by a visit to an office that has extensive experience in the use of that material. This may be an architectural, engineering or contracting office. This is next followed by a site visit to a project under construction that employs the structural systems or material extensively. Each module will conclude with a class discussion.

Content and Organization : Each material or system module will result in student submissions of labeled wall sections, detail drawings, photo-documentation of visits and a written synopsis.
Site visits will be documented with photographs and sketches. Students will be asked to research and complete readings on specific topics within each module. Case study examples of each module will accompany the research component of the specific module.

A course journal that documents all modules will be submitted at the end of the course. This course aims to balance in-class learning with hands-on observation in a meaningful and complementary fashion.