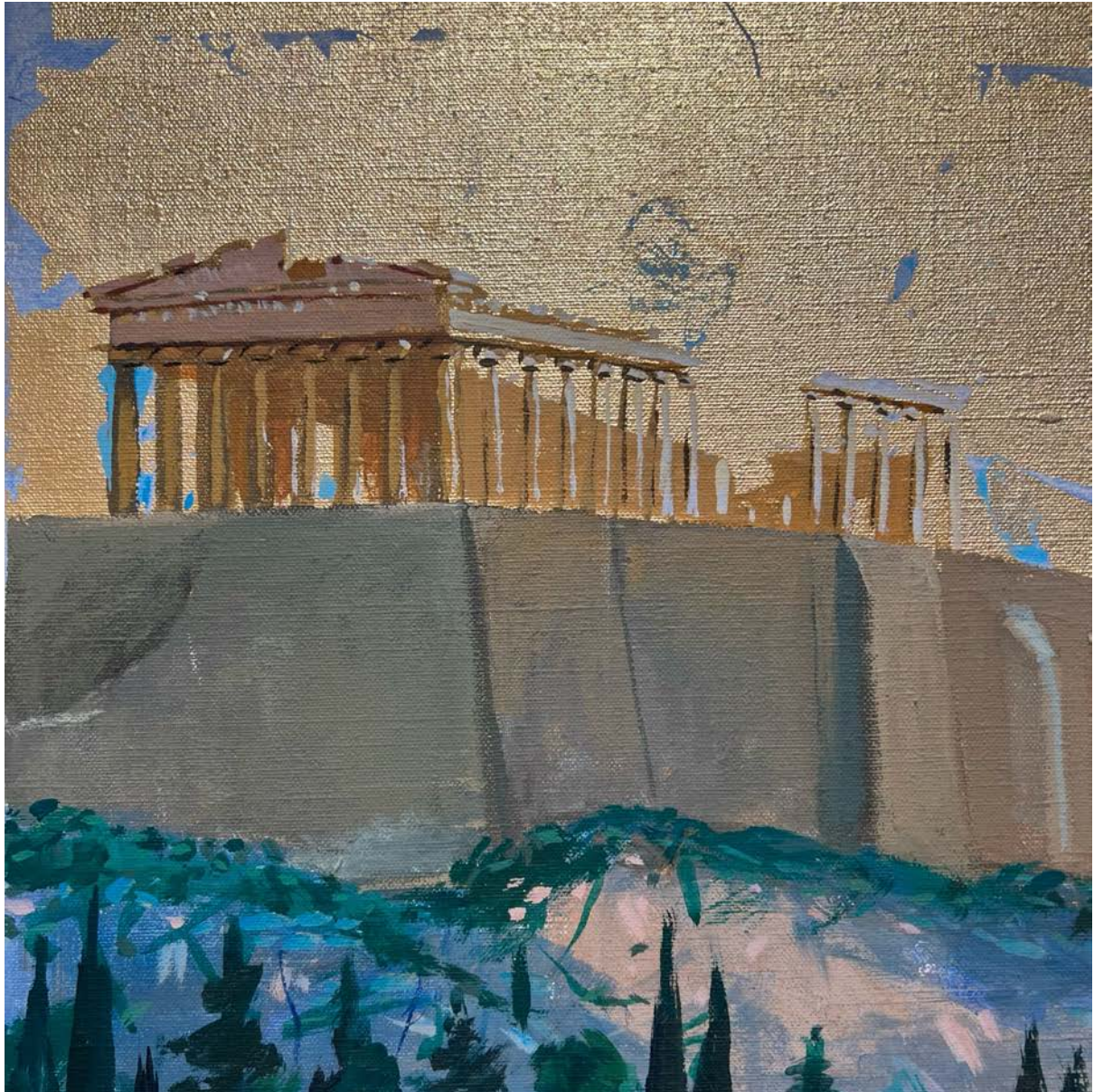


ARTH 228. GREEK ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM

Spring 2025, Monday – Wednesday 12-13:30

Prof. Mantha Zarmakoupi



As the locus of classical architecture and urbanism, the Greek world occupies an important place in the history of architecture and urbanism. This course explores the various periods and different moments of architectural creation during the first two millennia, from the palace complexes of Minoan Crete to the cities of the Hellenistic world (1600-100 BCE), and tackles major concepts, theories and practices of architectural and urban design. In studying a variety of sources – both ancient and modern – lectures examine concepts of organizing space, issues of structure, materials, decoration and proportion. The purpose of the course is to shed light on Greek architectural and urban projects within their social, political, religious, and physical contexts.

The field of study of Greek architecture and urbanism has developed as an expression of colonialism and nationalism, and this course seeks to decolonize the “classical” and shed light on classicizing and whitewashing approaches in the study of ancient architecture.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students are expected to be able to:

- Identify and analyze the Greek architectural and urban developments
- Be familiar with the wide range of new architectural forms and technological innovations that developed and spread in the ancient Greek world
- Be able to analyze concepts of organizing space, issues of structure, materials, decoration and proportion, the role of architecture in ancient Greek society

OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this course students should have developed:

- Skills for the analysis and interpretation of Greek architecture and urbanism.
- Ability to evaluate visual, material and textual evidence in relation to the study of Greek architecture and urbanism.

