

ARCH 2304 HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE 2, Renaissance to the present
University of Texas at Arlington, Spring 2013
M,W,F 1:00-1:50, ARCH 401

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Office hours: ARCH 416, Tuesday, Wednesday 11-12:30

The best way to contact me outside of class is through e-mail but please give me a couple of days to respond – if you haven't heard from me after 48 hours, please feel free to email again. If you cannot come to office hours and would like to chat outside of class, please do schedule an appointment or feel free to drop in if my door is open (it often is). I welcome your questions and ideas.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course surveys major buildings in world architecture from 1400 to the present. While we focus most closely on the western tradition, it is a central concern of this course to examine the rich architectural heritage of other global cultures. The goal is for students to gain an understanding of the ways architecture and urbanism reflect the social, economic, geographic, and technological environment. By looking at buildings from remote times and places, we can deepen our understanding of those in our own time and place as well.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course will allow students to begin to develop their skills in reading, writing, critical thinking, visual memory, and visual analysis using the history of architecture as a medium; graduate students will also develop research skills. Larger questions about the purpose of architecture, its relationship to human culture and the natural environment, and the role of technology and clients in shaping design will permeate our lectures, readings, and assignments.

COURSE FORMAT

This is a lecture course, but your questions are an important component in the learning process. Participate by asking questions and bringing your own perspective to the classroom. Lectures will provide a broad overview of a culture with a sharper focus on individual buildings as cross sections in time; occasional film clips and in-class exercises will supplement lectures. Supplementary readings, available on Blackboard, will focus on major theoretical positions.

TEXTBOOKS

Required: Trachtenberg and Hyman, *Architecture from Prehistory to the Present* (any edition)

Additional course readings and slides shown during lecture will be available through Blackboard. Go to <http://elearn.uta.edu> and log in to get access to our course page.

COURSE EVALUATION

Undergraduates take 1 practice quiz, 3 quizzes, and a final exam, write 2 in-class microthemes, and write 2 out-of-class reading response essays. Grades are weighted as follows:

Quiz 1 = 10%; Quiz 2 and 3 = 15% each; Final exam (comprehensive) = 20%

Microthemes (written in class) 1 and 2 = 10% each

Reading responses (to be completed outside of class and submitted on Blackboard): 10% each

Please note: Your paper will be automatically checked for originality by Blackboard's SafeAssign

There is a practice quiz early in the semester – it is worth up to 10 points. Your score will be added to your lowest quiz grade before averaging at the end of the semester.

In general grades are assigned using the following criteria:

- A (90-100) = exceptional work, exceeds expectations
- B (80-89) = very good work
- C (70-79) = satisfactory, meets minimum requirements
- D (60-69) = below average performance
- F (59 and below) = failing, does not meet expectations

CLASS POLICIES

Attendance

This course covers an immense amount of material and the biggest favor you can do yourself is to attend lectures. **Attendance is required** and more than three unexcused absences may result in the lowering of your final grade by 10 points. Please be sure to sign in at each class meeting. Arrive on time and leave snacking and conversation for outside of class hours. If you have a question about the lecture, raise your hand and ask!

Make-up Policy

If you miss an assignment or quiz, your grade will be recorded as zero unless you provide official documentation of a medical emergency. You must inform me *immediately* – not the next day, next week, etc. (Consider it this way: if you miss work, do you call in sick the *next* day?) Look at your syllabus now and mark your calendar – all dates of assignments are clearly listed. Note that I will call doctor's offices to verify you were there. Please do not fake notes – it will be considered academic dishonesty and be cause for failure of the assignment (see below).

Academic Integrity

In the past students have found forming study groups useful for reviewing material together. Learning is more productive when it comes in a variety of contexts – after hearing a lecture and taking notes it will sink in far more effectively if you then talk about it as well. I encourage you to discuss course material and quiz review questions with each other as long as the work you execute during our quizzes, microthemes, and out-of-class writing assignments is entirely your own.

