IEET Capstone Project Workshop, 2012-08-01

Capstone projects at NTU-CE



Liang-Jenq Leu and Hervé Capart Chair and Vice-chair Dept of Civil Engineering National Taiwan University



Five capstone projects at NTU-CE since 2010

| Semester | Project topic | Site | Number of students |
|----------------|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Fall | Mountain cableway | Sitou Forest | 16 |
| 2010 | Reservoir sedimentation countermeasures | Wushe Reservoir | 14 |
| Spring 2011 | New Humanities Building | NTU Campus | 6 |
| Spring 2012 | Flood monitoring bridges | Laonong River | 16 (+7 MSc) students) |
| | Student space | NTU-CE Dept building | 14 |

Optional capstone courses attract approx. 30 students per year (about 30 % of graduating class)



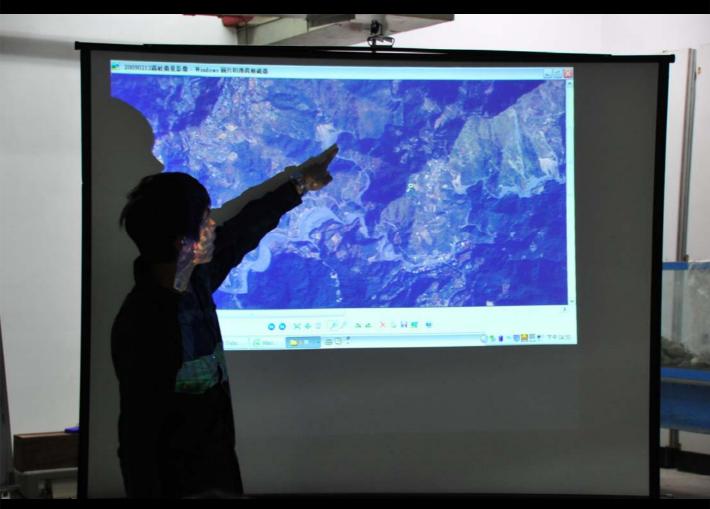
Design sedimentation countermeasures for Wushe Reservoir





















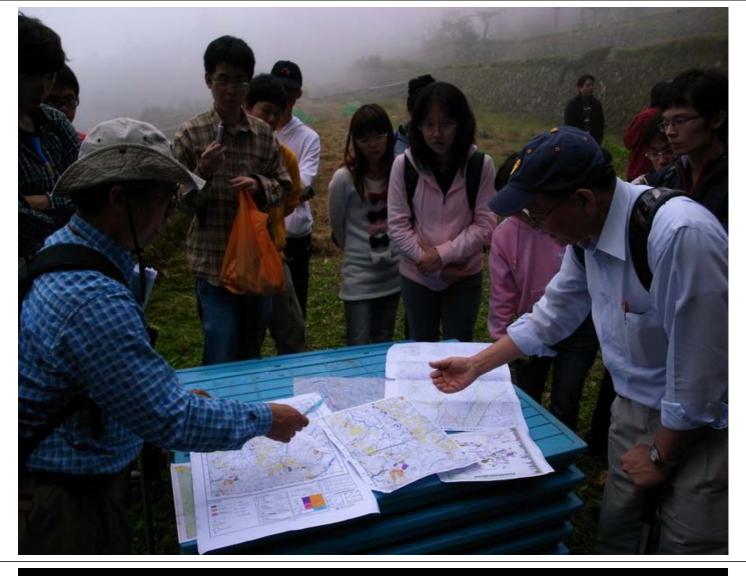
Fall 2010: Cableway



Design a cableway system for Sitou Forest















Two models for the involvement of professional experts

| | Cableway | Reservoir |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Expert guidance | Maximal (Step by step) | Minimal (Final jury) |
| Professional consulting engineers | Involved (mentors) | Not involved (competitors!) |
| Foreign experience | UCLouvain, Belgium | MIT, USA |

