

Architectural Engineering

EXTREME Architecture



Image by Alexander Jachnow

Course Coördinator
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Responsible professor
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Code	AR1AE011
Credits	10 ECTS
Location	Namibia
Excursion	No
Costs	-

Website:
<https://extremearchitecture.nl>

EXTREME Architecture is a course about building for an extreme environment. The key is understanding the environment and the performance that is needed.

This semester we will be working on architecture for rural Namibia.

Namibia is the second least densely populated country in the World, with about 2,6 million inhabitants in 20 times the area of the Netherlands. The climate of Namibia is challenging, with some extremely dry and hot areas.

Namibia has been a colony of the Netherlands from 1840 until the end of the 19th century. After the Dutch, the Germans colonized Namibia until the First World War, when the Germans were defeated by South Africa. In 1990 Namibia became an independent country.

In Namibia over 80% of people cannot afford decent housing: many people live in shacks made out of corrugated steel, with extremely limited facilities such as schools, childcare, sanitation, etcetera.

In this course, we will be working with local partners, such as The Namibia University of Science and Technology.

The assignment is still being developed, but will be for a community space in a rural, low density setting. This could be a childcare centre, school or community shelter, depending on the needs at our site.

Understanding assembly, local materials, local climate, and local culture are crucial to the project.