School of Architecture  
University of Southern California  

ARCH 214b: World History of Architecture  
Fall 2021  
Tuesdays and Thursdays  
4:30pm-5:50pm  

Faculty  
Marcos Amado Petroli, Ph.D., Adjunct Lecturer, amadopet@usc.edu  
Leena Chaudhuri, Class Assistant, archaudh@usc.edu  
Shadan Mirzaei, Class Assistant, shadanmi@usc.edu  
Zixuan Zheng, Class Assistant, zhengzix@usc.edu  

Meetings  
In-person meetings: Harris Hall (HAR), Room 101  

In-person classes require a mask. Refusal to comply with university masking policy is a disciplinary matter and should be referred to Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards (SJACS): https://sjacs.usc.edu/  

Online meetings: Zoom Calls  
Link (recurring meeting): https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83040962649  

* Please check “Schedule” in this document to check which dates our meetings will be online or in-person. Online meetings are marked with the following icon: 📺  

Description  
This course is a global survey of architecture and urbanism from the mid-1500s to present. We will thoughtfully consider, discuss, critique, and explore a range of social, cultural, economic, and political forces that framed the many facets of the built environment locally, nationally, and globally. By the end of this course, students are expected to have developed a moderate sense of criticism, analytical skills, and research methodologies (familiarity with texts, databases, and other historical sources). Group discussions, classroom debates, and participation in class aim to create room for culturally responsive practices, where multiple voices, team collaboration, and innovative historical narratives can take place. Other requirements for this course include attendance at lectures and sections, responses to readings, quizzes, two exams, and two individual papers.
Course Goals

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

- Understand broadly the history of architecture from the mid-1500 CE to present;
- Identify key ideas in architecture, design, and city planning, based on different time periods, cultural norms, and constructive aspects presented in this course;
- Identify some of the architects and projects with which these ideas are associated;
- Understand how to read and interpret architectural design documents such as drawings and models;
- Read, write, and speak effectively about specific topics covered by the course.

Requirements

- Regular reading as indicated on this syllabus;
- Regular attendance;
- Active participation in group discussions;
- Two papers (scholarly written);
- Exam Part 1 (Midterm);
- Exam Part 2 (Final Exam).

Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Paper 1</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Group Discussion</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1 (Midterm)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Paper 2</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Group Discussion</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2 (Final Exam)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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* Grading penalty for late submissions: 10% of grade reduction within the first week after the deadline; 20% of grade reduction after the first week after the deadline. If you speak any other idiom, you are encouraged to bring bibliographies from your culture, translating it to one of the languages previously mentioned, yet including the original text in an endnote.

* Students are permitted two absences. Further absences are permitted only for legitimate reasons that are presented to the Class Assistants (e.g., observation of religious holidays, illness with doctor’s note). Missing three classes or more without a reasonable explanation will automatically reduce your grade by one letter. Excessive absences may result in failing the course.
Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>≥ 93.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>≥ 90.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>≥ 87.5</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>≥ 83.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>≥ 80.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>≥ 77.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>≥ 73.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>≥ 70.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>≥ 63.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>≥ 60.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt; 60.0</td>
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Group Discussions

Each student will be assigned to a section up to 25 students. During these meetings, it is a requirement to present and discuss the readings as determined by the instructor and section leaders. There will be several student presentation/discussion sessions for this course, where each student, as part of a team of about four (4), will present a selected reading and related architectural projects to the class. Each group will present two times in the semester. The other students in the class are then expected to ask questions and be able to discuss the readings and projects in a well-prepared way.

**Section A: Leena** (6 groups of four or five students)
**Section B: Shay** (6 groups of four or five students)
**Section C: Zixuan** (6 groups of four or five students)

All interactions in the sections and in the lecture class must be civil, respectful, and supportive of an inclusive learning environment for all students.

Attendance:

Classes begin promptly on the hour at the time stated in the course listings and all students are expected to be present promptly. Laptops, phones, tablets, etc., are only allowed for note taking, researching, and recording in the classroom.

All course work should be completed during the semester. Studio reviews, work deadlines in other classes, or extracurricular activities are not valid reasons for missing class, or requesting extensions.
Course Textbook:


Other Course Readings:


The midterm (Exam 1) and final exam (Exam 2) Essay Questions will only be taken from the Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash book and the Curtis book.