Poster announcements for Spring 2012 capstone projects







Spring 2012: Bridges

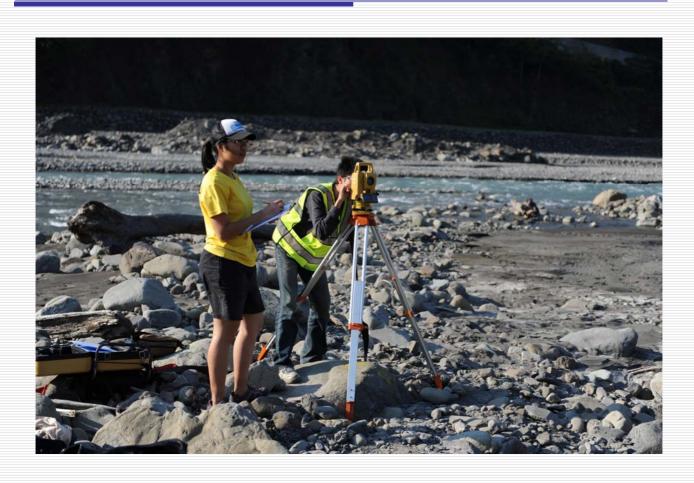


Design flood monitoring bridges for Laonong River

Capstone 1: Laonong River bridge design



Capstone 1: Laonong River bridge design



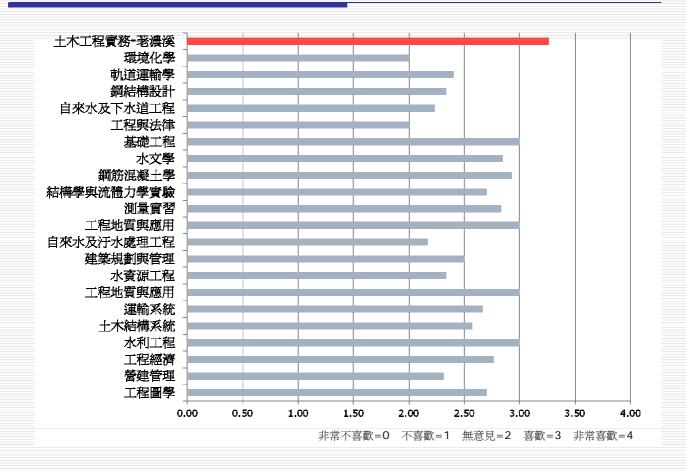
Capstone 1: Laonong River bridge design



Capstone 1: Laonong River bridge design



Student evaluations



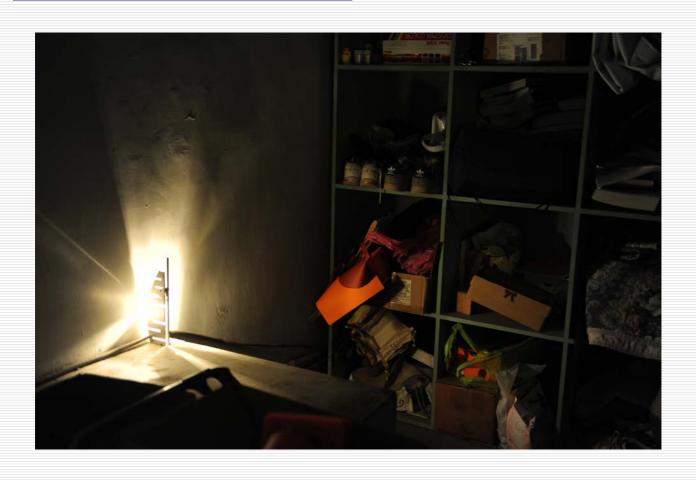
Spring 2012: Student space

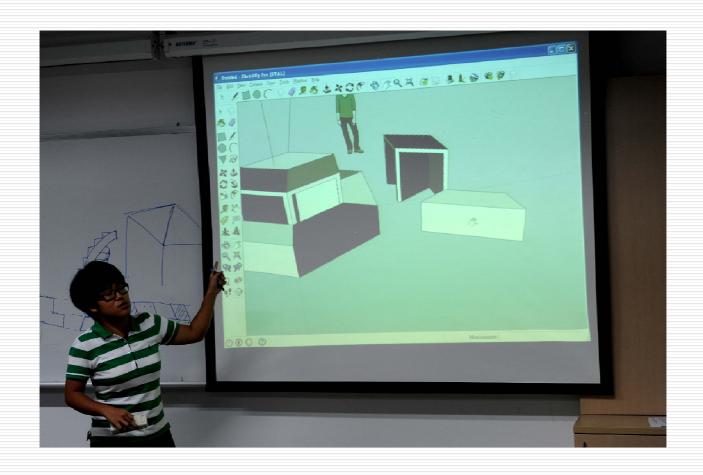


Redesign three laboratories into a great space for student activities

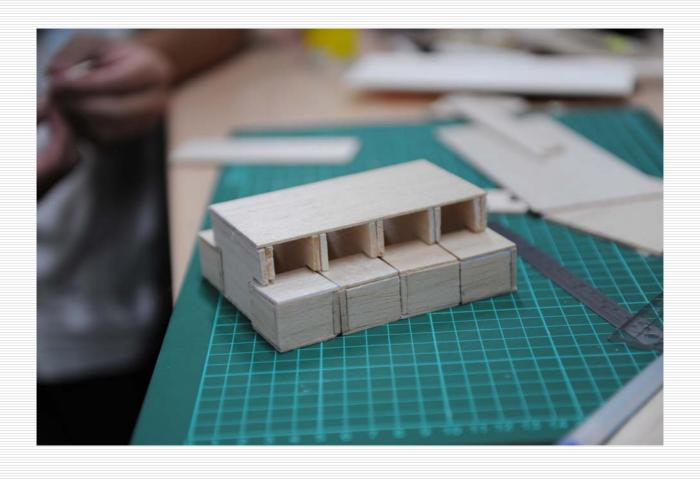


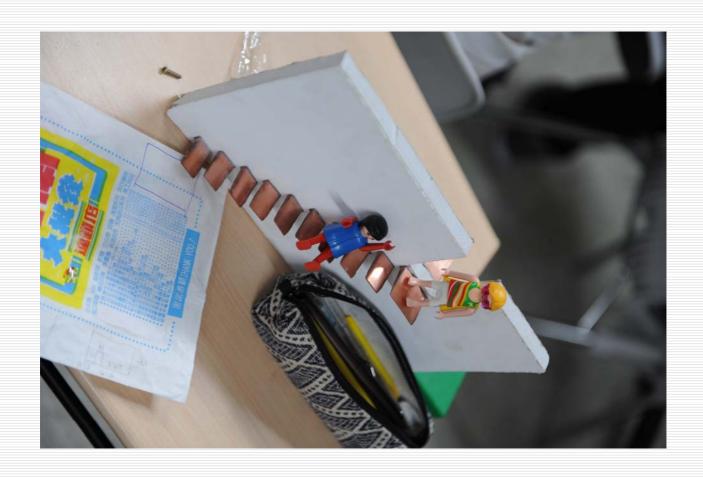
Capstone 2: Student space redesign



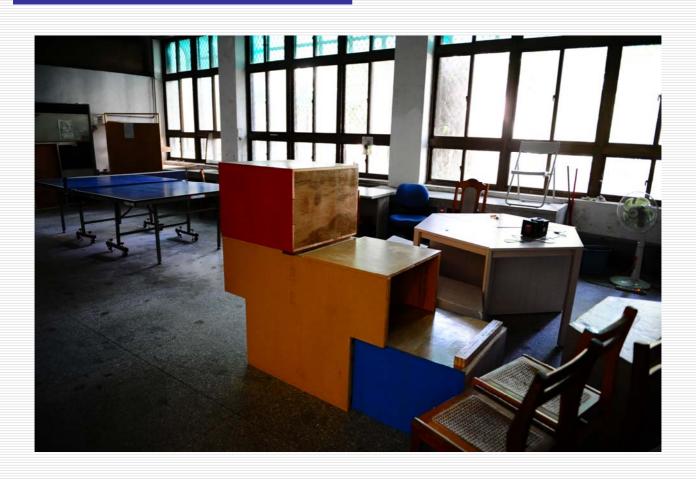


Capstone 2: Student space redesign





Capstone 2: Student space redesign

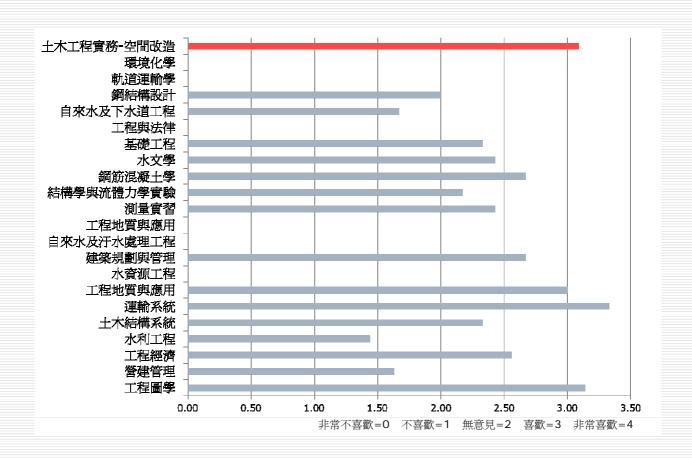




Capstone 2: Student space redesign



Student evaluations



Capstone project aim

Original version (course planning, Spring 2010):

Give last year students a realistic engineering design experience, producing a report that integrates their accumulated knowledge.

Revised version (Spring 2012):

Give 3rd and 4th year students a challenging design-build experience, transforming their knowledge into working prototypes.

