

HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE ITALY AND WESTERN CULTURE FROM THE RENAISSANCE TO THE TWENTIETH-CENTURY (AND BEYOND...)

Prof. Mario Bevilacqua

Prof. Riccardo Pacciani

Teaching Language:

English

Course Content:

The course outlines the development of Western architectural languages and urban forms from early modern Italy to the globalized 20th century, focusing on major monuments and centres, outstanding architects, and issues of cross-relations. Themes: Antiquity and the Middle Ages, Renaissance in Italy, Masters of the Roman Baroque, Age of industrialism and colonialism, The Rise and Fall of the Cities, Contexts in Western architecture and urbanism. Issues of method, interpretation, approach.

Suggested Readings:

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

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

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 sites will be indicated during lectures.

Training Objectives:

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.

Prerequisites:

A basic knowledge of classical architecture and theories is required.

Teaching Methods:

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

Exam:

Oral examination.

Program:

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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

Renaissance in Italy

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

Counter-reformation architecture

The Church of the Gesù, Rome

Palladio and Palladianism: Italy-Europe-America

Masters of the Roman Baroque

Bernini, Borromini, Pietro da Cortona

Age of industrialism and colonialism

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

European urban models 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: from Brunelleschi's Dome to Foster's Reichstag

Learnig from Pienza: Italian Renaissance 'ideal cities' and their myth in contemporary urbanism

A House of Glass: buinding with light

Typologies and functions: museums, libraries, railway stations, shopping malls

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