ARCH 5801

Introduction to Architectural Conservation

2011-12 1st Term

Instructor: Ho Puay Peng

DESCRIPTION

The history of a locality is often defined by its culture and the built manifestations of that culture. The preservation of the architectural heritage of a culture is an indication of the importance that culture placed on its past. The trend in the developed world today is to preserve historical monuments, historic district, tangible and intangible heritage as much as possible. In Asia, conservation has a checkered history. For China and Hong Kong, conservation works are at the early stages of development. This course is designed to introduce the basic concepts and practices in conservation. It will serve as the foundation for further development of interest and skill in conservation. It is desirable for students to take this course before taking design studio ARCH 5110B/Studio G6.

OBJECTIVES

- To understand the history and basic tenets of architectural conservation.
- To be aware of the universality of the principles of architectural conservation.
- To be able to apply principles and practices of architectural conservation.
- To be able to continue to work and study various aspects of the policy and technique of architectural conservation beyond this course.

ASSESSMENT SCHEME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and class discussions</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservation plan</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fieldtrip report</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dialogue</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final essay</td>
<td>30%</td>
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COURSE FORMAT

The course will consist of three parts. Part I is primarily an introduction to architectural conservation: its history, charters, theory, local practices, and conceptual and legislative frameworks. Part II will concentrate on the techniques of conservation concentrating primarily on values-centered assessment. It will deal with documentation, conservation plan and other techniques in actual conservation works. A fieldtrip to Beijing will be organized after Part II which will be the subject of Part III- case studies, different strategies and opinions and field work.

The course will be interactive in delivery consisting of lectures, seminars, discussions, reading and visits. Lectures will set the conceptual framework and will be relatively short. The main bulk of learning is through reading, presentation and discussion. The visit to Wanchai would be to observe and critique a variety of approaches in architectural conservation.

REFERENCE BOOK

See below.

SCHEDULE

PART I

1. September 6  INTRODUCTION | history and language of architectural conservation

Primary reading:
2. September 13  THEORY | charters and principles

Primary reading:

Secondary reading:

3. September 20  LEGISLATURE | legal and administrative framework

Primary reading:

Secondary reading:

4. September 27  PRACTICE | China and Hong Kong

This session aims to look at the framework for architectural conservation in terms of values of architectural heritage, legislation, practices and outcome in both China and Hong Kong from practitioners' point of view.

Reading and websites for heritage conservation in China:

Websites for heritage conservation in Hong Kong:
http://www.conservancy.org.hk/heritage/mainE.htm

5. October 4  TOOLS | how to conserve

Primary reading:

Secondary reading:
6. October 11  NEIGHBOURHOOD  several cases in Wanchai

This afternoon, we will take a walk around Wanchai looking at seven sites. These sites represent different conservation approaches based on the cultural and administrative environment of the time. You will be given a list of sites to visit and research with different strategies in conservation. You will write a critique of these strategies.

Reading:
http://www.wrisc.org.hk/eng/about_us.htm

PART II

7. October 18  EVALUATION  determining the values, interpreting the site

Primary reading:

Secondary reading:

8. October 25  STRATEGY  develop an approach and write a conservation plan

Primary reading:

Secondary reading:
Conservation plan of the Central Police Station Compound, Hong Kong: http://www.centralpolicestation.org.hk/eng/plan.htm

9. November 1  DISCUSSION  back to the cases of Wanchai

In this session, you will combine the notes and critiques of Wanchai cases with the knowledge gained in the last two lectures to discuss the merits and demerits of these cases. What are the architectural merits of these buildings and what should have been and not been done? Additionally, students are asked to present their conservation plan for one of the seven sites they visited.

PART III

10. November 8  FUTURE  Adaptive re-use, urban regeneration and other strategies

Primary reading:
Secondary reading:

11. November 15  DIALOGUE | NGOs, professionals, pressure groups

Dialogue:
Having seen what happened in Wanchai and Beijing, it is time to engage in a dialogue with different parties and stakeholders with an interest in architectural conservation. What are their views, how do they articulate their concerns, what actions did they take, and how effective they are. This session will be interactive and the students will be asked to lead the dialogue and prepare the questions for the guests, who would include architects, activists, and conservation professionals.

12. November 22  No class

13. November 29  Studio review

14. December 6  PRESENTATION

This will a presentation on the draft essay you have written for peer review.

FIELD TRIP
(please check the boxes)
[X] Yes  →  [X] Local; Within class time
[X] Overseas  →  Date(s): Not confirmed, will not overlap with class time  Destination(s): Tainan

[ ] No

SAME COURSE OFFERED BEFORE (student has taken the same course is not allowed to retake)
(please check the boxes)

[ ] No

IMPORTANT NOTE TO STUDENT:
Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at [http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/](http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/). With each assignment, students will be required to submit a statement that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.