

**IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN IN THE DESIGN
OF A SHOPPING MALL FOR ABEOKUTA**

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OF A SHOPPING MALL FOR ABEOKUTA**

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF
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COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, COVENANT
UNIVERSITY.**

SEPTEMBER, 2021

ACCEPTANCE

This is to attest that this dissertation is accepted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree of Master of Science in the Department of Architecture, College of Science and Technology Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria.

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DECLARATION

I, **SOGBETUN, OREOLUWA TOLUWANIMI (15CA03373)** declare that this research was carried out by me under the supervision of Dr. Bukola A. Adewale of the Department of Architecture, College of Science and Technology, Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria. I attest that the dissertation has neither been presented wholly nor partly for the award of any degree elsewhere. All data sources and scholarly information used in this dissertation are duly acknowledged.

SOGBETUN, OREOLUWA TOLUWANIMI

Signature and Date

CERTIFICATION

We certify that this dissertation titled “**IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN IN THE DESIGN OF A SHOPPING MALL FOR ABEOKUTA**” is an original research work carried out by **SOGBETUN, OREOLUWA TOLUWANIMI (15CA03373)** in the Department of Architecture, College of Science and Technology, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria under the supervision of Dr. Bukola A. Adewale. We have examined and found this work acceptable as part of the requirements for the award of Master of Science in Architecture.

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DEDICATION

This design thesis is dedicated to God, all citizens of developing nations who desire public buildings that are inclusive, body of Architecture, my supervisor, my colleagues and to my parents for helping me through it all.

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My utmost gratitude goes to God Almighty, the source of life, wisdom and all knowledge. I owe you this degree and my very life. I specially thank my parents Engr. and Mrs Sogbetun for being a great support system, you come next to God. Big thanks to my family who supported me emotionally and financially.

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ABSTRACT

The process of designing inclusive spaces and ultimately, inclusive buildings can be viewed as an answer to accommodating various persons within the built environment regardless of experienced individuality and differences. What truly creates a disability is the interaction between an individual's impairment and the various barriers presented by the design of a building. Unfortunately, it has been identified through observation and review of existing literature that accessibility is not fully considered and provided to users of several public buildings. Many public buildings are designed with a half-hearted attempt at universal design and this makes them inaccessible to the physically challenged. In addition to that, few studies have discussed the application of Universal design principles in shopping malls in South western Nigeria, specifically Ogun state and the literature found addressing Universal Design principles have mainly focused on achieving universal design amongst people with sensory limitations by making use of active means only. As architects, it remains a social responsibility to consistently design spaces that will cater to individuals in an effective, efficient, and satisfactory way, regardless of health, body size, experience, mobility, strength and age. Therefore, the aim of this research is to study the implementation of Universal design in shopping malls towards the design of a shopping mall in Abeokuta, Nigeria. To collect data for this research, a mixed mode method of data collection was used. Qualitative data was collected with the use of an observation schedule and case studies and Quantitative data was collected through the administration of structured questionnaires. Findings show that selected shopping malls for the purpose of this research only catered to the mobility impaired and not all individuals with disabilities. This study therefore recommends a model that will ensure an inclusive public building in order to create a better user experience.

Key terms: Abeokuta, Implementation, shopping mall, Universal design