

# Interior Performance and Occupant Experience

This lab will be a thought-experiment considering the different performance criteria that affect an occupant's experience in a particular room. For this exercise, we will rely on several of the WELL Building Standard Criteria.

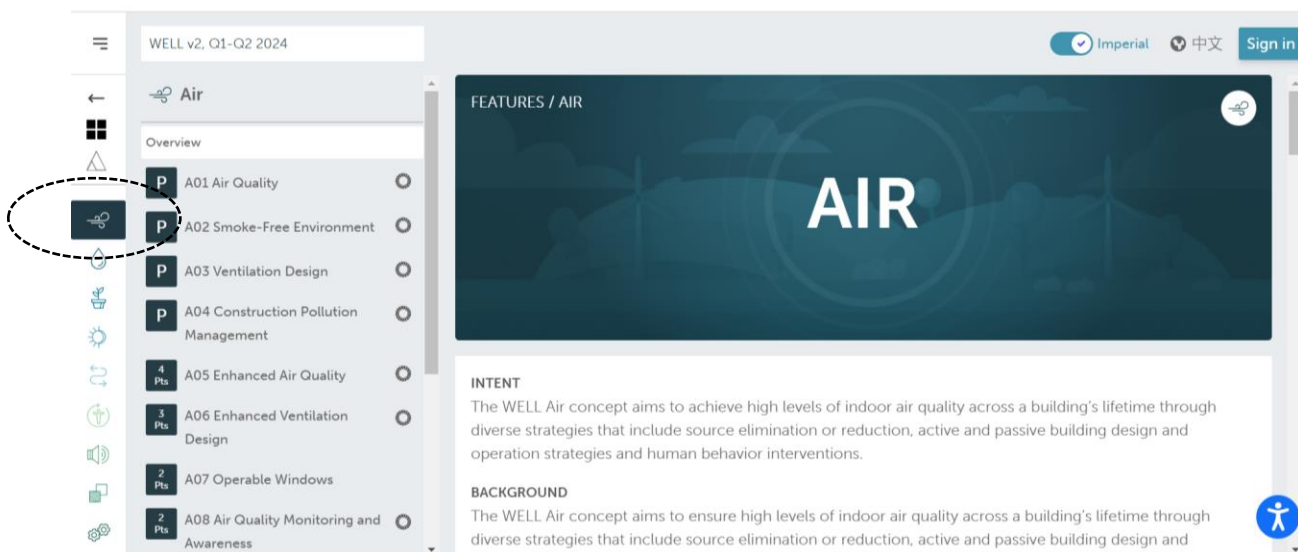
WELL measures ten 'Concepts' or attributes of buildings that impact occupant health as seen in Figure 1. For this lab, we will focus on four of them: Air, Thermal Comfort, Light, and Sound.



Figure 1: The 10 Concepts of WELL V2 2024 from <https://v2.wellcertified.com/en/wellv2/overview>

Definitions of each of the following criteria and how they are measured can be found on the WELL website by clicking on the corresponding icons on the sidebar

<https://v2.wellcertified.com/en/wellv2/overview>



## EXERCISE

### For this assignment:

1. Choose one room in a building for a case study. This room can be a theater/auditorium, a classroom, or a lobby that you can visit in person and spend at least 30 minutes in.
2. Choose a corresponding room from a design you admire and which has design information either available from publications or that can be inferred from online documentation.
3. Read the overviews (intent and background) of each of the 4 concepts under consideration: **Air, Light, Thermal Comfort**, and **Sound** on the WELL Website and review the point categories for each general concept.
4. Choose **two** additional WELL concepts to include in your team's analysis (Water, Nourishment, Movement, Materials, Mind, or Community) and read the overviews (intent and background) and review the point categories for the two concepts your team has chosen.
5. Visit your chosen space for this exercise. Take a notebook and the list of the point criteria for the six concepts your team is examining. To the best of your ability, identify the points the room you would award for each of the six concepts your team has chosen and note why. Interact with the space as much as possible. Note the smell and any dust in the air for air quality. For light, take note of the windows and electric lights – maybe sketch spots of glare. For thermal comfort, take note of how warm or cold you are in the space, see if you can spot a thermostat and touch the surfaces with your hand to see how cold or hot they are. For sound, use the NIOSH SLM app to record the dBA in the space and how loud or quiet it is. Find your own methods of examining the room for the two other chosen criteria.
6. Finally, consider the equivalent room in your admired case study and identify the points this room would be awarded for the same six concepts.
7. Develop a presentation comparing and contrasting the room you visited with the admired design you chose as its facsimile. Note the design choices that led to different scores in each of the six categories. Provide at least one opportunity for design improvement in each category.