Construction principles

Sequence in the construction process

Solid construction vs. Filigree construction

- Strength and durability issues
- Available natural resources
- Flexibility and permanence
- Solar gains management

Foundation requirements

- Safe against structural failure
- No differential settlement
- Feasible technically and economically



Excavation

- Constraints on slope from soil type
 - Cohesive soil
 - Frictional soil





Image by MIT OCW.

Excavation

- Constraints on slope from soil type
- Constraints on slope from available space

Excavation

- Sheeting and bracing
 - Soldier beams
 - Sheeting piling techniques



Excavation

- Sheeting and bracing
 - Soldier beams
 - Sheeting piling techniques
 - Slurry wall

Excavation

- Sheeting and bracing
 - Water table issue
- Covering of base of excavation



Loadbearing elements and load-carrying soil

- Shallow foundation
- Footing
- Deep foundation

Plinths

- Protection of façade
- Required for sloped topography

Protection against humidity



Protection against humidity

- Capillarity
 - $F_c [N/m] = 2\pi r \sigma \cos \alpha$
 - Fc / (π r²) = ρ g h



Protection against humidity

- Capillarity
- Prevention measures



Main reference for lecture contents:

- "Constructing Architecture" by Deplazes: pp. 12-15 + 153-169 + 282-285
- Additional readings relevant to lecture topics:
 - "Fundamentals of Building Construction" by Allen: Chap. ...
 - "Building Construction Illustrated" by Ching & Adams: Chap ...