

Spring 2019

ARC 342R.2/388R.2: HISTORY OF AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE

Instructor: Dr. Tara Dudley

Unique No. 00850/01135

TTh 12:00-2:00p

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COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

ARC 342R.2/388R.2 surveys architecture in the United States from Pre-Columbian times to the present. It is arranged chronologically and thematically to consider topics such as Native American architecture, national and regional identity, and responses to rapid economic and social change. In addition to examples by celebrated architects such as Thomas Jefferson, H. H. Richardson, Frank Lloyd Wright, Louis Kahn, and Charles Moore, the course examines aspects of vernacular building and regional building. Architecture in the American South and Southwest, including Texas is considered within these broader contexts.

The course meets twice a week for one-and-a-half hours. Students are expected to read a wide array of primary and background texts and participate in writing assignments. This is an intermediate-level, lecture/discussion course building on the foundation of the world architecture survey sequence. It offers frameworks for interpreting the history of architecture in the United States and opportunities for developing research and writing skills.

PREREQUISITES

Undergraduate students in the School of Architecture program must have completed ARC 318L World Architecture: Industrial Revolution to Present. Upper-division undergraduate and graduate students from other departments are welcome to enroll with the consent of the instructor.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Roth, Leland M. *American Architecture: A History* (any edition).

*Additional required readings are posted on course Canvas website

USEFUL REFERENCES

Maynard, W. Barksdale. *Architecture in the United States: 1800-1850*.

McAlester, Virginia Savage. *A Field Guide to American Houses: The Definitive Guide to Identifying and Understanding America's Domestic Architecture* (first published 1984; 2nd revised and expanded edition, New York: Knopf, 2013).

COURSE WEBSITE

Students can access the course website through Canvas at utexas.instructure.com. You will need an EID to login; if you are registered for the course, you should see American Architecture (00850/01135) under the list of Courses. Course materials, including syllabus, reading assignments, auxiliary readings, and work assignments will be posted on this site. You may also be asked to submit some assignments electronically through Canvas.

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE/GRADING

Thurs. Feb. 21	Canvas Discussion Post (5%)	Thurs. Apr. 11	Canvas Discussion Post (5%)
Tues. Mar. 5	Canvas Discussion Post (5%)	Tues. May 7	Attendance/Participation (5%)
Thurs. Mar. 14	Mid-term Exam (25%)	Tues. May 21	Final Exam (25%)
Thurs. Mar. 28	Research Abstract (5%)	various	Research Presentation (25%)

The distribution of percent and corresponding grades is given below (plus and minus will be given):

A (94-100%)	B+ (89-86%)	B- (82-80%)	C (75-73%)	D+ (69-66%)	D- (62-60%)
A- (93-90%)	B (85-83%)	C+ (79-76%)	C- (72-70%)	D (65-63%)	F (≤59%)

“A” represents exemplary work in which the student has successfully realized his or her stated objectives in terms of content and style; “B” has broader compass in which the intentions of the assignment are met adequately but with some weakness of content or style or reticence in approach; “C” acknowledges effort but reflects serious problems in content or style; “D” and “F” reflect a fundamental lack of effort. I use plus and minus grades for both graduate students and undergraduates.

WORKLOAD GUIDELINES

Students are expected to spend time on outside preparation for every class. If writing assignments are due, students should expect to spend more time to complete their work. Required readings are outside preparation for this course and should be completed before class for the day they are assigned. Students are responsible for all the material in the required readings, **whether or not the material has been discussed in class.**

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class attendance is required. Students are also required to attend all discussion sessions. Your success in this class will depend, to a large degree, upon your attendance and active engagement. In-class material will be reinforced in the required and recommended readings, and some in-class material may not be covered in the readings. Students are responsible for all lecture material whether or not it is included in the assigned readings. Class attendance is required and will be monitored. Sometimes an illness, emergency, or other circumstances may cause you to miss class. Missing extensive days results in a significant impact on your work, and to your participation in the class. If you miss class, try to borrow a classmate's notes. The instructor will not assume responsibility for providing class notes to you. All exams must be taken on the dates scheduled. Students will only be permitted to take make-up exams in the case of medical or family emergencies, or if they are away on official university business. **Late assignments will not be accepted.** Please take advantage of my office hours to discuss the course or just to talk. If you cannot make my regular office hours, I am willing to meet you by appointment.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

The University respects religious holidays. Students are excused from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holiday, including travel for that purpose. If you will miss class (including exams) to celebrate a religious holiday, UT Austin policy requires that you must notify me of your pending absence AT LEAST 14 days prior to the date of the observance of a religious holy day (and your absence). You will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work, including examinations, within a reasonable time (generally one week) after the absence.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 232-2937 (video phone). <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd>

UT HONOR CODE AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the University is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community. **Cheating and plagiarism (using another person's words or ideas without proper attribution) are serious academic offenses and may result in a failing grade or expulsion from the university!** If you are unsure about what constitutes plagiarism or have questions about how to employ source material in your assignments, please consult with me. You are encouraged to discuss your assignments with your peers but the work you submit **must be your own**.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the most common form of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism can be a difficult concept to define; however, simply put, plagiarism is using other people's ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of that information. It is important to note that at the university we are continually exposed to other's ideas. We read ideas and words in textbooks, hear them in lectures, discuss them in class, and incorporate them into our own writing. One must always keep in mind that you must give credit when credit is due.

