

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY, PREHISTORY TO THE PRESENT: Spring 2019

GESM 110g: Seminar in the Arts

Section 35314R: 4 Units

Monday and Wednesday 2:00– 3:20pm

Von Kleinsmid Center (VKC) 255

Instructor: Ken Breisch, Ph.D.

This course will examine the impact of politics, culture and the environment on the evolution of architectural and urban form using examples from around the world and across time. The course intends to provide a fundamental method for understanding how people use architecture and understand its multiple meanings. It is intended to foster visual literacy by developing a familiarity with representative examples major building traditions around the world and will explore the inter-relationships and parallel use of forms and spaces by different cultures throughout history. While generally chronological in presentation, lectures will focus on a series of case studies that analyze these phenomena.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

READING

Required weekly reading assignments are listed in the lecture schedule in this syllabus. These readings should be completed prior to the lecture under which they are listed.

Required Text

Leland M. Roth and Amanda C. Roth Clark. *Understanding Architecture: Its Elements, History, Meaning*, Third edition, Westview Press: New York, 2014.

Articles on Blackboard (listed in syllabus schedule)

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS.

SUBMIT THESE THROUGH TURNITIN IN BLACKBOARD. LATE PAPERS WILL BE REDUCD ½ GRADE FOR EVERYDAY THEY HAVE NOT BEEN SUBMITTED.

Assignment 1: *Warming Up*. 500words. (**due February 1**): 10% of grade.

In this short essay describe what you think are the primary factors that determine the form of a building.

Assignment 2: *Experiencing Architecture*. 750 words. (**due March 8**): 20% of grade.

Using the first 8 chapters in Roth (where appropriate) write a 750-page essay on your experience of the Hoose Library of Philosophy in Mudd Hall. Describe your reaction to this space, its ornament, structure and spaces. No research is necessary. This should be in the form of a typed, double-spaced paper.

Assignment 3: *Comparing Space and Style*. 1,500 words **due April 22**): 25% of grade.

Write a 1,500-word essay comparing the USC United University Church, 817 West 34th Street with the USC Ecumenical Religious Center, 835 W 34th Street. These two buildings represent the significant shift in architectural form that occurred between 1931 and 1966. How does this relate to broader trends in architecture on the USC campus and Southern California at this time. Think about the fact that they also represent very different ways of expressing religious faiths. This should be a research paper but think closely about the differences between these two buildings. What may have caused this, and how does this affect your experience of form and space. The paper should be typed and double-spaced with appropriate citations.

GRADING

Assignment 1: 10% **due February 1**
Quiz 1: 10%, **due February 11**
Assignment 2: 20%, **due March 8**
Quiz 2: 10%, **due March 25**
Assignment 3: 25% **due April 22**
Final Exam: 25%, **MAY 6, 2-4 PM**

ATTENDANCE:

You will be allowed to unexcused absences during the semester. Without an acceptable excuse, a one-half grade will be deducted for every day absent or late. No assignment will be accepted after the third day late.

Medical and family emergencies are the only acceptable excuses for acceptance of late assignments, make-up exams, or the granting of incomplete grades. Religious holidays are acceptable excuses for absences, but I must be informed of these in advance

ACADEMIC CONDUCT

USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's work as one's own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. The Student Guidebook, contains the Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A: <http://www.usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/gov/>

Students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for further review, should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can be found at: <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/>

CLASS SCHEDULE

Weeks 1 and 2: January 7-16. Introduction

(**January 21: Martin Luther King Day, no class**)

Reading: Roth, Chapters 1-8, pp. 1-159; and BLACKBOARD 1: Adrian Hoard, "The Commodification Of Art: Ndebele Women in the Stream of Change," Cultural Survival

Week 3: January 21-23. Designing the USC Campus

Week 4: January 30-February 1. Assignment 1 due February 1

Architecture and the Cosmos, Stonehenge and Teotihuacan, MX
Reading: Roth, pp. 165-185 and 409-413

Week 5: February 4-6. The Parthenon and the Shinto Temple at Ise, Japan

Reading: Reading: Roth, pp. 219-247 and 497-503; and BLACKBOARD 1: Cassandra Adams, "Japan's Ise Shrine and Its Thirteen-Hundred-Year-Old Reconstruction Tradition." *Journal of Architectural Education*, Vol. 52 (Sep., 1998): 49-60; and have a look at Vitruvius, *Ten Books on Architecture*. download or read at Project Gutenberg:

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/20239/20239-h/29239-h.htm>

Read the preface and book I, chapters 1-3; book III, chapters 1-3; and books IV, chapters 1-3,.

Week 6: February 11-13. QUIZ 1, Feb 11

The Roman Empire 12, pp. 249-281; BLACKBOARD 2: Robert Mark and Paul Hutchinson, "On the Structure of the Roman Pantheon."

Week 7: February 20. The Islamic Mosque

(February 18: Presidents' Day, no class)

Reading: Roth, pp. 283-313; and BLACKBOARD 3: William MacDonald, "Design and Technology in Hagia Sophia," *Perspecta*, Vol. 4 (1957), pp. 20-27

Week 8: February 25. The Gothic Cathedral

Reading: Roth, pp. 315-363

February 27. The Italian Renaissance

Reading: Roth, 365-407

Week 9: March 6-8. The Renaissance, cont. **Assignment 2 due March 8**

Look at Andrea Palladio, *I quattro libri dell' architettura*, 1570. From the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, Library of Congress

[http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-](http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=rbc3&fileName=rbc0001_2008rosen0873page.db&recNum=6)

[bin/ampage?collId=rbc3&fileName=rbc0001_2008rosen0873page.db&recNum=6](http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=rbc3&fileName=rbc0001_2008rosen0873page.db&recNum=6)

SPRING RECESS. March 13-19

Week 10: March 20. Two Imperial Palaces: Versailles and the Forbidden City in Beijing

Reading: Roth, Essay 4: China, pp. 415-461

Week 11: March 25. QUIZ 2

The Buddhist Temple in Japan

March 27. The Industrial Revolution during the Nineteenth Century

Reading: Roth, pp. 505-547

Week 12: April 1. The Industrial Revolution during the Nineteenth Century, cont

April 3 Frank Lloyd Wright

Week 13: April 8-10. Modernism in Europe

Reading: Roth, Chapter 19, pp. 557-607.

Week 14: April 15-17. Modernism in California

Reading: BLACKBOARD 4, Rudolf M. Schindler, "Shelter and Playground" (scroll down in the pdf to find this

Week 15: April 22: Frank Gehry, **Assignment 3 due March 8**

Reading: BLACKBOARD 5: Reyner Banham, "'Building Inside Out,'" *A Critic Write: Essays by Reyner Banham*, selected by Mary Banham, et al., Berkeley, c.

April 24: The Twenty-First Century & Review

Reading: Roth, pp. 609-667

MONDAY, MAY 6; FINAL EXAM, 2-4 PM

USC SUPPORT SYSTEMS:

Student Health Counseling Services - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call
engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call
suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 – 24/7 on call
engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED) | Title IX - (213) 740-5086
equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu

Information about how to get help or help a survivor of harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following protected characteristics: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations.

Bias Assessment Response and Support - (213) 740-2421
studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions for appropriate investigation and response.

The Office of Disability Services and Programs - (213) 740-0776
dsp.usc.edu

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

USC Support and Advocacy - (213) 821-4710
studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101
diversity.usc.edu

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call
dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call
dps.usc.edu

Non-emergency