



ARTH 2810: Modern Architecture,1900-Present

Dr. Concetta Martone– Spring 2024 Syllabus

Faculty Concetta Martone, PhD
office hours: by appointment only
email:

Course Information This history course adheres to a lecture/discussion format .
Classes are scheduled on Tuesday and Thursday 10:15-11:45 am

Description This course investigates the origins and developments of modern architecture considering the historical, social, and cultural factors that shaped its trajectory. New notions of progress and evolution, industrialization and urbanization, and debates concerning the role of the machine and the meaning of ornament are set against significant technological innovations. Works will be presented chronologically following various themes. The main portion of the course will focus on the discussion of the origins, definition and dissemination of modern architecture, while the last portion of the course will concentrate on its more recent transformations. Topics include the Arts and Crafts movement, Art Nouveau, Expressionism, Art Deco, the International Style, Postmodernism, and Deconstructivism. Students examine key theoretical texts, participate in class discussions, present on assigned

topics and complete a research project. The course includes several excursions to view architecture in Philadelphia.

Procedures

Each class is dedicated to a topic or time period. Lectures provide important information about the works and their contexts and introduce themes for discussion. Students are expected to attend class having completed all reading assignments and ready to discuss them. Each class, one student or a group of students will present on a subject related to the lecture's themes.

Required Texts

Fazio, M., M. Moffett, and L. Wodehouse. *A World History of Architecture*. 3rd Ed. Boston, MA.: McGraw-Hill Companies, 2013. (abbreviated as "F")

<https://www.amazon.com/World-History-Architecture-Michael-Fazio/dp/1780671113>

Readings from Textbook: Where discrepancies arise between information presented in the texts and information presented in lecture, the lecture will take precedence. Note that critical information and perspective not provided in the texts will be given in the lectures: the texts are meant to support and supplement the lectures, and so perusing only the texts will not adequately prepare you for the exams.

Consequently, one of your most important reading tasks will be regularly reviewing your own notes and augmenting them based on your textbook readings.

Supplemental readings — treatise excerpts and articles (all listed on the course outline,) distributed throughout the semester.

The following texts are not required, but recommended:

Barry Bergdoll, *European Architecture, 1750-1890* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000)

Alan Colquhoun, *Modern Architecture* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002)

Completion Requirements

The grade for the course is based on the following:

Exams: Consist of multiple choice questions based on slides, definition of key terms, analysis of treatises and/or short thematic essays

Discussions and treatise notebook : Students will be required to share and discuss their treatise notebooks and participate and take turns in presenting and leading discussions on several assigned readings.

Research Project: Students will research, compare, and contrast selected buildings, analyzing how the designs relate to some of the concepts and themes discussed in class. The final paper should be 2000 words and appropriately illustrated. Students will prepare a visual presentation of their research project due at the end of the semester.

Participation: Grades for participation will be determined by contributions to class discussions and demonstrated knowledge of the material.

Distribution:

2 exams	50%
Research Project	25%
Discussion and Treatise Notebook	25%

Grading Scales:

Grading will be based on the following criteria and scale:

A: 4.00/93-100 A-: 3.67/90-92 B+: 3.33/87-89 B: 3.00/83-86

Course Policies

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend class every session with all relevant required course materials and work. If absent, a student remains responsible for any missed work, for work completed in class, and for work due and must arrange for that work to be delivered to the faculty on time. If you are absent from class due to personal or medical emergencies, immediately notify the instructor. Absences from class prevent participation and will adversely affect your grade.

**Laptops,
iPads, etc.:**

Screens are not allowed in class. Please arrive in class on time and turn off your cell phones in advance.

Submissions:

Submit all assignments on Canvas on the due dates. There will be no makeup exams and if you need an extension on an assignment you must contact me at least 48 hours before the due date with a valid reason, such

as a documented illness, a family emergency, or a major assignment due the same day. All written assignments must be typed, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins and in a 12-point Times font.