

**Faculty of Engineering**  
**Department of Interior Design**


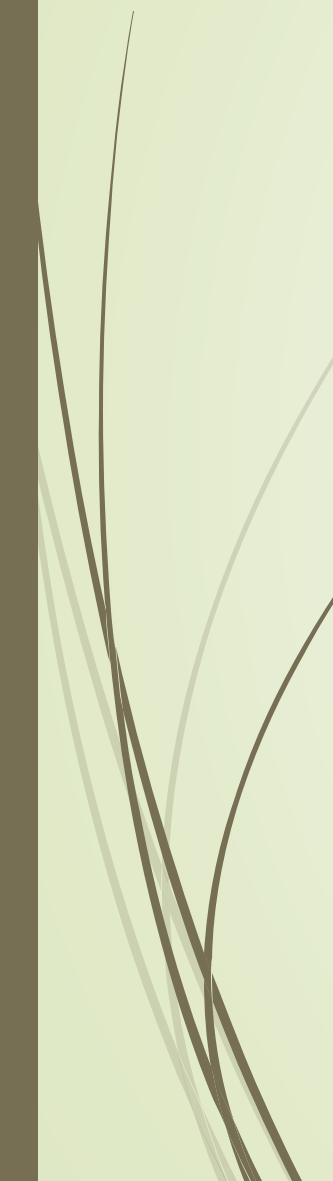
# Interior Design Applications

3rd year – 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester


M.S.C. Madyan Rashan

Room No. 313

Academic Year 2018-2019

	Course Name	Interior Design Applications
	Course Code	INDS 321
	Lecturer in Charge	Asst. Lecturer
	Department/College	Interior Design / Engineering
	Contact information	e-mail: <a href="mailto:madyan.maher@gmail.com">madyan.maher@gmail.com</a>
	Time(in hours) per week	Theory: 2 h.
	Keywords	
	Objectives: At the end of this lecture, the students should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish basic concepts about <b>Space and the human dimension.</b></li> </ul>	



Week	Lecture Date	Number of hours	Topic
1	5/2/2019	2 h	Introduction, course overview
2	12/2/2019	2 h	Space as language
3	19/2/2019	2 h	<b>Space and the human dimension</b>
4		<u>2 h</u>	
5		<u>2 h</u>	
6		<b><u>2 h</u></b>	
7		<u>2 h</u>	
8		<u>2 h</u>	
9		<u>2 h</u>	
10		<u>2 h</u>	
11		<u>2 h</u>	
12		<u>2 h</u>	
13		<u>2 h</u>	

# **Space and the human dimension**





## Course Reading List and References:



Language of Space  
by Bryan Lawson



## Space

- In the previous chapter we established the idea that there is a **global human language of space**.
- Whether or not this is true, in the human language of space we can certainly see reflections of our own makeup.
- At its most basic, we have our own ways of sensing space and of moving through space.
- At the more sophisticated level, we have our own ways of making **meaning of space**.
- All these and many more features of the human condition help to determine the way we communicate through space.




There are many ways of categorizing human behavior.

- However, for the purposes of the subject in hand it is useful to recognize two important dimensions along which our behavior can be plotted.
- Sometimes we are very conscious of our own behaviour, whilst at other times we may be entirely unconscious of it.
- On some occasions we have virtually total control over our behaviour, but not always!
- Since these two dimensions of **consciousness** and **control** are independent, we can usefully think of human behaviour in four major sectors.

Behaviour that is both unconscious and uncontrollable we might call **instinct**.

- ▶ The baby grasping when the palm of its hand is touched, the blink of the eyes or turn of the head when we see movement are all examples of instinctive behaviour.





At the other extreme, behaviour that is both **conscious and controllable** we might call 'cognitive', and this clearly includes intellectual thought and the solving of problems.

- Conscious but uncontrollable behaviour we might call '**conative**', which would include feelings and emotions.

Unconscious and yet controllable behaviour might seem at first an impossible paradox, but it is not.

- It includes the sophisticated skills on which we rely every day of our lives, simple walking or swimming involves such behaviour, and even, frighteningly, the driving of a motor car! Driving seems ridiculously difficult to do when you are learning, but once mastered you are also likely to listen to the radio, hold conversations and solve problems while driving to work every day.



