

HISTORY OF CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE

THE WESTERN CONTRIBUTION

(AND BEYOND...)

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The course outlines the development of Western architectural languages and urban forms from early modern Italy to the globalized 21st century, focusing on models and traditions, architects and monuments, and issues of cultural cross-relations.

A multidisciplinary approach emphasizes different interpretations of architecture, and their development over the centuries from the birth of the discipline to our days.

Special attention is dedicated to the role of Italian and Western models in 19th and 20th century design and urban planning.

A basic knowledge of the language of classical architecture and theories is required.

The course includes lectures, guided readings, on-site visits in Florence and other Italian centres.

Antiquity and the Middle Ages

The Roman Empire: architecture, urbanism, technology

Pantheon, Baths of Diocletian, Villa Adriana, aqueducts

The birth of Christian architecture

Old St Peter's and early Christian basilicas

Florence metropolis of the Middle Ages

Palazzo Vecchio, S. Maria del Fiore, city walls, Orsanmichele

The Italian Renaissance

Florence from Brunelleschi to Alberti

S. Maria del Fiore, S. Maria Novella, Rucellai Palace

New models: urban and rural

Pienza, Urbino, Poggio a Caiano

Rome from Bramante to Michelangelo

New St Peter's

Florence under the Medici: Michelangelo, Vasari, Ammannati, Buontalenti

Sagrestia Nuova and Laurentian Library, Uffizi, Pitti, Cappella dei Principi

Religious clashes: Counter-reformation architecture

The Church of the Gesù, Rome

Towards a Globalization of Classicism

The diffusion of Renaissance architectural languages: prints and books from Europe to the world (16th-19th centuries)

Palladio and Palladianism: Italy-Europe-America, and beyond

Masters of the Roman Baroque

Bernini, Borromini, Pietro da Cortona

Architecture in the age of industrialism and colonialism

Athens vs Rome: neoclassicism and historicism in European architecture: Piranesi to Schinkel

European urbanism in the age of industrialism: Haussmann's Paris and its influence

Building America's architectural tradition: from Jefferson to Modernism

Chicago, "Paris on the Prairie", "Florence of the West"

The Rise and Fall of the City of...

Las Vegas to Dubai, Celebration to Poundbury

Contexts in Western architecture and urbanism. Issues of method, interpretation, approach

Architecture and technology: the Pantheon, Brunelleschi, and Norman Foster's Reichstag

Drawing: architectural codes in Western culture

Learnig from Pienza: Italian Renaissance 'ideal cities', utopias, and contemporary urbanism

A House of Glass: building with light

Typologies and functions: museums, libraries, railway stations, shopping malls in the 19th and 20th centuries

'I am a Monument': Tour Eiffel, Guggenheim Bilbao, Burj Khalifa

Basic Readings

Marvin Trachtenberg, Isabelle Hyman, *Architecture from Pre-History to Post-Modernism. The Western Tradition*, New York 1986
David Watkin, *A History of Western Architecture*, New York 2005
Frank Ching, M. Jarzombek, V. Prakash, *A Global History of Architecture*, New York 2011
Richard Ingersoll, Spiro Kostoff, *World Architecture: A Cross-Cultural History*, New York 2012
John Summerson, *The Classical Language of Architecture*, London 1980
Spiro Kostof, *The city shaped: urban patterns and meanings through history*, London 1991
Spiro Kostof, *The city assembled: the elements of urban form through history*, London 1992

Further Readings (at least two chapters from the following books)

Rudolf Wittkower, *Architectural Principles in the Age of Humanism*, London 1949
Henry Millon, V. Magnago Lampugnani, *The Renaissance: From Brunelleschi to Michelangelo*, Milano 1994 (selected essays)
Rudolf Wittkower, *Art and Architecture in Italy 1600-1750*, eds. J. Connors, J. Montagu, New Haven 1999 (selected chapters)
Barry Bergdoll, *European Architecture 1750-1890*, Oxford 2000
Jean Des Cars, Pierre Pinon (eds), *Paris-Haussmann*, Paris 2005
Daniel Bluestone, *Constructing Chicago*, New Haven-London 1991
Daniel Hudson Burnham, Edward Hudson Bennett, *Plan of Chicago*, ed. Charles Moore, New York 1993
Donald L. Miller, *City of the Century: The Epic of Chicago and the Making of America*, Chicago 1996
Robert Venturi, Denise Scott Brown, Steven Izenour, *Learning from Las Vegas*, Cambridge/Mass. 1972
Rem Koolhaas, *Delirious New York. A retroactive manifesto for Manhattan*, London 1978
Rem Koolhaas, *Junkspace*, 2001, <http://lensbased.net/files/Reader2012/rem+koolhaas+-+junkspace.pdf>
Yasser Elsheshtawy, *Dubai: Behind an Urban Spectacle*, London-New York 2010
Ugo Procacci, *History of the Italians*, Harmondsworth 1971
Gene Brucker, *Renaissance Florence*, Oakland 1983
Andrew Wilton (ed), *Grand Tour. The Lure of Italy in the Eighteenth Century*, London 1996

www.architectura.cesr.univ-tours.fr: Italian and Western architectural treatises and books published 16th-18th centuries

www.kubikat.org: collective catalogue of the leading research libraries in art and architectural history

www.jstor.org: free access to hundreds of scientific art and architectural history journals (access through unifi.it only)

oyc.yale.edu/history-art/hsar-252: Ancient Roman architecture, a series of lectures by prof. Diana Kleiner, Yale University

academia.edu: academics' sites with downloadable scholarly essays

Further readings and websites will be indicated during lectures