

GUJARAT TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
Syllabus for B. Arch
EIGHTH SEMESTER

SUBJECT NAME – Theory of Architecture

SUBJECT CODE – 1085002

FOCUS: To introduce the various facts of architecture and its influencing factors. To introduce the formal vocabulary of architecture as one of the ways to experience the built environment, To understand and appreciate the universals of architectural form and space in terms of elements and principles within particular historical, cultural and geographic contexts

CONTENTS:

- Definitions of Architecture – Origin of Architecture – architecture as a discipline – context for architecture as satisfying human needs: functional, aesthetic and psychological-outline of components and aspects of architectural form-site, structure, skin, materials, services, use, circulation, expression, character, experience – Introduction to the formal vocabulary of architecture and Gestalt ideas of visual perception.
- Understanding perceptual effects of specific configuration of architectural spaces – Enclosure –Internal and External, Continuous spaces – Spatial relationship and its types, spatial organization: Centralized, Linear, Radial Clustered, Grid – built form and open space relationships.
- Understanding fundamental principles such as proportion, scale, balance, symmetry/asymmetry, rhythm, axis, hierarchy, datum, unity, harmony, dominance, climax – Movement with reference to the architectural form and space – detailed study of relationship between architectural form and circulation – Types of circulation – Building approach and entrance, path configuration and form, path space relationship, orientation.
- Classical, Neoclassical, Post Modernism
- Modern Style in Architecture.

SUGGESTED BOOKS

- Simon Unwin, “Analysing Architecture”, Routledge, London, 2003.
- Prammar V.S., “Design Fundamentals in Architecture”, Somaiya Publications Private Ltd., New Delhi, 1973.
- Yatin Pandya, “Elements of Space making”, Mapin 2007.
- Leland M. Roth, “Understanding Architecture: Its Experience History and Meaning”, Craftsman house, 1994.
- Peter von Meiss, “Elements of architecture – from form to place”, Spon Press 1977.
- Rudolf Arnheim, “The dynamics of architectural form”, University of California Press, 1977.
- Neils Prak, “The language of Architecture”, Moulton & Co., 1968.

- Paul Alan Johnson, “The Theory of Architecture – Concepts and themes”, Van Nostrand
- Reinhold Co., New York, 1994.
- Helen Marie Evans and Carla David Dunneshil, “An invitation to design”, Macmillan Publishing Co. Inc., New York, 1982.