UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
Constructions

Academic Year 2026/2027

1. Organic Unit

Faculty of Architecture and Arts

2. Course

Architecture

3. Cycle

1st

4. Course Unit

Constructions (01322)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

3rd

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

1st Semester

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8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:	
Practical classes:	
Theoretical-Practical Classes	60,00
Tutorial Guidance:	

9. ECTS Credits

3,50

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

Profª Doutora Arqtª MARIA DE FATIMA SILVA

11. Regent

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

Introduction to recognizing and applying building materials and systems by understanding that architecture is legitimized by a tectonic construction process and it´s a guarantee of quality and durability. Understand the close relationship between constructive aspects and languages, space quality and building sustainability.
Framing building materials and techniques in the history of architecture, analyzing the most important and paradigmatic cases of erudite and vernacular architecture.

15. Specific Objectives

Understand the fisical and formal characteristics of traditional materials and their application processes; Understanding the traditional anda hitorical building systems in Portugal; understanding its evolution over time; understanding the relationship between traditional materials and the geographic environment; understanding the importance of the Survey of Portuguese Popular Architecture in the evolution of national architecture identitie, introducing concepts for environement sutainability.

16. Skills to be acquired

To understand the materials, techniques, and basic building systems through traditional buildings. To represent the materials through the sketch. To learn the technical representation of materials. To learn to organize drawings and define materials and construction systems in a project. To achieve the ability to deconstruct the materials of a building and report on the parts that compose them.

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17. Teaching Methodology

This curricular unit comprises theoretical and practical classes. Theoretical classes are given by the coordinator of the curricular unit through audiovisual means. Practical classes are taught by framing practical works and relating, as possible, to the project curricular unit.

18. Course Unit Program

The program initially focuses on the study of existing buildings, seeking to understand the relationships between materials and regional cultures, between materials, hand and tool, which define the genesis of construction systems and the form/structure of built places.
Two main themes are included in the subject content. The rich heritage of Portuguese Popular Architecture, with a huge variety of materials and construction techniques
In a second phase, the student will select a contemporary material, and applying it in a practical exercise in which he reconciles this material with other traditional ones.

The following topics will be covered in theoretical classes:
- Introduction, Design, Portuguese popular architecture and Pombaline construction.
- From the architectural to the tectonic, considerations about space and the constructive elements that define it.
- The Survey of Popular Architecture in Portugal, and the text 'O problema da casa Portuguesa' by Fernando Távora.
- The Survey of Popular Architecture in Portugal, North Zone, granite and schist architecture.
- The Survey of Popular Architecture in Portugal. South Zone, earth architectures.
- The Survey of Popular Architecture in Portugal. Central Zone, from stone masonry to specific cases of wood on the coast.
- -The Pombaline building. The cage
-Drawing as an instrument of representation of architecture.
- Contemporary materials. The role of industry and its relationship with the history of architecture

Two practical exercises will be carried out in the practical classes:
1-Survey of an example of Portuguese popular architecture.
1.1-Documented description of the building, context and respective construction systems.
1.2 - Section plans and elevations sc. 1.50 or higher
1.3- Survey of construction elements and relevant details
2- Project of an addition to the building from exercise 1, using contemporary material selected by the student.
2.1- Documented description of the application of this material

19. Assessment Methods

The evaluations will be continuous, the works will be in group and individual, elaborated predominantly in practical classes with the assistance of the practical teacher of each class.
The aim is to motivate the student's presence and intervention in classes, as well as a critical spirit and creativity, factors that, together with the work carried out, will be subject to evaluation.
The evaluations will be the joint responsibility of the coordinator and the other teachers.

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20. Didactic Resources

Slides and Powerpoint
videos
Moodle
UL Material Archive
Construction site trips
Study cases

21. Sustainability Objectives

The curricular unit aims to contribute to sustainability in the following general areas:
- Promoting the gradual dematerialization of the teaching/learning process.
- Promote and facilitate access to research and clean technologies.
- Recycle, reduce, and recover, whenever possible, materials and other consumables
- Promote the recycling of model materials

22. Keywords

- edification
- construction
- architecture
- vernacular
- Industry
- Globalization

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23. Main Bibliography

Author(s): TAVORA, F., AMARAL, Keil et.al;
Title: Arquitectura popular em Portugal.
Edition: Year: 2004
Local: lisboa
Publisher: Ordem dos Arquitectos
ISBN Code:

Author(s): Jorge Mascarenhas,
Title: Sistemas de Construção XV - Arquitetura Popular Portuguesa
Edition: Year: 2015
Local:
Publisher: Livros Horizonte
ISBN Code:

Author(s): Cóias e Silva, Vítor ,
Title: Sistemas construtivos usados na reconstrução. A gaiola Pombalina?, estudos recentes,
Edition: FLAD/Publico Year: 2005
Local: Lisboa
Publisher:
ISBN Code:

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s): Brito da Silva, Paulo; Lisboa 2015
Title: Desenho Técnico em arquitectura e design
Edition: Year: 2015
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: Universidade Lusíada Editora,
ISBN Code:

Author(s): Veiga da Cunha, Luís,
Title: Desenho Técnico,
Edition: Year: 2004
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian

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