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Participation	20%
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Active class participation

Presentation in Week 9	20%
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After Spring Break, each student will make a 10-min presentation of their envisaged final project / paper.

Final Project / Paper	40%
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Students will produce a final project due on April 30 – for some, this might be a 3D reconstruction project accompanied by an annotation 5-page paper; for others, a 10-page double-spaced research paper.

Take home exam	20%
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Take-home exam due on May 13

Reference books

- Barbara A. Barletta, *The origins of the Greek architectural orders* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001).
- William Bell Dinsmoor, *The architecture of ancient Greece: An account of its historic development* (London: Batsford, 1950).
- Helmut Berve and Gottfried Gruben, *Greek temples, theatres, and shrines* (New York, H.N. Abrams, 1963).
- J. J. Coulton, *Ancient Greek architects at work: Problems of structure and design* (Oxford: Oxbow Books, 1977).
- A. H. M. Jones, *The Greek city: from Alexander to Justinian* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1940).
- Manolis Korres et al., *The Parthenon. Architecture and Conservation*, exhibition catalogue (Athens: Melissa, 1996).
- A. W. Laurence, *Greek architecture*, revised by R. A. Tomlinson, fifth edition, Pelican History of Art (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1996).
- Carmelo G. Malacrino, *Constructing the Ancient world: Architectural techniques of the Greeks and Romans* (Los Angeles: Getty, 2010).
- Clemente Marconi, ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Greek and Roman Art and Architecture* (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015).
- Margaret M. Miles, *A Companion to Greek Architecture* (Malden MA and Oxford: Wiley Blackwell, 2016).
- Lisa C. Nevett, *House and society in the ancient Greek world*, New Studies in Archaeology (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999).
- E. J. Owens, *The city in the Greek and Roman world* (London: Routledge, 1991).
- William H. Plommer, *Ancient and Classical Architecture*, History of architectural development 1 (London: Longmans, Green and co, 1956).
- Robert L. Scranton, *Greek architecture*, The great ages of world architecture (New York: Braziller, 1985).
- Elena Walter-Karydi, *The Greek house: The rise of noble houses in late Classical Greece* (Athens: The Archaeological Society of Athens, 1998).
- Mark Wilson Jones, *Origins of Classical architecture* (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2014).
- Frederick E. Winter, *Studies in Hellenistic architecture*, Phoenix Supplementary Volume 42 (Toronto, Buffalo and London: Toronto University Press, 2006).
- R. E. Wycherley, *How the Greeks built cities: The relationship of architecture and town planning to everyday life in ancient Greece*, second edition (New York and London: Norton & Company, 1962).

Ancient Sources

- J. J. Pollitt, *The art of ancient Greece: Sources and Documents*, second edition (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990).
- Ingrid D. Rowland and Thomas Noble Howe, eds., *Vitruvius: Ten books on Architecture* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999).

COURSE STRUCTURE (Readings are subject to change)

Week 1

- January 15 *Greek architecture and urbanism: An introduction*
J. J. Coulton, J. J. *Ancient Greek architects at work: Problems of structure and design* (Oxford: Oxbow Books, 1977), 15-29 "Architect, patron and project."
D. Gissen, "Wake New History," *Log* 46 (2019), pp. 65-72.

Week 2

- January 22 *The technology and economics of public building*
M. Korres, "The construction of ancient Greek temples," in R. Economakis (ed.) *Acropolis Restoration* (1994), 20-27.
Carmelo G. Malacrino, *Constructing the Ancient world: Architectural techniques of the Greeks and Romans* (Los Angeles: Getty, 2010), 91-110.

Week 3

- January 27 *The origins of the Greek temples and the rise of the orders*
J. J. Coulton, *Ancient Greek architects at work: Problems of structure and design* (Oxford: Oxbow Books, 1977), 30-50 "The problem of beginning."
Mark Wilson Jones, *Origins of Classical architecture* (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2014), chs. 1-2.

- January 29 **NO CLASS**

Week 4

- February 3 **NO CLASS**

- February 5 *The Greek orders*
Barbara A. Barletta, *The origins of the Greek architectural orders* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001), chs. 3-4, "The emergence of the Doric 'order'," "The emergence of the Ionic 'order'."

Week 5

- February 10 *Innovation in Greek architecture: The Athenian Acropolis*
Jeffrey M. Hurwit, *The Acropolis in the Age of Pericles* (Cambridge: CUP, 2004), chapter 3.
A. Burford, "The builders of the Parthenon," *Parthenos and Parthenon, Greece and Rome* 10 Suppl. (1963), 23-35.
- February 12 *The architecture of the Parthenon: A monument of perfection?*
Lothar Haselberger, "Bending the truth: Curvature and other refinements of the Parthenon," in J. Neils, ed., *The Parthenon: From antiquity to the present* (Cambridge: CUP, 2005), 100-157.

