

ARC 386L THEORY OF ARCHITECTURE II

Unique Number 00960

Fall 2018

Richard Cleary

Meeting Time and Place

W 9:00-11:45

Battle Hall 101

Office Hours

W 2:00-3:00, Th 1:30-2:30 and by appointment

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Course Objectives

Theories of architecture provide frameworks for architectural practice and for relating practice to society. This discussion-based course is intended to help you anchor your own positions in contemporary discourse by examining seminal texts that have shaped architectural thought in the West.

Course materials

Pdf files for all reading assignments are available on the course Canvas site.

Assignments and Evaluation

Position papers and drawing assignment

40% of final grade

Due as indicated on the schedule of classes below, the position papers are intended to help you focus your thoughts about the readings and to provide a basis for discussion. You may submit your papers on Canvas or as hard copies. Each essay should be two to three pages long (double-spaced, 12-point type) and address one or more issues drawn from the readings. You may express support or disagreement with the authors' positions, comment on the subject matter, or otherwise relate it to something you've encountered elsewhere in your experience. It is not necessary to devote equal space to each of the readings, but you should mention all of them.

Drawing assignment due on Wednesday, 19 September

Using a module of 1" for the base of the columns, construct the Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian orders. At a larger scale of your choosing, develop the capital and entablature (architrave, frieze, and cornice) of one of them. Construct them; don't trace. The point of the exercise is to gain first-hand understanding of their underlying proportions.

- Set the bases on a common datum line (this will allow you to compare their proportions)
- Do not add pedestals
- Include the entablatures (architrave, frieze, cornice)
- Try to draw entasis on at least one column
- Pay particular attention to how part relates to part

I'll evaluate the drawings on a pass/fail basis with full credit awarded for reasonable effort.

A helpful guide for this exercise is William R. Ware, *The American Vignola: A Guide to the Making of Classical Architecture* (first published 1902, reprint New York: Norton, 1977). A copy is available on Canvas.

Phenomenological analysis

20% of final grade

Due on Wednesday, 24 October

Based on your understanding of phenomenology drawn from the readings, conduct an analysis of a designed landscape, urban form, or building (exterior or interior) that considers the notion of place and is not limited to visual impressions. Your essay should be about three pages long (double-spaced, 12-point type, plus illustrations as needed). The analysis should be framed by an introduction explaining your approach and a conclusion in which you step back and ask "so what?"

Term paper

40% of final grade

Due on Monday, 10 December

- Project statement (one page, plus preliminary bibliography) due Wednesday, 8 November
- Workshop on Wednesday, 28 November

The purpose of this paper is to challenge you to develop a topic related to the course in greater depth than possible in the position papers. You may address a theme that we have examined, building on your position papers, or take on another aspect of architectural theory of interest to you. You may address work you are doing in studio or another course. Your text should be about ten pages long (double-spaced, 12-point type) plus notes, bibliography, and illustrations. Please feel free to consult with me as you weigh your options for a topic. Our workshop session on 28 November will be an opportunity to share your interests and receive feedback from the other members of the class.

Evaluation

My standards regarding grades are as follows: A represents exemplary work in which the student has successfully realized his or her stated objectives in terms of content and style; B has a 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 recognizes effort but acknowledges serious problems in content or style; D and F reflect a fundamental lack of effort. I use plus and minus grades.

I will give consideration to sustained improvement and consistent engagement with readings and discussions. I reserve the prerogative to not accept late work. Regular attendance is expected and multiple unexcused absences will be factored in the final grade. Incompletes will be given only in cases of illness or other personal emergencies.

Accommodation for religious holidays

University policy requires notice of a planned absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you miss a class or an assignment in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given the opportunity to complete the work within a reasonable time after the absence.

The Honor Code

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.

University Services for Students

Any student with a documented disability (physical or cognitive) who requires academic accommodations should contact Services for Students with Disabilities as soon as possible to request an official letter outlining authorized accommodations.

ddce.utexas.edu/disability/

The Counseling & Mental Health Center (CMHC) offers resources for general health and well-being, time management, stress management, test anxiety and other personal concerns. The Center is located on the 5th floor of the Student Services Building. The telephone number is (512) 471-3515. <http://cmhc.utexas.edu>

If you have concerns about the behavior of someone, the Behavior Concerns Advice Line is available 24/7 to offer assistance: (512) 232-5050.

Students who would like assistance improving writing skills are encouraged to visit the Graduate Writing Service of the Sanger Learning and Career Center located in the Beauford Jester Center. The counselors there offer assistance with all scales of writing from resumes to dissertations. www.utexas.edu/ugs/slc/grad

Office of Campus Safety and Security: www.utexas.edu/safety: Emergency call 911.