**conative**

feelings  
emotions

conscious

**cognitive**

thinking  
solving problems

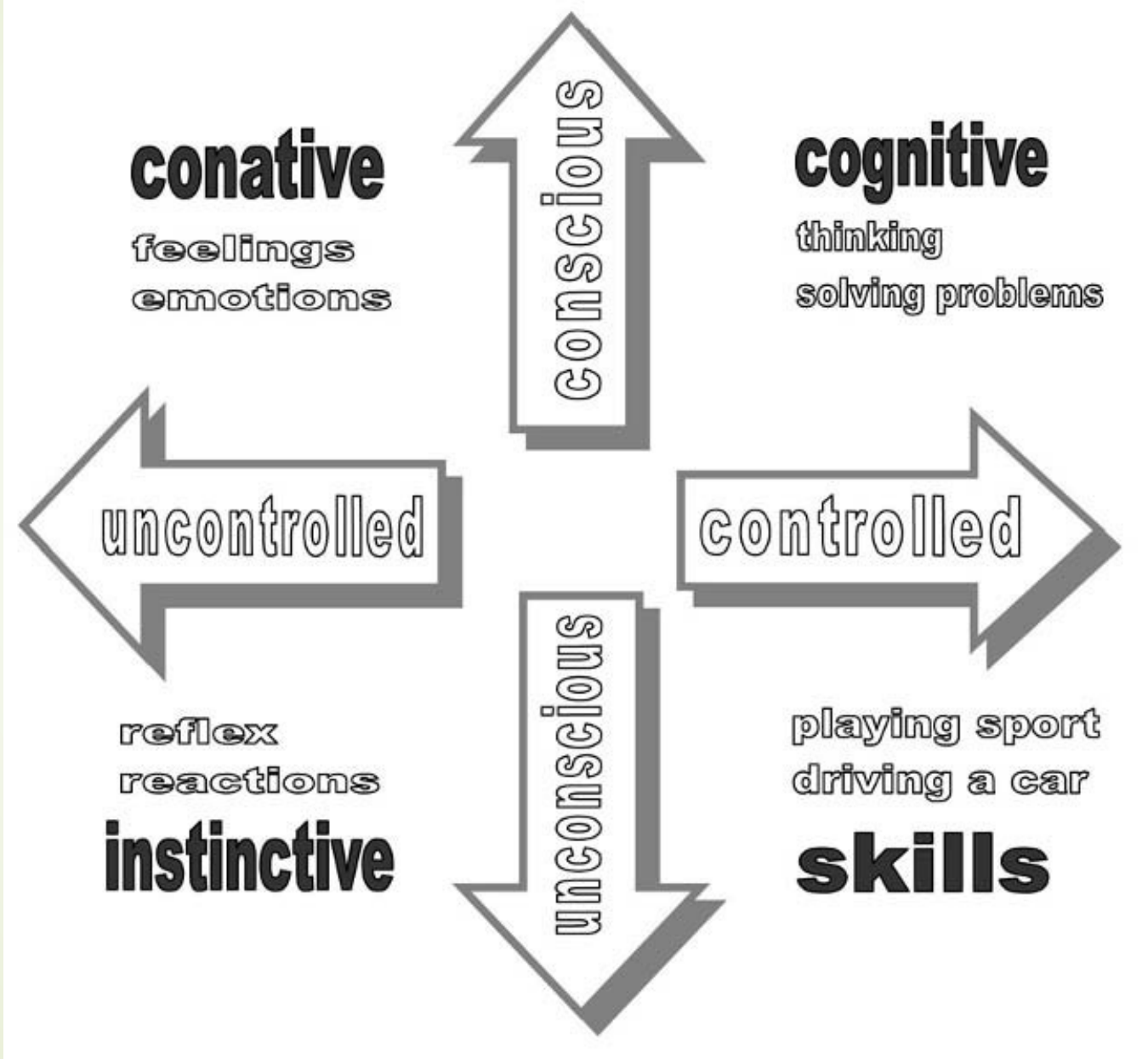
uncontrolled

controlled

reflex  
reactions  
**instinctive**

unconscious

playing sport  
driving a car  
**skills**



## Motivation and need

- Motivation undoubtedly plays a central role in our behaviour, and any analysis of how we behave in relation to space must recognize this powerful force.
- Motivations are many and varied, and not only depend on personality and culture but also change with time and situation.



## Motivation and need

- However, we do seem to be driven by fundamental internal needs, or so a great deal of psychological theory would have it.
- Maslow and others since have described our behaviour in terms of the way we seek to satisfy a complex array of needs.



## Spatial needs

- ▶ Let us begin then by thinking of the very high level emotional needs we expect space to help us to satisfy.
- ▶ Most of us hate **being bored**, and want some form of amusement or entertainment.
- ▶ We might see this as a need for **stimulation**, and we demand that the space around us should provide this.



## Spatial needs

- On the whole we also seek to avoid high levels of uncertainty and change, and we require a degree of stability and structure in our lives.
- We might see this as a need for **security**, and so we require spaces to keep us secure.



## Spatial needs

- ▶ Places that have built into them some way of acknowledging or even measuring the passage of time often seem to have a reassuring effect on us.
- ▶ In particular, places that express the diurnal rhythm or the passage of the seasons are calming and reassuring.
- ▶ Being aware of the weather and of the time of day through the movement of the sun seems to bring a security which many people value very highly.



## Spatial needs


- The substantial industry that trades on our wish to populate interior space with **plants** is another indication of the need we feel to remain in some contact with nature when architecture would otherwise separate us from it.





Most of us seem to have a strong desire to belong somewhere.

- Many people when travelled widely in their lives describe an increasingly strong need to return to their roots in later life.
- We might see this as a need for and to belong somewhere, or in other words a need to be located in space.
- All these are examples of needs that the space we inhabit can help to satisfy



One of the most fundamental forces at work in our psychological makeup is the need to create and maintain our own **identity**.

- This was wonderfully explored by Erving Goffman in his study of the 'presentation of self in everyday life'

Clearly, then, one of the roles of space is to create settings that facilitate the acting out of the range of identities we use in our lives.

- Much of this must be done not by architects but by the actors themselves, since the space is effectively an extension of their own behavioural mask.
- In turn, the challenge for architects is how to create space that invites and facilitates taking possession and personalization.





The expression of communal identity can be every bit as important as that of the individual.





**THANK  
YOU  
FOR  
YOUR  
ATTENTION**