**The meaning of crafting**

**Institution**

**Name**

**Course**

**Instructor**

**Date**

**The meaning of crafting**

Crafting as used in architecture and design is the process of making or manufacturing commodities with skill and carefully paying attention even to the smallest details. Crafting involves incorporating the principles of form, shape, proportion, and scale that are inherent to successful designs. Through inclusion of these skills through a hands-on approach to ones study or even practicing strengthens the understanding and appreciation for the craft of building design.

Meaning of craft in architecture lies in the nature of the connections a building creates. This is both internally and externally. Internally between it’s constituent parts and also externally through it ties to its place. Now, the connections above can be temporal, physical or maybe even spiritual.

Creativity is essential in crafting and it is heavily recommended for those who wish to be in the crafting space especially those practicing architecture and all the related disciplines. Crafts include; sculptures, pottery, illustration, and also product design among others. Crafting in it’s self is a talent but it can be topped up by joining the higher learning institution such as the universities, colleges and many others so that one may get more advanced skills to enable him/her to undertake crafting in a more successful way.

Art and craft have been in most instances closely linked. Anybody may say that this two disciplines (art and craft) are the same because they are both forms of visual creativity. However art and craft are actually not the same even though they have some similarities.

Art in it self is an expression and application of imagination and creative skill. The main reason as to why one may create a work of art is to make something that can be appreciated for it’s beauty. Art also requires creativity so that one can translate ideas and also emotions into a visual format known as art. Art definition varies from one individual to one another and so far there have not been a clear distinction between art and craft but all the parties have agreed they is a difference even though the line is so thin.

There are five types of craft that are used in either architecture or any other type of design. Based on their form or purpose, craft can be classified into five types. These include; decorative craft, paper craft, functional craft, textile craft, and the last one being fashion craft.

Textile craft is a type of craft that one work with fabric, yam, or surface design. Textile craft is one of the most famous type of craft as it is used in day to day life. It involves; knitting, dyeing, weaving, quilting, and weaving. Textile craft involves the use of fabric in order to achieve the desired outcome.

Paper craft in it self involves the use of paper in order to achieve the required item as a craft. Most people were introduced into this paper craft at a very tender age in the preparatory schools. This makes paper craft the most famous type of craft and it is very common. It is from paper craft that most individuals realise that they are talented in crafting and this creates and urge in them to purse architectural and design studies in high learning institution.

Decorative craft is mostly used in the interior designs of houses. It in most instances, involve metal work, furniture making, stenciling among others. Decorative craft, has element of utility. A good example is a table which maybe beautiful but its main function is to provide a surface where one can keep his/her things. Without this decorative craft then the interior of houses would be very unpleasant to live in as the place would look so dull and elementary. Most of those who specialize in decorative craft are interior designers whose main job is to make sure the interior of houses is pleasant and beautiful to live in.

Fashion craft entails the aspect of dressing the human body. Those who participate in fashion craft are the fashion designers whose main job is to use their prowess in making sure that their dress the human body. This type of craft has less to do with architecture and design.

Functional craft houses most of the other types of craft. This is because one may not just spend money on a piece of craft due to its beauty but most importantly on how functional it is as it will have to be used in day to day life. For any individual in the crafting space to benefit from their work then they will have to make sure that it is functional.

Craft in architecture is a collaborative process. It depends heavily on the craftspeople involved. In the field of architecture and design, ideas are useless without the ability to give them shape and this is why most architect and designers produce “ugly” crafts even if they have done the courses. Being part of the process makes one have numerous ideas when having a view of some of the creations in the past.

A number of architectural considerations are taken and should be taken before developing any type of craft. Most architects worldwide emphasize on the need of detail when doing any piece of art. Through paying attention even to the most tiny details of a craft ensures that the structure produced last longer and also meet the ultimate goal of any craft work and that is functionality. Inclusion of craft in any architectural project is very important as it helps even in the marketing of that project without much struggle and also saves on incurring the marketing cost thus increasing the profit margin that is if at all the project is meant for sale. In most instances, it is the small things that are added in a craft that makes it more appealing.

Just as Jonathan Anderson said “We’re in this moment where we’re trying to become more tactile, we want to have more touch.”. The role that crafts play in architecture can not be underestimated for reasons whatsoever. Craft can be said that it simply lies in comprehending stuffs that are in the process of creating any objects.

With craft skills those in craft can collaborate with any material and turn it into a gem that will attract a lot of attention. The role of craft in architecture contains critical thing without which the desired outcome will never be arrived to and will remain an idea. Craft can not be separated from architecture and design as without craft the there is no architecture and designs. That is how significant craft is in the architecture and design space. Architects and designers must aim at making sure that their craft skills remain intact so that they can always come up with very appealing things. “It is the integration of this added layer of “craft”-of touch, texture, art, and detail—that adds so much to how a building lives and can be experienced”(Will Winkelman)

It is through crafting that architects and designers make and unmake a world that is a complete space for human beings to live in. Crafting is also an integral part of the process including manufacturing, innovation, and technology. It is also through crafting that individuals reduce the cost of construction. This is notable where rather that spending expensive material for construction one comes up with an idea that will save up on the cost by using some cheaper materials to produce the desired taste.

In most cases, craft is characterized by the use of the locally available materials that insist in handcrafted particulars, and how the nature have been integrated. It is through craft that architects and designers are able to harmonize the natural surrounding of the houses that are constructed. Handmade things are preferred more than those that are produced by a machine.

Some of the most important characteristic in craft is the use of local materials. It is through the use of locally available materials that one is able to craft with natural beauty.

Also, another distinguishing characteristic is that craft should be handcrafted. The use of hands in creating this craft is very effective as one is able to pay attention even to the smallest detail. If at any one machines are used in production of craft then it means that the element of uniqueness that is supposed to be in the craft will no longer be there.

Another feature of craft is one is able or have been able to include nature in that peace of craft. Craft should always go hand in hand with nature. This is mainly achieved through the use of natural materials so that one is able to integrate them with nature thus producing that beautiful and unique peace of craft.

That is meaning and importance of craft in architecture and design.

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**Reference**

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