ARCH 8753 Advanced Structural Concepts Fall 2015

Research Project (225 Points)

It is important that architectural and structural design coincide with one another. However, sometimes structural failures occur. Structural failures may be a result of any number of reasons including poor building design, improper building use, or natural disasters. For the research project identify a structural failure you are interested in investigating further. It may be any type of structure.

The final paper should include information about the structure (i.e. where is it located, who designed it, the overall function, interesting characteristics about the structure, etc.). It should also include information about the structural failure including an explanation as to why the structural failure occurred, how the structure failed, insight on what may have been done to prevent the failure, legal issues surrounding the failure, etc.

Your final paper should include a title page, an abstract (400 words or less), and headings. Final paper submission should be typed on 8 ½ x 11 paper, 1 ½ space, Times New Roman font, and a minimum of 5 pages. A minimum of 5 references should be used and cited properly (look at using books, journals, articles, etc.). Images, diagrams, and quotes may be used provided they are properly referenced and cited (images can count for no more than ½ page of the 5 page total and quotes should be reasonable in length and used only when they add value). Use APA formatting for citations.

A week prior to presentations, each student must submit an article or reference for distribution to the class (upload pdf, and bring hard copy of reading to class on due date). Between October 31st and November 14th each student will be in assigned a day to present their topic. During their designated day, students will use PowerPoint to give a short presentation about the topic (videos must be less than 1 minute in length). They will then be expected to lead a brief class discussion. Each student will have a total of 15-17 minutes for BOTH presentation and discussion.

The distributed article should be used as a basis of discussion and the student should have questions prepared to help facilitate a conversation (questions may be distributed prior).

Due Dates:
Submit Research Topic (5 points)               September 14th
Submit Research Paper Abstract (10 points)    October 7th
Submit Related Reading for Class Distribution (10 points)    October 24th
Final Papers Due (100 points – upload Word and hardcopy)     October 31st
Presentations / Lead Class Discussion (100 points)    Oct 31st – Nov 14th