

School of Architecture

College of Fine Arts, CFA 201 Carnegie Mellon University Pittsburgh, PA 15213



Little Sports Palace by Pier Luigi Nervi (photo: Edward M. Segal)

48-234: Introduction to Structures Units: 3 Instructor: Edward M. Segal

This course introduces structural systems and the materials and elements that make up those systems. Students will study historical and contemporary examples of bridges, long-span roofs, and tall buildings from technical, social, and symbolic perspectives. Through these built works, students will become familiar with structural engineering terminology and the behavior of different structural systems. They will also learn how materials, construction, and non-technical factors influence structural form. Additionally, students will evaluate the aesthetics of large-scale structures and discuss the relationship between engineers and architects. As they learn about structures, students will develop their problem solving skills and ability to communicate ideas by practicing using equations, drawing, and writing.