

The evolving face of architecture cultural studies essay



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New ideas, techniques, and processes are always being developed in the construction field with the motive of improving quality, reducing total construction cost, and decreasing the amount of manpower and time it takes to build it. Construction has evolved drastically since times immemorial as shelter is one of our basic needs. We need to protect ourselves from the nature's heat, cold, rain and other weather conditions. Over the time we built our homes based on local building techniques and availability of materials used in construction. We started with basic stone or pieces of wood and that developed into buildings of stone and mortar or later timber frames. My Experience to Burj Al Arab: After a long flight on Qatar Airways, I was driven from Abu Dhabi to Dubai, where I spent two days at the Continental.

Everyone probably has heard of the Burj Al Arab, the world's most famous hotel. If one doesn't know it by the name at least knows what it looks like, given that it has a sail-like shape. This hotel is constructed on a man-made island and one cannot just visit the hotel for free. I did not want to leave Dubai without visiting the Burj Al Arab, so I chose one of the cheaper options to visit it, which is afternoon coffee, the only thought of actually visiting the Burj Al Arab a day before I was supposed to leave Dubai, so my options were very few. The concierge at my hotel managed to book the last opening they had for 3pm the following day, and it would be in their lobby lounge. I was driven to my hotel at noon, and as you reach the island there's a gate where your name has to be checked off on a list in order to enter. For me hotels are about hospitality and creating an environment that's hospitable and luxurious. You literally can't even really walk around the hotel, because you're constantly having to dart people taking pictures. It's such an

impressive building, but at the same time there's nothing relaxing about <https://assignbuster.com/the-evolving-face-of-architecture-cultural-studies-essay/>

staying somewhere when you literally have hundreds of people standing around taking pictures. Of course I was one of them. After walking and observing around for about 20 minutes I went to Sahn Eddar to get a table, since they were just opening it. I was given a table at the far end of the lounge by the window, apparently a perfect spot. The two waiters handling my table quickly introduced themselves, asking me if I had any dietary restrictions. They confirmed I was having the seven course coffee with nd then presented me with the menu. New construction advancements range from available alternative materials and pre-fabricated systems to environmentally friendly alternatives. They improvise new hotel construction not only from the construction perspective, but from the operations perspective. Comparing new construction products, processes and techniques is a critical step when putting together a new hotel development. The most important thing, however, to remember is that the value you will ultimately gain from embracing a new construction product or approach is directly related to the amount of time and energy you invest in educating yourself and everyone on your development team about it. Long before Dubai began showing up at the bottom of fashion advertisements along with Paris, New York, and Tokyo, it was all sand and ambition. It was once simply desert and an idea. An "if you build it, they will come" on the most massive scale. Build it, they did. Construction cranes sway in the gentle Arabian breeze next to impossibly tall buildings. Man-made marvel islands shaped like palm trees maximize beach front real estate just offshore. The Iconic Burj Al Arab Hotel ConstructionThe Burj Al Arab was the tallest hotel in the world . Built to resemble the sail of a dhow, the Burj Al Arab encountered bleeding edge engineering issues with erecting such a large structure (over <https://assignbuster.com/the-evolving-face-of-architecture-cultural-studies-essay/>

1. 2 million square feet) on a man-made island. Creating an icon, it seemed, would take years and years of continued dedication. The project took over 5 years to complete with over 1000 companies involved in its construction. The ancient trading port had global aspirations and needed a global icon to prove that it had something to prove in the first place. The structure is different any other building in the world, erupting up out of the sea a beautiful, and massive. It is representative of Dubai in the same way The Sidney Opera House or the Guggenheim of Bilbao have altered the psychological conception of those cities in the minds of the world. It is with few hands that you can count the great architectural icons that have become synonymous with their cities of residence, and after over a decade of existing just offshore, The Burj Al Arab has proved inclusion on that very short list. Interior With over 15, 000 square feet of gold plated surfaces, the Burj Al Arab provides a masterpiece of innovation. It is at once superfluous, beautiful, modern. It is what Vegas would look like if it was a real place and not just a corporate facsimile of fame and luxury. The Burj Al Arab is the real deal, an expansive unapologetic version of luxury that shouts in a world of whispers. The entry lobby boasts fountains a 600 foot tall atrium that appears plucked from a galaxy, and enough glam to assault eyeballs to the brink of bad taste and back in the name of good fun. Like trespassing in another world, the Burj offers a foreign sense of decadence created for the Sheikh in each of us. Pricing, Rooms, and Amenities The nightly rates start just north of \$1000, and by the time you have checked all the boxes and splurged for the Royal suite, the price can reach the cost of a mid-sized sedan, per night, making it one of the world's most expensive rooms. For that much cash, you better believe the rooms come with some serious

