

Architecture Culture III
Professor Tony Rizzuto

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Course Description

This course is part of a sequence designed as an historical survey of the history and theory of architecture. Architecture Culture III covers Neo- Classicism Through the International Style in the West. The Architecture Culture course sequence moves beyond the literal, formalistic, and physical realms of interpretation. It examines the relationships between architecture and other cultural discourses such as philosophy, aesthetics, science, religion, politics and technology. Its aim is to develop an understanding of how architecture manifests the socio-cultural conditions of a given moment in aesthetic form. It lays the foundation for a tectonic understanding of the relationship between form and idea in architecture. It achieves this goal by first addressing architecture as a cultural artifact, and second by examining how that artifact transforms through time as a response to alterations in the surrounding cultural discourses listed above.

The history of architecture is presented as a collection of buildings and texts, each of which is seen as a concrete solution to a given set of culturally derived problems and issues. The buildings are seen as precedents, not to be analyzed on the basis of composition or aesthetic image, but rather as design solutions to complex socio-cultural problems. History is here used as a didactic device to aid the design student in problem solving by presenting the student with examples of how architects have successfully transformed the intellectual concerns of their day into built form.

Course Requirements

This course consists of Lectures and Precepts (discussion sessions, held once a week). You are required to attend both the Lectures and preceptorial. Attendance will be taken in both (you will be asked to sign in), and is considered as part of your class participation grade. You are allowed 5 absences for personal or sick days. Beyond 5 and the absences will affect your grade.

You will be given reading assignments for the lectures and preceptorial discussions in the calendar section of this syllabus. This reading should be done prior to the weeks' lectures and preceptorial. In addition to the readings you will be asked to submit a two- page essay each week on one aspect of that weeks reading. A detailed explanation of this requirement will be found under assignments. You should prepare for approximately 45-50 pages of reading a week plus any projects or reports assigned.

Textbooks

The following texts are required for this course:

Architecture From Pre-History to Post-Modernism Trachtenburg and Hyman. (required)
A History of Architectural Theory from Vitruvius the Present Hanno- Walter Kroft. Available on reserve in the resource center (required)
Modem Architecture since 1900- William I. R. Curtis (required)
Coursenotes- available digitally

The Following texts are required for special reading assignments:

Ornament and Crime- Adolf Loos
The Seven Lamps of Architecture- John Ruskin
The Stones of Venice- John Ruskin
Vers Une Achitectura- Le Corbusier

Assignments

1) Weekly Reading - Your weekly reading assignments will include those readings from the texts as outlined in the Calendar of Lectures below, as well as those readings from the Reserve Reader at the circulation desk at the library. I have tried to limit the total number of pages to no more than a maximum of 50 pages. You should be able to read at a rate of approximately 20 pages an hour so figure on around two and a half (2 1/2) hours of reading a week.

2) Essays - In addition to your readings on those weeks when you do not have a test you will be asked to turn in 10, 2 to 3 page papers on the reading of the week. Of the 10 papers 7 should be on the following topics: The Writings of John Ruskin, William Morris and the Craft Ideal, The Theory of Louis Sullivan, Frank Lloyd Wright's Organic Architecture, Adolf Loos's Ornament and Crime, The Bauhaus and Le Corbusier's *Vers Une Architecture*. The remaining 3 papers may be on the weekly readings of your choice.

The papers should be structured as a written essay exploring the subject matter for discussion. You should probably raise an interrogative and then state the pro's and con's of its finer points. From this summary of the issue you should then raise other questions or draw conclusions.

The purpose of these papers is to help you develop theoretical and writing skills related to architecture, as well as improve your test essays. They will also help me insure that you have not misinterpreted any information or that I have not miss- communicated anything. The papers should serve as a review such that at the end of this course you will have between 10 and 14 pages of notes from which you can study for the final. My students in the past have claimed this to be extremely helpful, and I hope you will too.

You will receive credit toward your class participation grade for these papers. I will read them and return them back to you the following week. You will be graded on them. These papers are 10 % of your grade, which means that they can make a letter grade difference.

Attendance

Attendance in all classes is mandatory. Students should arrive on time, late arrival disrupts the class and is considered disrespectful to the teacher and the students who have arrived on time. Sign-in attendance will be taken everyday this is the student's responsibility. You will be awarded 100pts at the start of the class. 2pts will be deducted for each of the first 5 absences, after that, 3 pts will be deducted. Missing a full week due to illness will still provide a 90 grade for attendance.

Tests

Exam #1: This will cover all material from 'The Orientation' to 'A Modern Approach to Style: Viollet-le-Duc & Semper' covered in lectures, preceptorials and all readings assigned in both. The exam will be given in your Preceptorial #5.

Exam #2: This will cover all material from 'Craft Ideals in Britain', to 'Engineering Rationalism and the Development of Ferro Concrete' covered in Lectures, preceptorials, and all readings assigned in both. The Exam will be given in preceptorial #9.

Exam #3: This will cover all material from 'The Modern Search for National' thru 'The Architecture of the Russian Revolution' covered in lectures, preceptorials, and all readings assigned in both. The Exam will be given in preceptorial #13

Final Exam: This will cover all material from both Lectures and precepts including all reading, the test will concentrate on the last section of the course which was not covered in previous tests but it is cumulative.