Plagiarism and other forms of cheating are serious academic offenses. Suspected violations of academic integrity standards will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Students found to have cheated or committed plagiarism will receive a failing grade on the assignment. Everything must be put away during quizzes and theme assignments – no notes, phones, pagers, ipods, etc. – and you may not look at other students' papers or talk to one another. If you are uncertain about standards of academic honesty and ethics, please consult UTA's student code of ethics or visit:

<http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/conduct/academicintegrity.html>

All students should complete UTA's unit on recognizing and avoiding plagiarism:

<http://library.uta.edu/plagiarism/>

Electronic Communication

I will use your UTA-assigned email addresses to send class announcements when necessary. Please be sure to either check your UTA address or have it forwarded somewhere that you do check. I do not discuss grades via e-mail for privacy reasons. If you have a question about grades, please ask in person. Information about MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>

Drop Policy

Students may drop or swap classes self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** For information about impacts on financial aid see <http://www.uta.edu/ses/fao>.

Academic Accommodations

Any student requiring an accommodation for this course should simply provide official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.

Student Support Services

If you are having difficulty in this course (or any others) please do ask for help. Ask me, our TA, or call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or visit www.uta.edu/resources. There are many counseling services available that can help with a wide variety of issues that all students face, including time management and study skills, language issues, stress, etc. Do not hesitate to take advantage of them.

Class Assignments

Quizzes/Final Exam:

Your quizzes will include portions dedicated to slide identification, as well as definitions and short answers (4-5 sentences each). The slide ID's will ask you to identify a projected image, name the building, its architect (if any), its location, and its date. This is not about pure memorization; it is about developing your visual memory and pattern analysis skills. The definitions will ask you to define terms that we have used in class or to label a drawing showing the parts of a building. Again, this is not about pure memorization; it is about understanding the purpose and meaning of long-standing building/spatial typologies. The short answers will ask you to discuss architecture in its context, by understanding the importance of buildings, how they are built, and what they mean to the people who build and use them across time. Questions might ask you to compare buildings from different cultures or time periods, or ask you to focus on a particular building technology, or to think about how architectural forms or city plans have changed across time. Material from lectures and readings will help you form your answers. In general, expect the slide ID's to count 20%, the definitions 40%, and the short answers 40%. The final will be comprehensive, but with primary focus on the last portion of the semester after quiz #3.

Microthemes:

There is no studying or advance preparation for microthemes. You will be given a brief reading in class and then asked to write a short, two-paragraph response to a series of guided questions. Microthemes help you develop critical thinking and writing skills and they are graded based on reasoning of your answer as well as the clarity of your writing (including organization, grammar, and spelling).

Reading responses (undergraduates only):

You will be asked to read essays of about 20 pages outside of class and write a 500-word response to a series of guided questions. You may do these at any time, though they must be uploaded by the deadlines listed on the syllabus. The reading responses help you develop more sustained writing skills that depend on a more carefully constructed thesis statement and a more in-depth critical argument that requires supporting evidence. Again, you are graded on the quality and clarity of your writing as well as the accuracy of your interpretation.

SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS

Week 1

- 1. 14 January Introduction: Humanism and the Birth of the Renaissance in Florence
Reading for meetings 1-3: Trachtenberg & Hyman, Chapter 8
- 2. 16 January The Idea of the Renaissance: From Alberti to Palladio
- 3. 18 January The Renaissance Villa: Humanism and the Landscape

Week 2

- 4. 21 January NO CLASS -- MLK Birthday
- 5. 23 January Baroque Drama 1: The Papacy and the Rebuilding of Rome
READING for meetings 5-9: Trachtenberg and Hyman, Chapter 9
- 6. 25 January Baroque Drama 2: Bernini and Borromini / **practice quiz**

Week 3

- 7. 28 January **MICROTHEME 1, in class**
- 8. 30 January Baroque in France: Versailles
- 9. 1 February The Spread of the Renaissance and Baroque

Week 4

- 10. 4 Feb. Islamic architecture and the Renaissance
READING: Trachtenberg & Hyman, Chapter 6
- 11. 6 Feb. REVIEW
- 12. 8 Feb. **QUIZ 1**