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amenities. The extravagances offered at the Burj Al Arab span from the expected to the extraordinary. The hotel offers airport pick-up service in one of its many Rolls Royce sedans. But let's face it, a fleet of pearl Phantoms is not enough to be outrageously over the top, so the hotel also offers helicopter service from the airport to the hotel's rooftop helipad. This makes sense. Common roads are too proletarian for the traveler with grand canyon pockets. The rooms are an extension of the lobby. There is gold, some tasteful badges of affluence, and dizzying displays of horrible choices - like mirrors on ceilings above beds and bathroom murals that include modern skyscrapers among the vestiges of old Arabia. Each floor has a guest services desk which provides check-in, butler, and concierge services. The hotel also provides a private beach, personal shops, ferries or yacht charters, and access to nearby Wild Wadi Waterpark. Restaurants and Bars The food offerings was from Far Eastern to Arabic with many excellent restaurants. Al Muntaha dwells at the top of the Burj Al Arab and offers unreal vistas of Dubai and the nearby Palm islands. Al Mahara lurks at the bottom of the hotel where dining feels like one has stepped into an underwater world with floor to ceiling aquariums. Since rooms start about \$1500, making a restaurant reservation is one of the most economical ways to see the peerless Burj Al Arab. Economical way to visit the Burj Al Arab The most economic way to visit the hotel is to make a reservation for a " Skyview bar package" which costs about \$39 per person. Also, several dining options exist for under \$100 per person, and the food is very delicious. Modern

Construction Materials Standards Promote Advances in Construction

Technologies For any product, standards are an important step along the way from research and development to adoption. Without standardization to <https://assignbuster.com/the-evolving-face-of-architecture-cultural-studies-essay/>

streamline production processes, ensure quality and safety and provide benchmarks for regulators, the marketplace and public acceptance of new products would be difficult to achieve. The appearance, component materials, energy efficiency and environmental impact of habitable structures has changed dramatically over recent years due in large part to the successful standardization of new materials, processes and technologies.

A Building's SkinEIFS Exterior insulation and finish systems were first used after World War II in Germany to resurface buildings damaged by the ravages of that conflict. Developing the standards for EIFS has been a key activity of ASTM International Committee E06 on Performance of Buildings since the 1990s.

Stone Masonry VeneerThe cost savings and design freedom offered by stone masonry veneer products have led to their increased use in architectural projects. Compared to natural stone, manufactured stone veneers can be molded and reinforced with steel, can be precisely colored, and have a predictable, durable life.

Structural GlazingStructural glazing is a technology in which glass is attached to a building using sealant adhesives.

Wood-Plastic CompositesWood-plastic composites — made from recycled wood and plastic waste — have been used as economical and environmentally friendly alternatives for decks; components such as, cladding, siding, railing, molding and trim, window and door frames; and small other structures..

Advancements in ConcreteConcrete, which has been used in number of ways in some form for structures and roadways, is developing in ways that make its use easier, less expensive, safer, more varied and even more environmentally suitable. In the earlier times, craftsmen with varying levels of skills produced carts one at a time. Even the best of these carts provided little more than basic transportation. Yet in the

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same cities of Europe, at the same time, master masons and builders created incredible stone cathedrals, using principles of design and construction that were breathtaking and remarkable for the time. But the basic or core process is vital to the world's economy. Construction is enormous than any single manufacturing segment of the U. S. It contributed \$180 billion of the gross national product (GNP). The residential and commercial projects of the field of construction sectors involve the creation of premises that are essentially structural in function. These facilities would require the service utility systems necessary to support the people who use them, including power distribution channel, heating systems, ventilation channels, and lighting areas. This industrial sector creates facilities incorporating industrial process systems and equipment designed to produce an end product, such as : AutomobilesTextilesChemicalsrefined metalsThe heavy civil sector encompasses major public works, including dams, highways, airports, and water distribution and sewage facilities etc. Over the past 10 years the impacts of technology on the construction sector have varied by the type of construction being performed, but in general, the changes have been largely evolutionary. In the future there are chances for significant developments that will revolutionize the basic nature of construction. They will be universal in applicability and in scope, with applications driven by both-Innovation andCompetitivenessThey will include great technical impacts on the performance of specific construction activities and great changes in the way of managing a construction business. The the most significant changes in construction by examining technological trends and how they affect the entire construction sector. These trends fall into 4 major areas: construction-related design; construction equipmentand

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methods; automation and expert systems; and construction management. In today's world, the technologies of both modern manufacturing and construction have changed, but not nearly to the same degree. The reason for the different degrees of change can be found in the basic differences between manufacturing and construction. Construction is essentially the process of moving, combining and assembling materials and equipment into a finished, operational facility. Although many construction operations are repetitive, they are performed neither in a fixed sequence nor at a fixed location. Also, since construction, unlike manufacturing, rarely involves production of a standardized product, the demands on the material supply functions of purchasing, receiving, warehousing, implying and delivery are very complex.