Schedule of Classes

Week 1

Wednesday, 29 August: Course Introduction

Week 2

Wednesday, 5 September: Challenging Eurocentrism—Theories of Space in the Americas, with Professor Fernando Lara

- E. Dussel, "Europe, Modernity, and Eurocentrism", *Nepantla: Views from South*, Volume 1, Issue 3, 2000, pp. 465-478.
- F. Lara, "Urbis Americana: Thoughts on our shared (and exclusionary) traditions", preface of *Urban Latin America: Images, Words, Flows and the Built Environment*, edited by Freire-Medeiros & O'Donnel, New York: Routledge, 2018.

Week 3

Wednesday, 12 September: The Classical Tradition

Position paper #1 due

- Vitruvius, *Ten Books on Architecture* (1st c. BCE) Ingrid D. Rowland and Thomas Noble Howe, eds. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1999), 21-26, 34-35, 46-48, 78.
- Leon Battista Alberti, *De re aedificatoria* (*On the Art of Building in Ten Books*, c. 1450/1486), tr. Joseph Rykwert, Neil Leach, Robert Tavernor (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1988), 301-319.
- Jean-Nicolas-Louis Durand, "Introduction," *Précis of the Lectures on Architecture*, vol. 1 [1802-05], tr. David Britt (Santa Monica, CA: Getty, 2000), 77-88.
- Carroll William Westfall, "Why the Orders Belong in Studio," *Journal of Architectural Education*, vol. 61, no. 4 (May, 2008), 95-107.

Week 4

Wednesday, 19 September: Positivism

Drawing assignment due

No position paper due

- Eugène-Emmanuel Viollet-le-Duc, *Discourses on Architecture*, vol. 1 (1872/1877, London: Allen & Unwin, 1959), Chap.10, "Architecture in the Nineteenth Century."
- Gottfried Semper, Introduction to "Comparative Building Theory," (1850), in Wolfgang Herrmann, *Gottfried Semper: In Search of Architecture* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1989), 196-201.
- Hannes Meyer, "Building" (1928), in U. Conrads, ed., *Programs and Manifestoes on 20th-Century Architecture*, tr. M. Bullock (Cambridge, MA: MIT, 1970), 117-19.
- Buckminster Fuller, "Buckminster Fuller," *Perspecta* 1 (1952), 28-37.

Week 5

Wednesday, 26 September: Push-Backs to Functionalism

Position paper #2 due

- Robert Venturi, *Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture* (New York: Museum of Modern Art, 1966), 22-45.
- Aldo van Eyck, "Interior Art," (1961), in Vincent Ligtelijn and Francis Strauven, eds., *Aldo van Eyck: Collected Articles and other Writings, 1947-1998* (Amsterdam: SUN Publishers, 2008), 295-301.
- Le Corbusier, "Ineffable Space" (1945), reprinted in Joan Ockman, ed., *Architecture Culture 1943-1968* (New York: Columbia University and Rizzoli, 1993): pp. 64-67.
- Guy Debord, "Theory of the Dérive," translated by Ken Knabb, published in *Internationale Situationniste* #2 (December 1958); first published in *les Lèvres Nues* #9 (November 1956); available in *Situationist International Online*: <http://www.cddc.vt.edu/sionline/si/theory.html>
- Jane Jacobs, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (New York: Vintage Books, 1961), 3-25, 55-62.

Week 6

Wednesday, 2 October: Structuralism and Poststructuralism

Position paper #3 due

- Umberto Eco, "Functionalism and Sign: The Semiotics of Architecture" (1973); reprinted in Neil Leach, ed., *Rethinking Architecture: A Reader in Cultural Theory* (London and New York: Routledge, 1997), 181-202.
 - For a brief summary of semiotics, see this excerpt from Geoffrey Broadbent, "The Philosophy of Deconstruction," in *Deconstruction: A Student Guide* (London: Academy, 1991), 31-34.
- Rafael Moneo, "On Typology," *Oppositions* 13 (Summer 1978): 22-45.
- Christopher Alexander, *A Pattern Language* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1977): x-xvii, 463-66, 540-544.
- Peter Eisenman, "The End of the Classical: The End of the Beginning, the End of the End," *Perspecta* 21 (1984), 154-173.
- Mark Wigley, "Deconstructivist Architecture," in Philip Johnson and Mark Wigley, *Deconstructivist Architecture* (New York: Museum of Modern Art, 1988), 10-20.
- Bernard Tschumi, "Notes towards a Theory of Architectural Disjunction," *Architecture and Urbanism* vol. 9 no. 216 (1988), 12-15.