Your final grade will be calculated based upon the following breakdown:

Class participation	10%
Essays	10%
Exam #1	20%
Exam #2	20%
Exam #3	20%
Final Exam	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

Calendar of Lectures

Week 1

Neo-Classicism

Jan. 9-13

Readings: Trachtenberg 431- 444, Krufft 335- 355, Reserve Reader

Lectures

1. Neo-Classicism orientation
2. Neo-Classicism in Germany
3. Schinkel's Architectural Theory

Week 2

The Formation of a National Identity

Jan. 16-20

Readings: Trachtenberg 444- 455, Curtis 21-31, Krufft 272- 282, 290- 310, Reserve Reader

Lectures

- MLK Holiday- no classes**
3. Educational Tenets of the Ecole des Beaux Arts

Preceptorial

The Theories of Quatremere de Quincy

Week 3

Morality and Tradition

Jan. 23-27

Readings: Trachtenberg 455- 462, Krufft 323- 335, Reserve Reader

Lectures

4. Neo- Gothic Architecture
5. The Development of an Architecture of Iron and Glass

Preceptorial

The Writings of John Ruskin

Week 4

The Impact of New Materials

Jan 30-Feb. 3

Readings: Trachtenberg 462- 490, Krufft, 282- 289, 310- 322, Reserve Reader

Lectures

6. A Modern Approach to Style: Viollet-le-Duc & Semper
7. TBA

Exam 1

Week 5

The Arts and Crafts Movement

Feb. 6-10

Reader Readings: Trachtenberg 490- 493, Curtis 87- 97, Krufft 335- 344, Reserve Reader

Lectures

8. Craft Ideals in Britain
9. The Arts and Crafts in America

Preceptorial

William Morris and the Craft Ideal

Week 6

The Chicago School

Feb. 13-17

Readings: Trachtenberg 493- 503, Curtis 33- 51, Krufft 355- 363, Reserve Reader

Lectures

10. Creators of an American Architecture:
H.H. Richardson and Frank Furness
11. The Chicago School and The Development of the Skyscraper

Preceptorial

The Theory of Louis Sullivan

Week 7 Academic Architecture in America

Feb. 20-24 Readings: Curtis 217- 240, Reserve Reader

Lectures

- 12. The Ecole and its Influence on Architecture in American
- 13. The Chicago Exhibition of 1895 and The City Beautiful Movement
- TBA

Week 8 The Search for New Forms

Feb. 27-Mar. 2 Readings: Trachtenberg 509- 518, Curtis 73- 86, Krufft 364- 366, Reserve Reader

Lectures

- 14. The Chicago Tribune Competition: The Skyscraper and the Suburb in the U.S.
- 15. Art Nouveau
- 16. The Vienna Secessionist & The Glasgow School

Week 9 Spring Break

Mar. 5-9

Week 10 The New Rationalism & the Engineering Tradition

Mar. 12- 16 Readings: Trachtenberg 518- 522, Curtis 53-71, Krufft 393- 395, Reserve Reader

Preceptorial

Adolf Loos & the Problem of Ornament

Lectures

- 17. Engineering Rationalism and the Development of Ferro Concrete
- Exam II**

Week 11 Tradition and Transformation

Mar. 19-23 Readings: Curtis 99-111, 131- 148, Krufft 366- 384, 403-414, Reserve Reader

Lectures

- 18. The Modern Search for National Identities
- 19. The Deutscher Werkbund and Futurism

Preceptorial

Craft vs. Machine

Week 12 Frank Lloyd Wright and the Prairie School

Mar. 26-30 Readings: Trachtenberg 503- 509, 534- 537, Curtis 113- 130, Krufft 424- 433, Reserve Reader

Lectures

- 20. The Prairie Style and the Usonian House
- 21. Frank Lloyd Wright the Second Coming

Preceptorial

Organic Architecture

**Week 13
Apr. 2-6**

Avant Garde Architecture

Readings: Curtis 149-162, 201- 217, Krufft 415- 423, Reserve Reader

Lectures

22. Cubism and De Stijl

23. The Architecture of the Russian Revolution

Preceptorial

Exam III

**Week 14
Apr. 9-13**

German Expressionism & The Bauhaus

Readings: Curtis 163-181, 275-285, 417- 451 Krufft 384- 392

Lectures

24. German Expressionism

25. Walter Gropius and the Bauhaus

Preceptorial

The Educational Tenets of the Bauhaus

**Week 15
Apr. 16-20**

Le Corbusier & the Quest for Ideal Form

Readings: Curtis 183- 200, 257- 274, Krufft 396- 402, Reserve Reader

Lectures

26. Image and Idea in Corbu's Early Works

27. Form and Meaning in Corbu's Later Works

Preceptorial

Architecture or Revolution:

The Theory of Le Corbusier

**Week 16
Apr.23-27**

Mies Van der Rohe

Readings: Curtis 257- 274, 305- 350, Reserve Reader

Lectures

28. The Early Mies van der Rohe

29. Mies in the U.S.

30. TBA

**Week 16
Apr.23-27**

Mies Van der Rohe

Lectures

Last Day of Class Thursday April 30th

Final Exams Begin -May 2nd - 8th

Commencement May 12th