Plagiarism can occur in a myriad of forms and media. Although most commonly associated with writing, all types of scholarly work, including architectural and interior design projects, music, scientific data and analysis, and electronic publications. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any other means another's work and the submission of it as one's own academic work offered for credit. University policy pertaining to scholastic dishonesty applies to in-class assignments, projects, examinations, research reports, papers, and assignments required for the course. Additional information on the definition of academic dishonesty including plagiarism can be found at <http://registrar.utexas.edu/catalogs/gi09-10/app/gi09.appc03.html>. In order to avoid plagiarism, you must give credit whenever you use:

- Another person's idea, opinion, or theory;
- Any facts, statistics, graphics, visual images (i.e.: drawings, videos, etc.) that are not common knowledge;
- Quotations of another person's spoken or written words; or
- Paraphrase of another person's spoken or written words.

Students who are in violation of the university's plagiarism policy may be subject to the following:

- Disciplinary probation
- Receive a failing grade for a test, assignment, or the course
- Creation of a disciplinary record which may impact their future
- Suspension or expulsion from The University of Texas at Austin
- Denial of degree

If you are unsure about what constitutes plagiarism and academic dishonesty, or have difficulty addressing source material in your assignments, **please consult with the instructor**.

COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to change; C denotes reading posted on Canvas)

Week 1

January 22/24 - **NO CLASS**

Week 2

January 29

Overview/The Native American Builders

Roth, Chap. 1

January 31

Spanish, French, and English Settlements

Roth, Chap. 2

Week 3

February 5

Architecture in the English Colonies

Roth, Chap. 3

C: Dell Upton, "White and Black Landscapes in Eighteenth-Century Virginia," in Robert Blair St. George, ed., *Material Life in America, 1600-1860* (Boston: Northeastern University Press, 1988), pp. 357-369.

February 7

Architecture for a New Nation: Native Neo-Classacists and Immigrant Contributions

Due: Discussion post on architectural practice

Roth, Chap. 4

C: Thomas Jefferson correspondence on the Virginia State Capitol; letter from Jefferson to James Madison, 20 September 1785 and letter to the directors of the capitol building, 26 January 1786, in Leland M. Roth, ed., *America Builds: Source Documents in American Architecture and Planning* (New York: Harper & Row, 1983): pp. 26-31; Benjamin Henry Latrobe on the responsibilities of the architect; letter from Latrobe to Robert Mills, 12 July 1806, in Roth, *America Builds*, pp. 43-47.

Week 4

February 12

Historicism and Eclecticism in the Early 19th Century

Roth, Chaps. 5 and 6

C: Richard Cleary, "Texas Gothic, French Accent: The Architecture of the Roman Catholic Church in Antebellum Texas," *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 66, no. 1 (March 2007), pp. 60-83.

February 14

Vernacular Building in 19th and Early-20th Century Louisiana and Texas

C: Kenneth Hafertepe, "Fachwerk, Log, and Rock: German Texans' Houses," in Christine Waller Manca, ed., *American Material Culture and the Texas Experience*, The David B. Warren Symposium, vol. 2 (Houston: Bayou Bend Collection and the Museum of Fine Arts, 2011), pp. 59-92.

Week 5

February 19

Visit to the Neill-Cochran House

C: Clifton Ellis, "The Mansion House at Berry Hill Plantation: Architecture and the Changing Nature of Slavery in Antebellum Virginia," *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture*, vol. 14, no. 1 (2006), pp. 22-48.

February 21

Visions of Home, Work, Reform, Utopia

Due: Books and Buildings Essay

C: Catherine Beecher and Harriet Beecher Stowe, *The American Woman's Home* (New York, 1869), excerpts in Leland M. Roth, ed., *America Builds: Source Documents in American Architecture and Planning* (New York: Harper & Row, 1983), pp. 57-68; Mary C. Beaudry, "The Lowell Boott Mills Complex and Its Housing: Material Expressions of Corporate Ideology," *Historical Archaeology* 23, no. 1 (1989), pp. 19-32; Julie Nicoletta, "The Architecture of Control: Shaker Dwelling Houses and the Reform Movement in Early-Nineteenth-Century America," *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 62, no. 3 (Sept. 2003), pp. 352-387.

