ARCH5131A
Topical Studies in Design Theory

2014-15 Term 1
Instructor: Stan Fung

Description
This course deals with the different uses and limitations of the diagram in contemporary architectural design. About 50 architectural projects will be studied in detail using relatively large image archives. The first three weeks of the course will be devoted to historical topics that help orient students to contemporary discussions. Week 4-12 is concerned with case studies of individual architects and their work. Each student will contribute to the work of the class by presenting three case studies.

Course objectives
By engaging with the classwork and assignments, students will:
1. strengthen their ability to read architectural diagrams in detail, and
2. develop an ability to compare contemporary positions in architectural discussions.

Learning outcomes
Students who complete this course will enhance the following aspects of their education:
1. the skills involved in scholarly enquiry
2. the capacity for analytical and critical thinking
3. the ability to engage in independent and reflective learning
4. information literacy—the skills to appropriately locate, evaluate and use relevant information
5. the capacity for enterprise, initiative and creativity
6. the skills of effective communication.

Assessment scheme
Class presentation and discussions 35%, Assignment 1 25% and Assignment 2 40%.

Undergraduate students enrolling in this course are expected to fulfill the same course requirements and to perform to the same standards as masters students.

Course format
This course consists of 9 hours of lectures and 27 hours of seminars, and assessed components as indicated above.
References list (partial)

Monmonier, Mark S. Mapping it Out: Expository Cartography for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

FIELD TRIP
No

SAME COURSE OFFERED BEFORE
No