Schedule:

08/24 - **Introduction to the course**
Presenting the syllabus, the textbook, the group discussions, the goals of this course, and other general requirements.

08/26 - **The Western Classical Tradition and its global context around 1500**

08/31 - **Palladio; British Palladianism; Palladian references elsewhere**
**European invasions of the Americas; Jesuit Architecture**

Reading: Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 539-542 (starting at “Palladio”); and pages 599-605 (starting at “The Anglican Church”).

Suggested website: [https://www.nicolaspoussin.org](https://www.nicolaspoussin.org).

09/2 - **Asian Dynasty Architectures in the Age of the Enlightenment**
**Reading**: Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 501-519 (starting at “Architecture fo the Eurasian Power Bloc”), and pages 584-598 (starting at “China and the European Enlightenment”).

09/7 - **Architecture in South Asia; Mughals; City planning after the Silk Road**
**Reading**: Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 605-615 (starting at “Introduction”).

09/9 - **Historicism in the Industrial Age**
**Reading**: Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 573-584 (starting at “The Louvre and the Hotel”).

**Reading**: Mallgrave, “Theories of the Picturesque and the Sublime,” pages 221-239.


09/14 - **Notions on Eclecticism; Rationalism; Empiricism, and Realism**

Optional Reading: Moffett, Fazio, and Wodehouse, Chapter 14, “Eclecticism.”

09/16 - **The École des Beaux-Arts in France; The École des Beaux-Arts as a global system of education**
**Reading**: Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 675–680 (starting at “Paris and Haussmann”).


09/21 - **Architecture in South Asia c. 1800 CE**
**Reading**: Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 605–615 (starting at “Introduction”).

09/23 - **Neoclassicism vs. Romanticism**
**Reading**: Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 616–632 (starting at “Neoclassicism vs. Romanticism”).

Optional Reading: Moffett, Fazio, and Wodehouse, *Chapter 13*, “Neo-Classicism.”
Paper 1: Submission

Length: minimum 1,500 words; maximum: 1,750 words
Images: 3-6 (in the subtitles, include name, place, architect, year, and source/credit)
Bibliography: 5-10 scholarly articles or books
Citation format: Chicago Manual of Style, Notes and Bibliography [link]
Deadline: Submission on Blackboard until 9pm.

09/28 - Group Discussion 1: Principles of Architectural Composition


09/30 - Group Discussion 2: Classicism and the Theory of Modern Design


10/05 - New expressions on public architecture
Reading: Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 599–605; and pages 662-669.


10/07 - Exam I
*In-person - Harris Hall 101

10/12 - Haciendas; Modernity in Central America (Zoom meeting)
Reading: Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 563–582

10/14 - Fall Break (No classes)

10/19 - The Crystal Palace (1851); The Global Arts and Crafts Movement; The Indo-Saracenic Style

Reading: Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 669–672.

Reading: Curtis, Chapter 5, “Arts and crafts ideals in Britain and the U.S.A.,” pages 87-97.


10/21 - Colonial Modernism; African Land Grab; Concrete and Culture


Optional Reading: Kenneth Frampton, Modern Architecture: A Critical History, 12-28. See also: Curtis, Chapter 4, “Rationalism, the engineering tradition and reinforced concrete,” pages 73-85

10/26 - American Colonial Architecture; Mayam Revival; to Usonia

Reading: Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 634–640

Reading: Curtis, Chapter 7, “The architectural system of Frank Lloyd Wright,” pages 113-129.


10/28 - From Camillo Sitte to early Le Corbusier, 1889–1920

Reading: Curtis, Chapter 2, “Industrialization and the City: The Skyscraper as Type and Symbol,” pages 33-51.


