

Instructor: Pasquale De Paola, LEED AP

Department of Architecture, Williams 008

Contact: pdepao1@tamu.edu

Class Schedule: TR, 2:20-3:35 - ARCB 101 Langford Building B

Office Hours: TR, 1pm-2pm and by appointment

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Ryan Withrow

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“Even today, we are obliged to recognize history not as a great reservoir of codified values and styles, but as a vast collection of utopias, success, failures and betrayals.”

-- Manfredo Tafuri, Theories and History of Architecture, 1976

1.0 Course Description

Development of modern and contemporary architecture in the 20th and 21st centuries; materials, structure, social and economic changes as well as architectural theory. There are no prerequisites for this course.

2.0 Introduction

Should we judge architecture purely on its historical domain? Does contemporary architecture progress out of a specific genealogy of forms? Or, do architects develop ideas and concepts, which are rooted in particular cultural and social frameworks? Through its long and complex history, architecture has often displayed a captivating fascination for words, images, manifestos, and buildings; indeed, architects talk as much as they draw. Every design involves some sort of theoretical investigations, and if architecture can be understood as a practice of concepts and ideas, this course will primarily suggest that practice may precede theory as often as theory precedes practice. Hence, the history of architecture is also the history of its writings and the history of its buildings, and, because of this correlation, we will interchangeably analyze buildings as well as theories.

3.0 Objectives

The primary goal of this course is to examine the relationship between buildings, ideas, and the culture in which they were first introduced as well as to understand how a particular interpretive approach can be derived from socio-economic, ideological, and formal investigations. It is thus important to trace the history of modern architecture from the point of view of its transformation under the influence of two major forces: the process of modernization, characterized by material changes and industrial transformations, and the development of ideology as a set of strategic expectations and actions.

On the wake of these major changes, we will analyze cultural developments and predisposing techniques from which modern architecture emerged through the reading of Kenneth Frampton's Modern Architecture: A Critical History and Luigi Prestinenza Puglisi's New Directions in Contemporary Architecture. The narration of historical events won't necessarily be chronological but it will be thematically structured around particular episodes that enriched the cultural and historical debate of architecture culture. Most importantly, rather than defend or validate a single design ideology, this course will attempt to portray the history of twentieth century architecture as an on-going debate concerning what constitutes an appropriate architecture for the modern era. By the end of this course, students should be able to thematically discuss each architectural movement and its cultural developments and predisposing techniques. Students will also learn how to develop a critical attitude by questioning ideas and concepts in relation to the built environment.

4.0 Readings and Resources

Required Textbooks (available at the Texas A&M bookstore)

Kenneth Frampton, *Modern Architecture: A Critical History*. Thames & Hudson; 4th edition (2007)

Luigi Prestinenza Puglisi, *New Directions in Contemporary Architecture: Evolutions and Revolutions in Building Design Since 1988*. John Wiley & Son, LTD (2008)

Recommended Textbooks (Available in Evan Annex 4th floor Media and Reserves)

Kenneth Frampton, *The Evolution of 20th Century Architecture: A Synoptic Account*. Springer (2007)

Ulrich Conrads, *Programs and Manifestoes on 20th-Century Architecture*. The MIT Press (1975)

Diane Ghirardo, *Architecture After Modernism*. Thames & Hudson (1996)

Along with these texts, there will be a series of additional readings and/or videos associated with discussion topics. Those materials will often address larger issues related to the profession or discipline of architecture and will be available either as PDF files or as web links on elearning.tamu.edu (Web CT).

5.0 Attendance to Classes

Class participation is a critical component of course works and it is mandatory. Roll will be taken periodically to verify attendance. Ryan will keep a strict record of your presence, and we will have a spreadsheet to refer to at the end of the semester. If you arrive late to class it is your responsibility to inform Ryan that you are here. If you do not, you are absent. Please see the "Attendance" section on the "Texas A&M Student Rules" regarding accepted reasons that may justify an absence.

Although this survey course holds quite a large enrollment, questions and discussions are strongly encouraged. Also, I won't be publishing or posting PowerPoint lectures online for copyright issues. However, before each exam, I will be posting a study guide on elearning.tamu.edu (Web CT) with a list of important images and other exam related data.

Again, class participation is a major component of course works, and it is obligatory for you to attend our lectures regularly. In addition, *attend the College of Architecture lecture series*. We have a really good series lined up: Beatriz Colomina, BIG, Sarah Whiting/Ron Witte, Teddy Cruz, Ted lake of Lake/Flato, Nicholas Boyarsky, and Francois de Menil. I won't be taking roll or checking individual attendance; however, I will regularly include lecture related questions into our exams as a bonus opportunity.

