

Homework 11

Perspectives on the Evolution of Structures

Final Project Assignment

The final project for this course, to be completed in groups of three (JHU) or two (UMass), is to write a critique of a structure as a work of structural art or an individual as a structural artist. The paper should be 20 (JHU) or 15 (UMass) pages long, double-spaced, and in a 12 pt font with 1.25" left/right margins and 1" top/bottom margins. Figures, tables, and calculations count towards the 15 pages, but the references section does not.

In order to be successful this paper must:

- a) Begin with a clear, concise, and strong thesis statement, typed in bold,
- b) Be well organized and clear, including correct grammar and spelling
- c) Frame the critique using the "3 S's" of social, scientific, and symbolic meaning
- d) Support the thesis with scholarly research
- e) Identify details of the structural form that have engineering and aesthetic explanations and implications
- f) Identify the loads acting on the structure and explain how these loads are transmitted to the ground
- g) Use illustrations of the structure in support of the thesis statement
- h) Draw comparisons between structures, preferably using illustrations of the comparison structures
- i) Contain a calculation of the structural behavior that adds to your interpretation (probably Scientific) of the structure. You may perform a hand calculation or use structural analysis software (www.mastan2.com). The calculation homework provides good examples of how to use calculation.
- j) Reference at least two non-electronic sources
- k) Cite all sources properly following the citation style guide available at the course website, and
- l) Include in an appendix (not counted towards the 15 pages) the printed results of a search of at least one of the library's scholarly indices, such as Web of Science or the Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals.

This is not an exhaustive list, and no direct correspondence can be made between the number of items satisfied and the grade received. The necessity to perform calculations on your structure (point i above) may require some additional study on the part of your group. The instructor(s) are willing to help with this, but please begin to organize your information as soon as possible.

Grading rubric:

1. Is the thesis statement clear, concise, strong, and does it use structural art vocabulary
Does the paper address each of the 3 S's and E's.
2. To what degree are the Social, Scientific, and Symbolic critiques supported by scholarly research and quantitative information and calculations
3. Are loads and load paths discussed clearly and used in support of the thesis
4. Is comparison and contrast used effectively
5. Are illustrations used effectively
6. Are references included properly in the text and the references section
7. Is the paper well organized, and written in correct English