

WELSH BACCALAUREATE

Advanced

Individual Project

Welsh School of Architecture - Cardiff
University – Sustainable Architecture



Brief – Sustainable Architecture

Sustainability is at the core of architecture in the 21st century. The following statements could form the basis for your own research project.

Everything that we need for our survival and well-being ultimately depends on the natural environment. There is a huge rise in sustainable architecture that seeks to combat the overconsumption of the earth's resources.

Many different approaches have been made: from the innovative use of recycled cardboard in Shigeru Ban's Christchurch Cathedral, to the housing development BedZED that was designed to create zero carbon emissions.

However, not all buildings live up to their claims. Many famous buildings have come under criticism due to their underperformance such as the natural ventilation system in 'The Gherkin' by Foster & Partners.

When it comes to more efficient mechanical systems there is often a 'bolt on' approach, but this inevitably leads to some drawbacks. What's gained in one area is lost elsewhere as the result of other unanticipated interactions.

Sustainable architecture cannot be an afterthought or an 'add-on' - it needs to be a fundamental integration into the design right from the initial ideas and concepts.

Contacts <http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/archi/>



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Welsh School of Architecture - Cardiff
University – The Art of Architecture



Brief – The Art of Architecture

Architecture is the art - the craft - of invoking space: of tempering atmosphere. The following statements could form the basis of your own research project.

The original meaning of the word 'architect' meant that of a 'master builder', a singular man to lead his cohort to erect grand and beautiful structures. The art of architecture however, has never just been about the construction of structures, the building of a wall, or the installation of stained glass windows.

From the great and dusty landmarks from a bygone era such as Great Pyramids, the Parthenon, Sainte-Chappelle, St Pauls Cathedral to more recent examples like Farnsworth House, architects have long sought to provoke inspiration and awe in their creations. Some, such as the Bilbao Guggenheim, use sculpture to inspire, others like Villa Le Lac have more subtle warmth in their creation.

Contacts

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