

CourseNo: ARCHA6790_001_2013_3

Meeting Location: [BUELL HALL 200](#)

Meeting Time: R 09:00A-11:00A

Instructor Information: [Paul L. Bentel](#) [Christopher P Neville](#)

A6790 Historic Preservation Colloquium

Paul Bentel and Chris Neville, *Instructors*

Fall 2013

Thursdays 9-11 -- Room: Buell Hall 200 (and 300, for split discussion groups)

Requirements:

- Class and field trip attendance and participation
- Class readings and discussion questions
- Class presentation of term project (20 minutes with 40 minute discussion)
- Term Project Report (5-10 pages)

Objectives

This course will consider issues within the field of Historic Preservation with relevance to the way it is carried out in the world today. We will begin by distinguishing between its global presence as a popular movement and the growing ideological discourse among its professional practitioners. We will engage these historical manifestations of Historic Preservation critically, seeking a theoretical foothold that is not entirely conditioned by a professional discourse, on the one hand, nor influenced by prevailing economic and

political circumstances, on the other hand. As a baseline, we will examine thematic focal points that are ever-present within the discussion about the curatorial management of cultural heritage such as Significance and Cultural Value; Authenticity and Integrity; Place and Context; and Heritage. Special emphasis will be given to the relationship between buildings as physical objects and their meaning in the present; and to the role of Historic Preservation as a field of environmental design. Students will be required to present arguments on polemical issues relevant to their own independent research, to express a commitment to a particular point of view and defend it against challenges from their class members. The course is intended to aid students in forming their own professional identities within the field of Historic Preservation by reinforcing their understanding of its intellectual content and encouraging them to participate actively in the discursive process by which it unfolds in theory and practice.