Perspectives on the Evolution of Structures
In class exercise #1

A: Browsing for structures:
1) Form groups of 3, ensuring that each group has at least one laptop with a working wireless connection. Choose a secretary who will take notes for the group.
2) Introduce yourselves to each other. If all three of you are from the same program/department make a trade with a neighboring group.
3) Go to www.structurae.net, the International Database and Gallery of Structures and complete the following exercises:
   a) Using the geographic index (the map icon in the menu bar) find the entry with at least one photograph of the structure that is closest to each of your current homes.
   b) Use the Structures>Structural Type index to find an entry with at least one photograph for a structure of the same type as each of the structures you identified in 3)a).
   c) Use the Structures>Structural Type index to find an entry with at least one photograph for a structure of a different type from each of the structures you identified in 3)a).
   d) Each person in the group should make a simple drawing or sketch of one of the structures identified in 3)a-c).
4) One a single sheet of paper write down the name, location and structural type for each of the structures identified in A:3)a-c). Also attach the drawings from A:3)d). Write the names of all group members at the top of the page. Attach the drawings you have made to this data sheet.

B: Comparing and contrasting structures:
Still in your groups of 3, select two pairs of structures you would like to compare and contrast. For each pair, with the secretary taking notes:
1) Discuss what you think is interesting about the two structures and why you think comparing and contrasting them will be interesting.
2) Discuss whether and why you think each structure represents a good design. You may first have to discuss what it means to be a good design.
3) Discuss a preliminary comparison of the structures in the context of the 3 S’s or 3 E’s. If you do not have enough information to develop the criticism, think about what questions you would try to answer through library or web research in developing the criticism.
4) Attach your notes from the discussions in B:1-3) to the pages from part A.

C: Reporting to the class:
The secretary of each group will come to the front of the room and, navigating structurae.net on the projector computer, give a brief summary of the group’s discussion of one structure.

D: Submission:
Turn in to the instructor the pages with your names, structural data and drawings from A:4) and notes from B:4).