

The following section outlines the three primary criteria that AIA CES courses must meet to be approved for LU/HSW designated courses.

Criteria 1: Course Content must directly support the HSW definition.

Health, Safety, Welfare (HSW) in architecture is anything that relates to the structural integrity or soundness and health impacts of a building or building site. Courses must intend to protect the general public.

Health: Aspects of architecture that promote physical, mental, and social wellbeing among users of buildings or sites and address related environmental concerns.

Safety: Aspects of architecture intended to limit or prevent accidental injury or death among users of the buildings or sites.

Welfare: Aspects of architecture that engender demonstrable positive emotional and physical responses among, or enable equal access by, users of buildings or sites.

Criteria 2: Course content must include one or more of the AIA CES Acceptable HSW topics

BUILDING SYSTEMS: Structural, Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing, Communications, Security, Fire Protection

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION: Contracts, Bidding, Contract Negotiations

CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS: Drawings, Specifications, Delivery Methods

DESIGN: Urban Planning, Urban Ecology, Master Planning, Building Design, Site Design, Interiors, Safety and Security Measures

ENVIRONMENTAL: Energy Efficiency, Sustainability, Natural Resources, Natural Hazards, Hazardous Materials, Weatherproofing, Insulation

OCCUPANT COMFORT: Air Quality, Ventilation, Lighting, Sound, Egress

LEGAL: Laws, Codes, Zoning, Regulations, Standards, Life Safety, Accessibility, Ethics, Insurance to protect owners and Public

MATERIALS and METHODS: Construction Systems, Products, Finishes, Furnishings, Equipment

PRE-DESIGN: Land Use Analysis, Health Impact Assessment, Programming, Site Selection, Site and Soils Analysis, Surveying

PRESERVATION: Historic, Reuse, Adaptation

Criteria 3: 75 percent of course content must be on HSW topics.

To qualify for HSW credit, 75 percent of a course's content and instructional time must be on acceptable HSW topics, as outlined above. This means that if your course is 1 hour in length, at least 45 minutes (that is, 75 percent) must be spent discussing HSW topics. In addition, AIA CES requires that each provider course provide a minimum of four learning objectives. For HSW course qualification, however, three of the four mandatory courses learning objectives (that is, 75 percent) must address HSW topics. This is one way that AIA CES verifies that 75 percent of a course is actually on HSW topics.

QUICK NOTES:

AIA CES Acceptable HSW Topics

Technical and professional subjects that the Board deems appropriate to safeguard the public and that are within the following enumerated areas necessary for the proper evaluation, design, construction, and utilization of buildings and the built environment.

* Health Examples: Accessibility; acoustical, energy efficiency, mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems; and materials

* Safety Examples: Codes, regulations, natural hazards, life safety system—suppression, detection, –alarm standards, provisions of fire-rated egress enclosures, automatic sprinkler systems, and stairs with correct rise-to-run proportions

* Welfare Examples: Building design and materials, methods and systems, construction contracting, ethics and regulations governing the practice of architecture, preservation, adaptive reuse, and the study of environmental and wellbeing issues.