Week 5

- 13. 11 Feb. The Enlightenment: Neo-Classicism
READING: Trachtenberg & Hyman, Chapter 10
- 14. 13 Feb. Forbidden City
READING on Blackboard: Jarzombek, Ching & Prakesh, *A Global History of Architecture*, "Forbidden City," 426-27 and Wright, "The Cosmology of the Chinese City."
- 15. 15 Feb. Japan and the Landscape
READING on Blackboard: Jarzombek, Ching & Prakesh, *A Global History of Architecture*, "Japanese Gardens"

Week 6

- 16. 18 Feb. The Enlightenment: Romanticism and the Picturesque
- 17. 20 Feb. Colonizing the New World: Tenochtitlan and New Spain
READING on Blackboard: "Tenochtitlan," 418-19.
- 18. 22 Feb. Building the American republic: Town and country
READING: Trachtenberg & Hyman, Chapter 11

Week 7

- 19. 25 Feb. The Industrial Revolution
READING: Trachtenberg & Hyman, Chapter 11, p. 431-442
Reading Response #1 due – upload to Blackboard by 5pm
- 20. 27 Feb. The Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Europe and America
READING: Trachtenberg & Hyman, Chapter 11, 444-453
- 21. 1 March The Birth of the Skyscraper in Chicago and New York

READING on Blackboard Louis Sullivan, "The Tall Office Building Artistically Considered" (1896)

READING: Trachtenberg & Hyman, Chapter 12 REVIEW

Week 8

22. 4 March REVIEW

23. 6 March **QUIZ 2**

24. 8 March The persistence of craft: The Arts and Crafts movement

READING: Trachtenberg & Hyman, Chapter 12

Week 9

NO CLASS SPRING BREAK

Week 10

25. 18 March **Reading Response #2 due** – upload to Blackboard by 5pm

No Class today

26. 20 March Pre-War Modernism: Make It New

READING, meetings 25-33, Trachtenberg & Hyman, Chapter 12, section "High Modernism"

27. 22 March Brave new world: Modernism in film

Week 11

28. 25 March Architecture or Revolution: Early Le Corbusier

READING on blackboard: Le Corbusier, *Towards a New Architecture* (excerpt)

29. 27 March The Bauhaus and the Ideal of Standardized Production

READING: Trachtenberg & Hyman, Chapter 12, section "High Modernism"

30. 29 March American Modernism: From Art Deco to Moderne

Week 12

31. 1 April The Rise of the International Style and CIAM

READING: The Athens Charter (Blackboard)

32. 3 April Postwar Modernism 1: Postwar commercial architecture

READING: Trachtenberg & Hyman, Chapter 12, section "Late Modernism"

33. 5 April Postwar Modernism 2: The Suburbs and the American House

READING: Blackboard: Jarzombek et al., *A Global History of Architecture*, "Usonian Houses," 709; "Eames House," 719.

Week 13

34. 8 April Postwar Modernism 3: The rise of concrete

READING: Blackboard: Jarzombek et al., *A Global History of Architecture*, "Chandigarh," 726-29.

35. 10 April REVIEW

36. 12 April **QUIZ 3**

Week 14

37. 15 April Postmodernism in the 1960s: Language and Symbol

READING: Blackboard: Venturi, Scott Brown, & Izenour, *Learning from Las Vegas*, selection.

38. 17 April Postmodernism in the 1970s: The return of ornament

39. 19 April **Microtheme #2 – IN CLASS**

Week 15

40. 22 April Japan and Modern Architecture
READING: Blackboard: Jarzombek et al., *A Global History of Architecture*, "Metabolism," 777.
41. 24 April Modernism in Latin America
READING: Blackboard: Jarzombek et al., *A Global History of Architecture*, "Brasilia," 724-25.
42. 26 April Decon and Hi-Tech in the 1980s

Week 16

44. 29 April The Rise of Starchitecture in the 1990s
45. 1 May Architecture today: Global and Local
46. 3 May REVIEW

FINAL EXAM (time set by registrar – cannot be moved): Monday December 10, 11-1:30