Week 6

February 26

Littlefield Home visit TBD

C: Kenneth L. Ames, "Meaning in Artifacts, Hall Furnishings in Victorian America," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* vol. 9, no. 1 (Summer, 1978), pp. 19-46.

February 28

Historicism and Eclecticism in the Late 19th Century

Week 7

March 5

Richard Morris Hunt and H. H. Richardson

C: *R. M. Hunt v. E. Parmly*, Superior Court, New York, 1861, excerpts of testimony in Leland M. Roth, ed., *America Builds: Source Documents in American Architecture and Planning* (New York: Harper & Row, 1983): pp. 217-231; James F. O'Gorman, "The Making of a 'Richardson Building,' 1874-1886," in *H. H. Richardson and His Office: Selected Drawings* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1979), pp. 1-36.28

March 7

Adler & Sullivan

Due: Discussion post on Sullivan's position on ornament

C: Louis H. Sullivan, "Ornament in Architecture" (1892), reprinted in *Kindergarten Chats and Other Writings* (New York: Wittenborn, 1947): pp. 188-190; Lauren S. Weingarden, "The Colors of Nature: Louis Sullivan's Architectural Polychromy and Nineteenth-Century Color Theory," *Winterthur Portfolio* 20, no. 4 (Winter, 1985), pp. 243-260.

Week 8

March 12

American Renaissance

Roth, Chap. 7

C: Richard Guy Wilson, "Architecture and the Reinterpretation of the Past in the American Renaissance," pp. 227-246.

March 14

Frank Lloyd Wright and the Prairie School

Roth, Chap. 7

Due: Midterm Exam

Week 9 – SPRING BREAK

Week 10

March 26

Progressive Architecture on the West Coast and Other Modern Impulses

Roth, Chap. 7

C: Karen McNeill, "Julia Morgan: Gender, Architecture, and Professional Style," *Pacific Historical Review* 76, no. 2 (May 2007), pp. 229-268.

March 28

Historicism in the 20th Century: The Modernistic and Streamline Moderne

Roth, Chap. 8, pp. 339-360

Due: Research Presentation Abstract

Week 11

April 2

Strands of Modernism between the World Wars: The New Prosperity and the Rise of the Automobile

Roth, Chap. 8, pp. 360-395

April 4

Public Architecture and Infrastructure during the Great Depression

Roth, Chap. 8, pp. 395-405

Week 12

April 9

Social Housing

April 11

Canon Fire: Who Gets to Tell the Story? (Kathleen Conti)

Roth, Chap. 9

Week 13

April 16

Mid-Century Modernist Houses and Life in the Suburbs

Due: Discussion post on mid-century modernism

Roth, Chap. 9

C: Alice T. Friedman, "People Who Live in Glass Houses: Edith Farnsworth, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, and Philip Johnson," in Keith L. Eggene, ed., *American Architectural History: A Contemporary Reader* (London: Routledge, 2004), pp. 316-341; Annmarie Adams, "Sex and the Single Building: The Weston Havens House, 1941-2001, *Buildings & Landscapes: Journal of the Vernacular Architecture Forum* 17, no. 1 (Spring 2010), pp. 82-97; Rachel Stevenson, "Living Images: Charles and Ray Eames 'At Home,'" *Perspecta* 37 (2005), pp. 32-41; Annmarie Adams, "The Eichler Home: Intention and Experience in Postwar Suburbia," *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture* 5 (1995), pp. 164-178.

April 18

Mid-Century Corporate Modernism and Expressionism

C: Museum of Modern Art, "Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, *Bulletin of the Museum of Modern Art* 18, no. 1 (Autumn 1950), pp. 4-21; Scott G. Knowles and Stuart W. Leslie, "'Industrial Versailles': Eero Saarinen's Corporate Campuses for GM, IBM, and AT&T," *Isis* 92, no. 1 (March 2001), pp. 1-33.

Week 14

April 23

Modernist Strands in Texas (Site Visit: Cambridge Tower TBD)

C: Michelangelo Sabatino, "Heat and Light Thematised in the Modern Architecture of Houston," *The Journal of Architecture* 16/5 (2011), pp. 703-726.

April 25

Postmodern Classicism and Expressionism

Roth, Chap. 10

C: Meredith Clausen, "Michael Graves's Portland Building: Power, Politics, and Postmodernism," *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, vol. 73, no. 2 (June 2014), pp. 248-269.

Week 15

April 30 and May 2

Research Presentations

Week 16

May 7

Research Presentations

May 9

NO CLASS – Final Reviews

Take Home Final Examination due Tuesday, May 21 at 12:00 pm