

# ARCHITECTURE HISTORIES AND CONTEXTS

## Bachelor in Architectural Studies BAS SEP-2023 AHC- AS.1.S.A

Area Architecture and Design

Number of sessions: 15

Academic year: 23-24

Degree course: FIRST

Number of credits: 3.0

Semester: 1<sup>o</sup>

Category: COMPULSORY

Language: English

Professor: **DAVID JEFFREY GOODMAN**

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### **Dr. David Goodman**

David Goodman is Dean of the IE School of Architecture and Design. He holds a PhD in Business Administration from the IE Business School, specializing in Strategic Management and Organization Design. His current research deals with innovations in architecture practice and production during times of socioeconomic turbulence. A graduate of the Harvard Graduate School of Design and of Cornell University, Goodman is coauthor of the book *An Introduction to Architecture Theory: 1968 to the Present*. His work has also appeared in the journals *a+t*, *Log*, *Journal of Architectural Education*, *Technology | Architecture + Design*, and in the anthology *Chicago Architecture: Histories, Revisions, Alternatives*, as well as in the book *Walter Netsch: A Critical Appreciation and Sourcebook*. David is a Licensed Architect in the State of Illinois, USA.

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## SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

This course serves as an introduction to the discipline of architecture through an historically-based survey of key architectural terms and elements. We will discuss 45 concepts and terms, linking them non-chronographically with examples from world architecture history. Students will not only gain exposure to these concepts and historical examples, but they will also develop their abilities to synthesize historical and formal information through analytic sketching and presentation. Many of the movements, personalities, cities, and buildings discussed in this course will be examined in greater detail in later courses in the Architecture History, Theory, and Critique sequence, while the concepts we deal with in this course will provide a solid foundation for the design-based coursework in the current and subsequent semesters.

## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

(Per Ministerial Decree EDU/2075/2010, 29 of July; and the official accreditation request for the Bachelor in Architectural Studies, July 2015; see BOCYL, 14 March 2018: p. 10477-10481)

### **2.1-BASIC AND GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

- CB1: Students have demonstrated knowledge and an understanding of a given area of study, building upon the foundation of secondary education, supported by advanced texts, and including aspects that engage the latest advances in their area of study.
- CB2: Students know how to apply their knowledge professionally to their work or vocation and possess the competencies that are often demonstrated through elaboration and defense of arguments and the resolution of problems within their area of study.
- CB3: Students can gather and interpret relevant facts (usually within their area of study) in order to make judgments that include reflection on relevant social, scientific, and ethical topics.
- CB4: Students can transmit information, ideas, problems, and solutions to both specialized and non-specialized audiences.
- CB5: Students have developed the necessary learning skills to continue their studies with a high degree of autonomy.
- CG1: Knowledge of the history and theories of architecture, as well as that of the arts, technologies and human sciences related to the field.

### **2.2-SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES**

**Module: Design**

**Subject: History, Theory and Critique**

- CE42: Ability to formulate an architectural critique.
- CE49: Adequate knowledge of general architectural history.
- CE53: Adequate knowledge of the architectural, urbanistic and landscape traditions of western culture, as well as its technical, climatic, economic, social, and ideological foundations.
- CE56: Adequate knowledge of the foundations of vernacular architecture.
- CE57: Adequate knowledge of sociology, theory, economics, and urban history.

### **2.3-TRANSVERSE COMPETENCIES OF THE UNIVERSITY**

- CT1: Ability to identify the main characteristics of cultural identities that characterize the contemporary world through the knowledge of central ideological currents.
- CT2: Ability to exercise professional behavior in accordance with constitutional principles and ethical values of the respective profession.

- CT4: Use disciplinary knowledge to analyze and evaluate current situations.
- CT6: Work actively in an international context.

#### 2.4-SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND SKILLS

In this course, we will emphasize the fundamentals of architectural vocabulary, and an introduction to the key movements, contexts, and elements in the discipline of architecture. We will therefore place special emphasis on the specific competencies CE42, CE49, CE53, and CE56, as described above.

In addition, we will develop students' ability to produce analytic, freehand synthesis drawings, and to link lectures and readings to their experiences of buildings and cities. The objective is to help teach students to see architecture and to be able to discuss it and place it within its socio-historical contexts.