For more information about our lecture series check the following web page:
<http://archone.tamu.edu/college/news/newsletters/fall2009/stories/calendar.html>

6.0 Exams and Grades

There will be three exams and one assignment (Synopsis) during the current semester. The questions of each exam will be objectives (multiple-choice, fill in the blanks, true/false) and will mostly emphasize on the in-depth knowledge of concepts, as opposed to memorization of dates. Each exam will cover approximately 3-4 weeks of material presented in class, and it will be non-cumulative meaning that you will be tested only on the material covered since the previous examination. You must bring a full-page scantron (8.5"x11") sheet and two number #2 pencils to each exam.

Exam #1	50 pts
Exam #2	50 pts
Final Synopsis	20 pts
Final Exam	50 pts
Total	170 pts

Note that there are ***NO automatic make-up examinations*** for this course. In the exceptional case that a student misses an examination, he or she must immediately notify the professor and no later than two working days after the examination. Any request for a make-up exam must be justified by an acceptable excuse as defined by University policy. Be aware that the make-up exam may have a different format from that given in class and that there will be an automatic 5 points penalty.

Also, the content and goals of the Synopsis assignment will be determined as the semester unfolds. Keep in mind that a synopsis is a brief or condensed statement giving a general view of some subject.

Points and letters will be given by the following evaluation as established by Texas A&M University:

A=153 or more	Exceptional	(90% or more)
B=136-152	Satisfactory	(80% to 89%)
C=119-135	Unsatisfactory	(70% to 79%)
D=102-118	Deficient work	(60% to 69%)
F=101 and less	Failure	(59% or less)

Grades will be posted as soon as they are available on elearning.tamu.edu (Web CT).

7.0 Aggie Honor Code

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat, steal or tolerate those that do." Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student automatically assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work (see below). Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the Texas A&M University community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System. For additional information visit: www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/

8.0 The Americans with Disabilities Act

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a

disability requiring accommodation, please contact the Office of Support Services for Students with Disabilities in Room 126 of the Student Services Building. The phone number is 845-1637. (Please let me know as soon as possible if this applies to you)

9.0 Lecture Schedule and Required Readings

The relevant chapters of Modern Architecture: A Critical History are indicated by the initials MA/CH followed by the page numbers. The readings from New Directions in Contemporary Architecture are indicated by the initials ND/CA followed by the page numbers.

WEEK ONE

Tuesday, January 19: Course introduction, expectations, and learning objectives

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp.8-10

Recommended Reading: Ulrich Conrads, *Programs and Manifestoes on 20th-Century Architecture*. MIT Press (1975), pp. 11

Thursday, January 21: Cultural developments and predisposing techniques

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp.12-40

WEEK TWO

Tuesday, January 26: Adler and Sullivan; Frank Lloyd Wright and the Prairie Style

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp. 42-63

Recommended Reading: Ulrich Conrads, *Programs and Manifestoes on 20th-Century Architecture*. MIT Press (1975), pp. 25

Thursday, January 28: Structural Rationalism; The Glasgow School; The Viennese Sacred Spring

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp. 64-83

WEEK THREE

Tuesday, February 2: Futurist Architecture; Adolf Loos and the crisis of culture; Henry van de Velde

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp. 84-99

Recommended Reading: Ulrich Conrads, *Programs and Manifestoes on 20th-Century Architecture*. MIT Press (1975), pp. 13-24

Thursday, February 4: The industrial city; the evolution of classical rationalism; The Deutsche Werkbund

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp. 100-115

Recommended Reading: Ulrich Conrads, *Programs and Manifestoes on 20th-Century Architecture*. MIT Press (1975), pp. 26-31

WEEK FOUR

Tuesday, February 9: European Expressionism; The Bauhaus 1919-32; The New Objectivity

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp. 116-141

Recommended Reading: Ulrich Conrads, *Programs and Manifestoes on 20th-Century Architecture*. MIT Press (1975), pp. 26-31

**** Thursday, February 11: EXAM ONE – BRING A FULL PAGE SCANTRON (8.5"x11") AND TWO #2 PENCILS ****

WEEK FIVE

Tuesday, February 16: Neo-Plasticism; The great masters of early 20th Century: Le Corbusier and Mies van der Rohe

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp. 142-166

Recommended Reading: Ulrich Conrads, *Programs and Manifestoes on 20th-Century Architecture*. MIT Press (1975), pp. 89-101

Thursday, February 18: The architecture of the Soviet Union; the Ville Radieuse; Wright and the disappearing city

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp. 167-191

Recommended Reading: Ulrich Conrads, *Programs and Manifestoes on 20th-Century Architecture*. MIT Press (1975), pp. 121

WEEK SIX

Tuesday, February 23: Monumentalization of vernacular and technique: Mies and Le Corbusier

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp. 224-237

Thursday, February 25: Alvar Aalto and the Nordic tradition; Italian Rationalism and the ideology of state