Week 6

February 17 *The Figural decoration of Greek sacred architecture*
C. Marconi, "Pausanias and the Figural decoration of Greek Sacred Architecture," *RES: Anthropology and Aesthetics* 65-66 (2014-15), 177-191.

February 19 *Originality and regional styles: The West Greek temples*
D. Mertens, "Greek architecture in the west," in G. Pugliese Carratelli, ed., *The Western Greeks: Classical Civilization in the Western Mediterranean* (London: Thames and Hudson, 1996), 315-346.

Week 7

February 24 *Paestum: A case study in provincialism*
J. J. Coulton, "The second temple of Hera at Paestum and the pronaos problem," *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 95 (1975), 13-24.

February 26 *Private and public in classical Greek domestic architecture*
Elena Walter-Karydi, *The Greek house: The rise of noble houses in late Classical Greece* (Athens: The Archaeological Society of Athens, 1998), 5-32.
Barbara Tsakirgis, "The architecture of Greek houses," in Margaret M. Miles, *A Companion to Greek Architecture* (Malden MA and Oxford: Wiley Blackwell, 2016).

Week 8

March 3 *Planned cities and type houses*
E. J. Owens, *The city in the Greek and Roman World* (1991), ch. 4, 51-73.

March 5 *Civic space and civic buildings*
C. P. Dickenson, *On the Agora: The evolution of a public space in Hellenistic and Roman Greece (c. 323 BC - 267 AD)*, Mnemosyne Suppl. 398 (Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2017), "The early Hellenistic Period. 323 BC – 197 BC," 50-86.

Week 9 *** Spring Break ***

Week 10

March 17 **Presentations**

March 19 *Building for defense: fortifications*
Silke Müth, "Function and semantics of fortifications: an introduction," in S. Frederiksen et al., eds., *Focus on fortifications: New research on fortifications in the ancient Mediterranean and the Near East* (Oxford and Philadelphia: Oxbow Books, 2016), 183-192.

Week 11

March 24 *Innovation, survival and revival in the 4th c. BCE temple design*
A. W. Laurence, *Greek architecture*, revised by R. A. Tomlinson, fifth edition, Pelican History of Art (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1996),

chs. 17-19 ("Circular buildings," "Temples and tombs of 400-300," "Hellenistic temples and related monuments").

March 26 *A new form of civic life: Alexander the Great and Hellenistic cities*
R. Ginouves, ed., *Macedonia from Philip II to the Roman Conquest* (Princeton and Athens 2004), ch. 2.

Week 12

March 31 *Hellenistic cities: public space*
A. W. Laurence, *Greek architecture*, revised by R. A. Tomlinson, fifth edition, Pelican History of Art (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1996), 190-204.

April 2 *Hellenistic entertainment buildings*
Frederick E. Winter, *Studies in Hellenistic architecture* (Toronto, Buffalo and London: Toronto University Press, 2006), ch. 5, 'Theatres and Stadia', 96-114.

Week 13

April 7 *Hellenistic educational buildings*
Frederick E. Winter, *Studies in Hellenistic architecture*, Phoenix Supplementary Volume 42 (Toronto, Buffalo and London: Toronto University Press, 2006), ch. 6, 'Gymnasia, Palaistra, and Baths', 115-134.

April 9 *Hellenistic palaces*
I. Nielsen, *Hellenistic Palaces, Tradition and Renewal*, Studies in Hellenistic Civilization 5 (Aarhus: Aarhus University Press, 1999), "Macedonia," "Pergamon," 81-111.

Week 14

April 14 *Hellenistic houses*
L. C. Nevett, *Domestic Space in Classical Antiquity* (2010), ch. 4, "Housing and cultural identity: Delos between Greece and Rome," 63-88.

April 16 *Hellenistic sanctuaries: Samothrace & Delos*
K. Lehmann, *Samothrace: A Guide to the Excavations and the Museum* (Locust Valley NY: IFA, 1998), 63-70, 78-86, 94-98, 104-107.
R. Étienne, "The Development of the Sanctuary of Delos: new perspectives," in M. Stamatopoulou and M. Yeroulanou, eds., *Excavating Classical Culture: Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Greece* (Oxford: Archaeopress, 2002), 285-293.

Week 15

April 21 *Hellenistic urbanism: Priene and Delos*
M. Zarmakoupi, "Shaping the City of Late Hellenistic Delos." *Journal of Ancient Architecture* 1, 65-85.

April 23 *A world of polis: Athens and Pergamon*
J. M. Camp, *The Archaeology of Athens* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2001), 161-182.
H. Koester, *Pergamon, citadel of the gods: archaeological record, literary description, and religious development*, Harvard Theological Studies 46 (Harrisburg: Trinity Press International, 1998), selections.

Week 16

April 28 The reception of Classical Greek Architecture
J. Summerson, *The Classical Language of Architecture* (1963), pp. 7-20.
P. Tournikiotis, "The Place of the Parthenon in the History and Theory of Modern Architecture," in P. Tournikiotis (ed.), *The Parthenon and its impact in modern times* (1994), 202–229.

April 30 *Revision*

*** Take-home exams handed out

*** **Paper / Project due today (upload to Canvas)**

May 13 *Take-home exam*

*** **Take-home exam due today**