### TEACHING METHODOLOGY

IE University teaching method is defined by its collaborative, active, and applied nature. Students actively participate in the whole process to build their knowledge and sharpen their skills. Professor's main role is to lead and guide students to achieve the learning objectives of the course. This is done by engaging in a diverse range of teaching techniques and different types of learning activities such as the following:

| Learning Activity                                     | Weighting | Estimated time a student should dedicate to prepare for and participate in |
|---|-----------|--|
| Lectures  | 26.67 %   | 20.0 hours   |
| Discussions   | 13.33 %   | 10.0 hours   |
| Exercises in class, Asynchronous sessions, Field Work | 26.67 %   | 20.0 hours   |
| Group work  | 0.0 %     | 0.0 hours  |
| Individual studying                                   | 33.33 %   | 25.0 hours   |
| TOTAL   | 100.0 %   | 75.0 hours   |

### PROGRAM

#### SESSION 1 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

##### Sustainability Topics:

- Environment

##### COURSE INTRODUCTION

**Firmness** (Firmitas)

**Commodity** (Utilitas)

**Delight** (Venustas)

- The Vitruvian Triad as basis for architecture; the intertwining and persistence of these concepts
- Introduction to Analytic Sketchbook Exercise

*Book Chapters: Architectural Theory Vol. 1; Vitruvius from On Architecture (ced)*

#### SESSION 2 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

## **Seeing**

## **Elements**

## **Drawing**

- Learning to see architecture: actively, not "in distraction"
- The constituent elements of buildings and cities
- Drawing as tool, artifact, and evidence

Book Chapters : A Visual Dictionary of Architecture: p. 68-75

Book Chapters : A History of World Architecture, p. 1-9: Introduction

## **SESSION 3 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

### **Sustainability Topics:**

- Environment

### **Site**

### **Ground**

### **Plan**

- The role of building site and context as part of the design process
- A building's relationship to the ground plane
- The plan as the generator
- The horizontal section

Book Chapters : A Visual Dictionary of Architecture, p. 229-231;

Book Chapters : A History of World Architecture, p. 47-61: Greece: The Classical Period

Book Chapters : A History of World Architecture, p. 476-482: Le Corbusier

## **SESSION 4 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

### **Sustainability Topics:**

- Environment

### **Wall**

### **Window**

### **Door**

- The relationship of plan and vertical surface
- Apertures, gaps, and portals
- The rhetorical dimension of entry

## **SESSION 5 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

### **Sustainability Topics:**

- Environment

### **Column**

### **Roof**

### **Ceiling**

- The column as structural element and definer of spatial conditions
- Roof as protective cover and engagement with the sky
- Ceiling as distinct from roof and underside of slab, and the spaces in between

Book Chapters : A Visual Dictionary of Architecture, p. 32-33: "Column"; p. 187-189: "Order"; p. 216-213: "Roof"; p. 22-23: "Ceiling"  
Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 153-164: Islamic Architecture  
Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 118-120: Temples (Pantheon)  
Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 510-513: Diaspora and The Later Work of Mies van der Rohe

## **SESSION 6 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

### **Sustainability Topics:**

- Environment

### **Threshold**

### **Corner**

### **Thickness/Poche**

- Spaces of transition between inside and out, and between adjacent spaces
- The crisis and opportunity of the corner: collision of systems
- The "Thicknes and Depth of the Wall"

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 71-79: Hindu Temples

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p.310-323: Michelangelo and Palladio

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 345-352: Borromini and Bernini

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 507-510: Later Work of Le Corbusier

## **SESSION 7 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

### **Sustainability Topics:**

- Environment

### **Section**

### **Stair**

### **Ramp**

- The vertical cut and sectional conditions as generator of spatial sequence and complexity
- Elements of vertical circulation as spaces of transition and destinations in themselves
- Ramp and the continuous surface.

*Book Chapters: Delirious New York, "Definitive Instability: The Downtown Athletic Club" (ced)*

Book Chapters : A Visual Dictionary of Architecture, p. 239-241: "Stair"

Book Chapters : A Visual Dictionary of Architecture, see "Drawing," p. 72

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 259-269: Mexico and Central America

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p.457-459: Adolf Loos

## **SESSION 8 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

### **Sustainability Topics:**

- Environment

### **Midterm Exam**

### **Notebooks Collected**

## **SESSION 9 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

**Sustainability Topics:**

- Environment

**Promenade****Circulation****Code**

- Spatial sequence and movement
- Efficiency and choreography
- Regulation and life safety

*Book Chapters: Municipal Code of Chicago - Chapter 13-160: Exit Requirements (s-c)*

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 125-131: Roman Residences

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 459-467: Frank Lloyd Wright; p. 500-505: The later work of Frank Lloyd Wright

Book Chapters : A Visual Dictionary of Architecture, p. 90-93: "Fire Safety"

**SESSION 10 (LIVE IN-PERSON)****Sustainability Topics:**

- Environment

**Language****Façade****Symmetry**

- Architectural elements as part of a linguistic system
- Decorum, communication, and the humanistic facade
- Primary and secondary symmetries as ordering devices and elements of subversion

*Book Chapters: Book Chapters : John Summerson, The Classical Language of Architecture: ch. 1 and 4 (The MIT Press) (CED)*

Book Chapters : A Visual Dictionary of Architecture, p. 54-55: "Design"

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 44-47: Greece: The Archaic Period

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 381-403: Neoclassicism, Romanticism, and the Rococo

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 482-484: Walter Gropius

**SESSION 11 (LIVE IN-PERSON)****Proportion****Rhythm****Scale**

- Relationship of part to whole, and of part to part
- Repetition and counterpoint
- The body as measure