Recommended film: BBC 5-minute film of Le Corbusier in Paris: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UP6HHS4abik

11/2 - **German Expressionism, the Bauhaus; the American Bauhaus**


Current listing of Bauhaus centennial exhibitions: https://www.wallpaper.com/architecture/bauhaus-exhibitions-2019

11/4 - **The global expansion of Modern Architecture after 1933**

**Reading:** Curtis, Chapter 21, “International, national, regional: the diversity of a new tradition,” pages 371-393


Recommended films:
Architects’ Congress (Laszlo Moholy Nagy, made after CIAM 4, 1933)

"The City," a 30-min documentary film produced for the 1939 New York World’s Fair as part of the "City of Tomorrow" exhibit (adapted by Lewis Mumford). https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7nuvcpnysJU

11/9 - **Group Discussion 3: Metropoles and Social Change**

Group 1 (4:30pm–4:50pm): **Reading:** Hanna Arendt, The Human Condition, Chapters “Instrumentality and Animal Laborans,” and “Instrumentality and Homo Faber,” pages 139-152.

Group 3 (5:30pm–5:50pm): **Reading:** Eric Mumford, *Designing the Modern City: Urbanism since 1850*, Chapter 4, “The Emergence of Avant-Garde Urbanism in the 1920s and 1930s,” 297-337.

11/11 - *Group Discussion 4: Urban Progress, Fantasy, and Counterculture*


11/16 - **The New Monumentality and the postwar triumph of Modern Architecture: Le Corbusier, Chandigarh, and his postwar global influence**

**Reading:** Curtis, Chapter 23, “Form and meaning in the late works of Le Corbusier,” pages 417-435


Recommended film: *Columbus* (about the modern architecture of Columbus, Indiana); *My Architect* (a film biography of Louis Kahn by his son); and *Form, Design and the City* (Ed Bacon, Pei, von Moltke, et al in Philadelphia 1961, without Kahn).

11/18 - **Architecture in Latin America from Brasilia to PREVI**

**Reading:** Curtis, Chapter 27, “The process of absorption: Latin America, Australia, Japan,” pages 491-511.


Recommended film: "Brasilia: City of Hope," an 11-min documentary film on the capital of Brazil, the modern city of Brasilia, A/V Geek Archive, c. 1960. [link]
**Paper 2: Submission**

Length: minimum 1,500 words; maximum: 1,750 words  
Images: 3-6 (in the subtitles, include name, place, architect, year, and source/credit)  
Bibliography: 5-10 scholarly articles or books  
Citation format: Chicago Manual of Style, Notes and Bibliography [link]  
Deadline: Submission on Blackboard until 9pm.

11/23 - **From Team 10 to Robert Venturi & Denise Scott Brown and postmodern historicism**  
**Reading:** Curtis, Chapter 32, “Pluralism in the 1970s,” pages 589-615.  
**Reading:** Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 780–785.  
Optional Readings: Eric Mumford, *Designing the Modern City: Urbanism since 1850*, Chapter 5, 435-541. Also, see: Frampton, 262-313; and Colquhoun, 209-254.

11/25 - **Thanksgiving** (No classes)

11/30 - **Globalization; Architecture as medium and target; World Histories of Architecture**  
**Reading:** Ching, Jarzombek, and Prakash, pages 599–605; and pages 787-799.  
Recommended film: *Koyaanisqatsi* (1983)

- General review of the course, Q&A, final comments  

12/02 - **Exam II**  
*In–person - Harris Hall 101  
**Because of schedule conflicts with design studios’ final reviews and/or preparation for final reviews, we normally hold the final exam on the last day of class rather than on the scheduled final exam day. This is subject to discussion with students to determine a solution that accommodates your class and studio schedules as best as possible.
Academic Conduct

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards.” Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct: http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

Support Systems:

Student Counseling Services (SCS) - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call
Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. https://engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling/

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1-800-273-8255
Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 - 24/7 on call
Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. https://engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp/

Sexual Assault Resource Center
For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: http://sarc.usc.edu/

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX Compliance – (213) 740-5086
Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class. https://equity.usc.edu/

Bias Assessment Response and Support
Incidents of bias, hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support/

The Office of Disability Services and Programs
Provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange relevant accommodations. http://dsp.usc.edu

Student Support and Advocacy – (213) 821-4710
Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa/

Diversity at USC
Information on events, programs and training, the Diversity Task Force (including representatives for each school), chronology, participation, and various resources for students. https://diversity.usc.edu/

USC Emergency Information
Provides safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, http://emergency.usc.edu

USC Department of Public Safety – 213-740-4321 (UPC) and 323-442-1000 (HSC) for 24-hour emergency assistance or to report a crime: http://dps.usc.edu