

ABODES OF THE LIVIVNG, THE DEAD AND THE GODS (CHAPTERS FROM THE HISTORY OF ANCIENT EGYPTIAN ARCHITECTURE)

2025/26. 2ND
TERM

COURSE DETAILS		
COURSE TITLE	Abodes of the living, the dead and the gods (Chapters from the history of ancient Egyptian architecture)	Élők, holtak, istenek hajlékai (Szemelvények az óegyiptomi építészet történetéből)
COURSE CODE(S)	YCVÉHIBNF - NBENG00	
DEPARTMENT	Óbuda University Ybl Miklós Faculty of Architecture and Civil Engineering, Institute of Civil Engineering	
PROGRAMME, TRAINING	civil engineering BSc architect BSc	full time
COURSE DIRECTOR	Zoltán Horváth, lecturer email: horvath.zoltan@uni-obuda.hu	Office hours over the term: Tuesdays, 14:00-15:00 Wednesdays, 13:00-14:00 contact via email for appointment
INSTRUCTORS, LECTURERS	Zoltán Horváth, lecturer	
PREREQUISITES	None	
LECTURES PER WEEK	2	
CLASSROOM / LAB PRACTICE PER WEEK	0	
FIELD AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING PER WEEK	0	
ASSESSMENT	End-term paper	
CREDITS	3	
BRIEF COURSE SUMMARY	<p>The course offers an opportunity for those interested in ancient Egyptian civilization to obtain a more detailed view of the cultural context of ancient Egyptian architecture. Students may learn about the wide range of environmental, political, socio-cultural and technological conditions the internal dynamics of which have shaped the evolution of ancient Egyptian architecture for more than four thousand years. The concept of biculturalism is discussed, from which the main characteristics of both sacral and domestic architecture can be derived for a specific historical period.</p> <p>Lectures focus on the analysis of representative cases in the fields of temple and settlement architecture, respectively, from the Early Dynastic to the Roman Period. Archive and modern photographs, plans and digital reconstructions are used to illustrate various architectural features, which are also interpreted in terms of patterns of decoration and furnishings. The complex relationship between natural and built environment is a major issue of analysis.</p>	
RECOMMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTAL READING	<p>Barry J. Kemp, <i>Ancient Egypt: Anatomy of a Civilization</i>, London 1989</p> <p>Ian Shaw (ed.), <i>The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt</i>, Oxford 2003</p> <p>Eric P. Uphill, <i>Egyptian Towns and Cities</i>, Princes Risborough 1988</p> <p>Dieter Arnold, <i>Die Tempel Ägyptens</i>, Augsburg 1997</p>	
TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS	None	

COURSE SCHEDULE				
WEEK	LECTURE	INSTRUCTOR	TYPE OF TRAINING	CONTENT OF PRACTICE
1	Major properties of the landscape and a brief historical overview. Ancient Egyptian language, writings and scripts.	Zoltán Horváth		
2	Religion and key founding myths. Biculturalism.			
3	The concept of the Egyptian temple. The temple as microcosm, the place of cyclical acts of creation and residence of the god. Two major types of temples.			
4	Isolating sacred space, temple foundation rituals.			
5	Origins of the Egyptian temple: Nabta Playa. Ancient predynastic shrines.			
6	Proto- and early dynastic ceremonial mudbrick architecture. Preformal temples: Hierakonpolis, Medamud and Elephantine.			
7	Architectural ideal types. Stone dummy chapels within the Djoser-enclosure.			
8	Early formal temples of the Old and Middle Kingdoms.			
9	Mature formal temples: the New Kingdom temple of Khonsu, the temple of Luxor and the temple-complex of Amun at Karnak. Royal memorial temples.			
10	Late formal temples. The late Egyptian temple as canon and universe. Edfu, Philae and Dendera.			
11	Domestic architecture: Old and Middle Kingdom pyramid towns. Tell el-Amarna and Deir el-Medine.			
12	End-term paper			
13	End-of-semester course evaluation			

REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETION		
MID-TERM TASKS, ASSESSMENT AND GRADING CRITERIA		
REQUIREMENTS	SPECIFICATION	ASSESSMENT WEIGHTING (points, %, mid-term grades)
ATTENDANCE POLICY	In accordance with §46 of Obuda University Code of Studies and Exams.	-
EXCUSED AND UNEXCUSED ABSENCES FROM TRAINING AND ASSESSMENTS	In accordance with §46 of Obuda University Code of Studies and Exams. Attendance of lectures and practice classes is mandatory. Students are allowed a maximum of three absences per semester. Beyond these, no excuses - including medical certificates - will be accepted, and the student will be disqualified from course and denied credit for the course.	-
MID-TERM ASSIGNMENT (if any)		-
MINOR TASKS		-
MID- AND END-TERM TEST(S) OR EXAM(S)	The end-term paper assesses and measures the acquisition of material covered in the lectures. One retake is permitted.	100%
TOTAL VALUE		100%

COURSE COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS	
REQUIREMENTS FOR SIGNATURE	The signature is granted if the student meets the attendance and assignment criteria as specified. A minimum score of 51% is required on the end-term test. In the event of a failed end-term test, one retake is provided. Students who attended both the end-term and the retake tests but failed to achieve the 51% threshold are eligible to take a signature-retake exam. In the case of absence from the end-term test, participation in the signature-retake exam is permitted only upon presentation of a valid medical certificate.
SANCTIONS FOR ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT (PLAGIARISM)	Any student found guilty of plagiarism - i.e., violating Article 4, Section (2) of the Code of Ethics of Obuda University - will be denied credit for the course by the instructor in charge. Furthermore, the University may initiate disciplinary proceedings in accordance with Section 90 of the university's Code of Studies and Exams.
GRADING	Course grade is derived from the result of the end-term paper. Grading is based on a 5-point scale, where 5 is the highest (excellent) and 1 is the lowest (fail).