*Book Chapters: Ernst and Peter Neufert, Architects' Data, p. 15-31 (ced)*

Book Chapters : A Visual Dictionary of Architecture, p. 56: "Design"

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 287-299: Renaissance Architecture - Brunelleschi and Alberti

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 535-539: Louis I. Kahn

## **SESSION 12 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

### **Cladding**

### **Surface**

### **Ornament**

- Skin as independent system
- Finish as rhetoric and creator of phenomena
- Ornament as communication

Book Chapters : A Visual Dictionary of Architecture, p. 190-201: "Ornament", "Paint", "Plaster", "Plastic"; p.106-109: "Frame"

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 172-175: Islamic Architecture - The Palace and the Garden

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 426-435: The Art Nouveau, The Viennese Secession

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 443-453: The First Skyscrapers; Louis Sullivan and the Tall Building "Artistically Considered"

## **SESSION 13 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

### **Sustainability Topics:**

- Environment

### **Material**

### **Connection**

### **Construction**

- Materiality and assembly as expression
- Joints and connectors as moments of crisis and opportunity
- The construction process as determinant of architectural expression

Book Chapters : A Visual Dictionary of Architecture, p. 169-173: "Material"; p. 144-145: "Joinery"; p. 46-51: "Construction"

Book Chapters : A History of World Architecture, p. 411-420: The Challenge of the Industrial Revolution

Book Chapters : A World History of Architecture, p. 559-564: Norman Foster and Renzo Piano

## **SESSION 14 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

### **Sustainability Topics:**

- Environment

### **Street**

### **Neighborhood**

### **City**

- Elements of the urban context
- City as object of design
- City as process
- City as context

## **SESSION 15 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

Book

Manifesto

History

The role of history, and of words, in the development of architecture

On why you need to buy books (now, more than ever)

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

This course is meant to provide an overview of key architectural concepts and linked examples. Students will therefore be evaluated on their ability to synthesize and represent these concepts, over the course of the semester.

(Per Ministerial Decree EDU/2075/2010, 29 of July; and the official accreditation request for the Bachelor in Architectural Studies, July 2015; see BOCYL, 14 March 2018: p. 10477-10481)

This course will involve the following evaluation methods:

- SE1: Attendance and Active Participation.
- SE3: Submission and/or Presentation of Individual Projects.
- SE6: Exams and Quizzes.

These are to be weighted as follows:

| criteria                   | percentage | Learning Objectives | Comments |
|----------------------------|------------|---------------------|----------|
| Midterm Quiz               | 30 %       |                     |          |
| Sketchbook Final           | 30 %       |                     |          |
| Illustrated Analytic Guide | 35 %       |                     |          |
| Class Participation        | 5 %        |                     |          |

## RE-SIT / RE-TAKE POLICY

**QUIZ:** You will be quizzed on your understanding of the terms presented, your ability to provide historical examples, and your ability to represent and explain the terms through drawings.

**SKETCHBOOK:** This class requires you to sketch, to look, to take notes on the readings, and to synthesize. The sketchbook is a key element. Design your notes, and use them to create your own guide to architecture. This notebook will be an essential deliverable for the class, and can be completed mostly during class preparation time (as you do your readings), and during class time, by taking notes and sketching from the examples. This deliverable will be reviewed at midterm and at course end.

**ILLUSTRATED ANALYTIC GUIDE:** You will build on the work in your sketchbook to produce an expanded, in depth analysis of 10 of the 45 concepts discussed in class. This document will be completed in digital format and will include analysis drawings and descriptions of examples for each term chosen, using architectural and urbanistic case studies NOT DESCRIBED IN CLASS. Further description of this assignment will be provided in class.

**PARTICIPATION:** As your sketchbook is a primary deliverable for this course, your attendance is mandatory. Merely copying slides from the uploaded presentations will not be sufficient to complete the work. You are expected to do the readings before class, and to be able to discuss them when called upon in class.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Compulsory

- Michael Fazio, Marian Moffett, and Lawrence Wodehouse,. (2014). *A World*



*History of Architecture*. 3rd edition. Laurence King. ISBN 1780671113 (Printed)  
- Francis D.K. Ching. (2012). *A Visual Dictionary of Architecture*. 2nd edition.  
Wiley. ISBN 0470648856 (Printed)

### **Recommended**

- John Fleming, Hugh Honour, and Nikolaus Pevsner. (1999). *The Penguin Dictionary of Architecture and Landscape*. Penguin. ISBN 9780140513233 (Printed)

## **BEHAVIOR RULES**

Please, check the University's Code of Conduct [here](#). The Program Director may provide further indications.

No electronic devices are required or permitted in class. Freehand sketching is an important element of this course, and for that reason, your drawings are to be made on paper in a dedicated sketchbook, not on a tablet or other device.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Please, check the University's Attendance Policy [here](#). The Program Director may provide further indications.

## **ETHICAL POLICY**

Please, check the University's Ethics Code [here](#). The Program Director may provide further indications.

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