Week 7**Wednesday, 10 October: Historic Preservation and Sustainability with Professor Michael Holleran**Position paper #4 due

- William McDonough and Michael Braungart, *Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things* (New York: North Point Press, 2002), 157-186.
- Simon Guy and Graham Farmer, "Re-interpreting Sustainable Architecture: The Place of Technology" in *Journal of Architectural Education* (February 2001): 140-148.
- John Ruskin, "The Lamp of Memory," in *The Seven Lamps of Architecture* (1849, New York: Farrar, Straus, 1961), 167-175, 184-187.
- Stewart Brand, *How Buildings Learn: What Happens after They're Built* (New York: Viking, 1994): "Preservation: A Quiet, Populist, Conservative, Victorious Revolution," 88-109.
- Jeffrey M. Chusid, "Natural Allies: Historic Preservation and Sustainable Design," in Steven A. Moore, ed., *Pragmatic Sustainability: Theoretical and Practical Tools* (London: Routledge, 2010), 170-186.

Week 8**Wednesday, 17 October: Architecture and Phenomenology**Position paper #5 due

- Martin Heidegger, "Building, Dwelling, Thinking," from *Poetry, Language, Thought*, trans. Albert Hofstadter (1971), 143-61; reprinted in Neil Leach, ed., *Rethinking Architecture: A Reader in Cultural Theory* (London: Routledge, 1997), 98-109.
- Gaston Bachelard, *Poetics of Space* (1958, excerpt); reprinted in Neil Leach, ed., *Rethinking Architecture*, 85-97.
- Christian Norberg-Schulz, *Genius Loci: Towards a Phenomenology of Architecture* (New York: Rizzoli, 1980), 5-23.
- Juhani Pallasmaa, *The Eyes of the Skin: Architecture and the Senses* (Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons, 2005), Part 2, 39-72.

Week 9**Wednesday, 24 October: Discussion of Phenomenological Analysis**Phenomenological Analysis due**Week 10****Wednesday, 31 October: Critical Regionalism; Project Discussion**Term paper proposal due

- Kenneth Frampton, "Towards a Critical Regionalism: Six Points for an Architecture of Resistance," in Hal Foster, ed., *The Anti-Aesthetic: Essays on Postmodern Culture* (Port Townsend, WA: Bay Press, 1983), 16-30.
- Anthony Alofsin "Constructive Regionalism," (1980, rev. 2005) in *Architectural Regionalism: Collected Writings on Place, Identity, Modernity and Tradition*, edited by Vincent B. Canizaro (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2007), 368-373.
- Keith Eggener, "Placing Resistance: A Critique of Critical Regionalism," *Journal of Architectural Education* 55/4 (May 2002), 228-237.

Week 11**Wednesday, 7 November: Ethics**Position paper #6 due

- John Ruskin, "The Lamp of Truth" in *The Seven Lamps of Architecture* (1849, New York: Farrar, Straus, 1961), 24-59.
- William M. Taylor and Michael P. Levine, *Prospects for an Ethics of Architecture* (London: Routledge, 2011), 15-25.
- Geoffrey Galt Harpham, "Architecture and Ethics: 16 Points," in Graham Owen, ed., *Architecture, Ethics and Globalization* (London: Routledge, 2009), 33-39.
- Pérez-Gómez, "Ethics and Poetics in Architectural Education," in Gregory Caicco, ed., *Architecture, Ethics, and the Personhood of Place* (Lebanon, NH: University Press of New England, 2007), 119-133.
- American Institute of Architects *2007 Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct*.

Week 12**Wednesday, 14 November: Gender, the Body**Position paper #7 due

- Sherry Ahrentzen, "The F Word in Architecture: Feminist Analyses in/of/for Architecture," in Thomas A. Dutton and Lian Hurst Mann, eds., *Reconstructing Architecture: Critical Discourses and Social Practices* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1996), 71-118.
- Aaron Betsky, *Queer Space: Architecture and Same-Sex Desire* (New York: William Morrow and Company, 1997), 2-26, 114-127, 139.
- Kent C. Bloomer and Charles W. Moore, "Body-Image Theory" and Robert J. Yudell "Body Movement" in Bloomer and Moore, *Body, Memory, and Architecture* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1977), 37-44, 56-75.
- Aimi Hamraie, "Designing Collective Access: A Feminist Disability Theory of Universal Design," *Disability Studies Quarterly* 33/4 (2013).
- Dolores Hayden, "What Would A Nonsexist City Be Like? Speculations on Housing, Urban Design and Human Work," *Ekistics* 52, no. 310 (Jan/Feb 1985), pp. 99-107.

Week 13**Wednesday, 21 November: No Class (Thanksgiving Holiday)****Week 14****Wednesday, 28 November: Working Session for Final Paper****Week 15****Wednesday, 5 December: No Class (Final Reviews)****Week 16****Monday, 10 December**Final paper due