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp. 192-223

Recommended Reading: Ulrich Conrads, *Programs and Manifestoes on 20th-Century Architecture*. MIT Press (1975), pp. 34-38

WEEK SEVEN

Tuesday, March 2: The eclipse of the new deal: Buckminster Fuller, Phillip Johnson and Louis Kahn; the International Style

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp. 238-261

Thursday, March 4: New Brutalism; CIAM and Team X; International theory and practice since 1962

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp. 262-313

WEEK EIGHT

Thursday, March 9: Critical Regionalism: Modern architecture and cultural identity

Required Readings: MA/CH, pp. 314-327

**** Tuesday, March 11: EXAM TWO – BRING A FULL PAGE SCANTRON (8.5"x11") AND TWO #2 PENCILS ****

WEEK NINE

Spring Break - March 15 to March 19

WEEK TEN

Tuesday, March 23: Deconstructivist Architecture and the MOMA exhibition of 1988

Required Readings: ND/CA, pp. 9-22

Recommended Reading: Diane Ghirardo, *Architecture After Modernism*. Thames & Hudson (1996), pp. 7-45

Thursday, March 25: A New Paradigm: Zaha Hadid, Rem Koolhaas, Bernard Tschumi

Required Readings: NC/DA, pp. 22-47

WEEK ELEVEN

Tuesday, March 30: The Minimalist approach; High Tech and the inheritance of Deconstructivism

Required Readings: NC/DA, pp. 48-64

Recommended Reading: Diane Ghirardo, *Architecture After Modernism*. Thames & Hudson (1996), pp. 82-88

Thursday, April 1: New Directions: 1993-97; The Radicals and Coop Himmelb(l)au; Envelope architecture

Required Readings: NC/DA, pp. 65-93

WEEK TWELVE

Tuesday, April 6: The poetic of the electronic: between blob architecture and the metaphor

Required Readings: NC/DA, pp. 94-116

Thursday, April 8: A season of masterpieces-1998-2001

Required Readings: NC/DA, pp. 117-134

WEEK THIRTEEN

Tuesday, April 13: UN Studio; New landscapes: the east and the west coast

Required Readings: NC/DA, pp. 135-165

Thursday, April 15: A new Avant-Garde

Required Readings: NC/DA, pp. 166-180

WEEK FOURTEEN

Tuesday, April 20: Trends: 2002-07; Post 9/11 and the WTC competition

Required Readings: NC/DA, pp. 181-191

Thursday, April 22: The rise and death of the star system?

Required Readings: NC/DA, pp. 192-198

WEEK FIFTEEN

Tuesday, April 27: Back to basics: what is next?

Required Readings: NC/DA, pp. 198-222

Thursday, April 29: Conclusions

****Synopsis due at beginning of class****

WEEK SIXTEEN

May 4 Last day of spring semester classes. Redefined day: students attend their Friday classes

May 5 & 6, Wednesday and Thursday, Reading Days-No Classes

**** FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, May 12 from 1-3 p.m. ** Room TBA**

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE SPRING 2010 LECTURE SERIES

01.25 BEATRIZ COLOMINA PROFESSOR OF ARCHITECTURE IN HISTORY AND THEORY AT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY. SPONSORED BY THE GLASSCOCK CENTER FOR HUMANITIES RESEARCH.

02.08 ANDREAS PEDERSEN ASSOCIATE PARTNER OF THE BJARKE INGELS GROUP, COPENHAGEN, DENMARK. COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE FREDERICK E. GIESECKE LECTURE.

02.18 SARAH WHITING AND RON WITTE PRINCIPALS OF WW AND DEAN OF ARCHITECTURE AND PROFESSOR OF ARCHITECTURE AT RICE UNIVERSITY.

03.01 TED FLATO PRINCIPAL OF LAKE|FLATO ARCHITECTS, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, AIA SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS.

03.08 NICHOLAS BOYARSKY PRINCIPAL OF BOYARSKY MURPHY ARCHITECTS, LONDON, ENGLAND.

04.05 FRANCOIS DE MENIL PRINCIPAL OF FdM: ARCH, NEW YORK CITY, NY.

T.B.A. TEDDY CRUZ PRINCIPAL OF ESTUDIO TEDDY CRUZ AND PROFESSOR IN PUBLIC CULTURE & URBANISM AT UC SAN DIEGO. SPONSORED BY THE MITCHELL ENDOWMENT FOR RESIDENTIAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT DR. SARAH DEYONG SDEYONG@TAMU.EDU
POSTER DESIGN: SARAH DEYONG, DONNA HAJASH, AND HAIFENG PAN

**5 P.M. COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE
PRESTON GEREN AUDITORIUM LANGFORD B**



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