How did you like/dislike the content of the capstone project?

| Project | Like / like very much | Neither like nor dislike | Dislike |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Cableway | 12 | 3 | 1 |
| Reservoir | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| Bridge | 23 | 0 | 0 |
| Student space | 12 | 2 | 0 |

How did you like/dislike the teaching approach of the course?

| Project | Like / like very much | Neither like nor dislike | Dislike |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Cableway | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| Reservoir | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| Bridge | 17 | 6 | 0 |
| Student space | 6 | 8 | 0 |

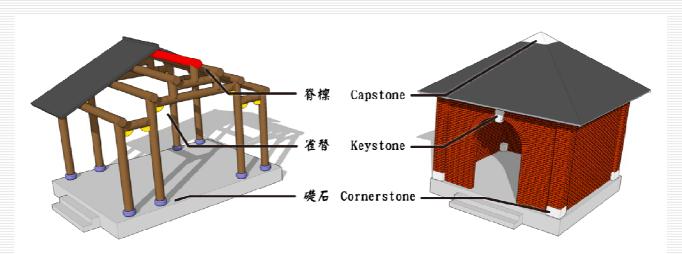
Foreign capstone experience (Technical University of Denmark)

Students' ability and motivation to pursue capstone projects are limited if they encounter such projects for the first time in their final year.

Ability and motivation for hands-on design and teamwork needs to be cultivated earlier via cornerstone and keystone projects.



Sequence of design projects at NTU-CE



| Design project | Targeted students | Relation to disciplinary courses |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Cornerstone | First year | Before |
| Keystone | Second year | During |
| Capstone | Third/Fourth year | After |