



INTRODUCTION TO ARCHITECTURE FROM THE BIG BANG TO DIGITAL ACROBATICS

ARCH 1615	Fall 2014	
Type of Course	Undergraduate Lecture for Freshmen and Freshwomen	
Time	Tuesday and Thursday, 2:00 pm – 3:20 pm	
Location	Tanner Building, Room 109	
Instructor	Shundana Yusaf	shundana@arch.utah.edu
Teaching Assistant	Massih Nilforoush	nilforoushan.ma@gmail.com

Course Overview

This introductory course to architecture approaches the topic historically. Though object centric, the development of architecture, building types, cities, and planning strategies are put in context of technological, religious, and political revolutions. We will learn about cave dwelling in the context of big game hunting and religious beliefs in Africa, Australia and Europe; heavy cedar construction, social organization and sedentary lifestyle of early fishing societies in Japan, Alaska and Canada; agricultural revolution, slavery and origin of cities in Mesopotamia. Class discussions and reading responses emphasize the connections and contrasts between the spatial and material concepts of the First Civilizations in Botswana, the Levant, Greek Naos, Art Nouveau, all the way to contemporary architects like Rem Koolhaas and Liz Diller. Guest lectures by architects and architectural historians at the school of architecture and in Salt Lake City will familiarize us with different modes of representation. We will discuss how different types of drawings, models, photographs and genres of writing, at once limit and enhance our view of the world. The symbolism and cultural meaning of Athenian Propylaea, Roman Forum, and Acropolis is juxtaposed in the following weeks with the construction and systems of technology of the Renaissance, neo-classical works of French Academe, and the spatial sequence and site planning of Mies van der Rowe and Le Corbusier. Readings and lectures are supplemented with guest lectures, museum tours, film screenings, and radio broadcasts. The goal is to provide an insight into the roles that buildings have played in shaping human interactions and encourage students to translate this knowledge into subtle strategies of engagement with historical and contemporary sites.

The pedagogic goal of this course is to expose students to a particular way of thinking about the built environment. It will give participants both the technical and historic knowledge to look about themselves. It will teach them how to take notes, approach readings, and participate in Q&A sessions at the end of each class. This is a reading and comprehension intensive course and aims to provide training in these two areas.

Course Objectives

At the end of the course, the students will recognize different types of architectural drawings; read plans, sections, isometric and axonometric diagrams; detail the difference between social, political, formal and structural aspects of architecture; situate architectural development across time and space in context of other developments and innovations; and list the shifts and changes in the built environment.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Includes reading, lectures, discussions, guest speakers and field trips; an e-board correspondence

Requirements

60% of grade will be based on attendance and participation at all lectures; biweekly reading and notes; weekly exit responses, and open book quizzes conducted every four weeks. Another 40% will go to midterm and final.

The instructor is available to you by email and during office hours to discuss the material of the class. Unexcused lateness in attending the class will affect your grade. If you cannot make a class, you should email your TA in advance so as to not damage your attendance record. More than 2 unexplained absences will result in an automatic letter grade reduction. More than 5 absences will disqualify you from taking the exams and exempt me from grading you. You will have to retake the class in a later semester. These terms are non-negotiable.

Textbook

Roth, Leland M. *Understanding Architecture: Its Elements, History and Meaning*. NYC: Harper Collins, 2007 or earlier edition. Textbook is not available in the Campus Bookstore. You can buy new and second hand paper versions of the second edition from the University of Utah bookstore or online.

ADA statement

“The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.” (www.hr.utah.edu/oeo/ada/guide/faculty/)

Faculty and Student Responsibilities

All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content.

DATES

LECTURES AND EXAMS AND PAPERS

Tues. Aug. 26	Introduction to architecture via history, theory, and criticism
Thurs. Aug. 28	1. First Societies, pp. 140-149 (1993 edition) pp. 159-171 (2007 edition)
Tues. Sept. 02	2. Village to Cities, pp. 149-157 (1993 edition) pp. 171-179 (2007 edition)
Thurs. Sept. 04	3. Iron Revolution: Egypt, pp. 175-181(1993 edition) pp. 201-207 (2007 edition)
Tues. Sept. 09	4. Iron Revolution: Greece, pp. 185-193 (1993 edition) pp. 217-226 (2007 edition)

Thurs. Sept. 11	Revision I: Open book quiz
Tues. Sept. 16	5. Iron Revolution: Rome, pp. 218-222 (1993 edition) pp. 247-255 (2007 edition)
Thurs. Sept. 18	6. Rome and Asia, pp. 222-237 (1993 edition) pp. 255-271 (2007 edition)
Tues. Sept. 23	7. Early Buddhism, reading on canvas
Thurs. Sept. 25	8. Early Christianity, pp. 239-263 (1993 edition) pp. 275-299 (2007 edition)
Tues. Sept. 30	Revision II: Open book quiz
Thurs. Oct. 02	9. Early Islam, reading on canvas
Tues. Oct. 07	10. Medieval Christianity, pp. 290-315 (1993 edition) pp. 381-395 (2007 edition)
Thurs. Oct. 09	MIDTERM EXAM
Tues. Oct. 14	No class (Fall Break)
Thurs. Oct. 16	No class (Fall Break)
Tues. Oct. 21	11. Renaissance, pp. 316-343 (1993 edition) pp. 353-381 (2007 edition)
Wed. Oct. 23	No class (Conference in Edinburgh)
Tues. Oct. 28	12. Mannerism and Baroque, pp. 343-373 (1993 edition) pp. 381-395 (2007 edition)
Wed. Oct. 30	13. Enlightenment, pp. 396-419 (1993 edition) pp. 439-467 (2007 edition)
Tues. Nov. 04	14. 19th Century Europe, pp. 420-441 (1993 edition) pp. 469-491 (2007 edition)
Wed. Nov. 06	Revision III: Open book quiz
Tues. Nov. 11	15. 19th Century Empire (no reading)
Wed. Nov. 13	16. Modern Movement, pp. 458-483 (1993 edition) pp. 519-539 (2007 edition)

Tues. Nov. 18	17. Modern Movement, pp. 458-483 (1993 edition) pp. 519-539 (2007 edition)
Wed. Nov. 20	18. Modernism in Post-colonial World (no reading)
Tues. Nov. 25	Revision IV
Wed. Nov. 27	No class (Thanksgiving)
Tues. Dec. 02	19. Postmodernism, pp. 501-517 (1993 edition) pp. 580-598 (2007 edition)
Wed. Dec. 04	20. Global Scene, reading on canvas
Week of Dec 15, 2014	FINAL EXAM
Grades Due Friday, December 26, 2014	