Western Architecture

Instructor: Stan Fung [sfung@cuhk.edu.hk]
Time: Tuesdays, 2.30 pm - 5.15 pm | Location: WMY 508 | Office hours by appointment

Description
This course is an introduction to the history and theory of Western architecture from Classical Greece to contemporary times. It is primarily concerned with four themes: (1) concepts of geometry and proportion, (2) concepts of architectural representation, (3) professionalism and the institutionalization of architecture, and (4) the relationship between architecture and engineering since the 19th century.

Course objectives
1. develop an understanding of major historical shifts in Western architectural history
2. cultivate an ability to undertake basic research
3. develop an ability to work meticulously with texts and images

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. an appreciation of, and a responsiveness to, change
7. the skills of effective communication.

Assessment scheme
Class participation 10%, Archive Exercise 30%, Online tests 20%, Assignment 40%

Course format
This course consists of lectures, seminars, and 4 assessed components as indicated above.

Notes
1. This course outline is subject to amendment during Weeks 1-2. Updated versions will be released in the Blackboard site for this course.
2. 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/.
With each assignment, students will be required to submit a statement that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.

3. Class attendance is required in all courses. For an excused absence, the instructor must be notified and presented with documentation of illness or personal matter. Please note: Three (3) or more unexcused absences may result in a failing grade for the course.

**Schedule of lectures**

| Week 1  | Introduction | Geometry and monumentality |
| Week 2  | Chartres Cathedral in detail |
| Week 5  | Professionalization | Typographics |
| Week 8  | Materials, Materiality and Materiality | The ambition of modern engineers |
| Week 7  | Form, force and structure |
| Week 9  | Form, force and structure |
| Week 10 | Colin Rowe and Architectural Analysis |
| Week 11 | Fame and publicity |
| Week 12 | Review |

**Online tests**

Two tests are offered:

1. **Chicago Manual.** This test is designed to train students’ ability to write endnotes in accordance with the *Chicago Manual of Style*. (Available online via the CUHK Library Catalogue). Two practice tests are offered in the Blackboard site for this course during 11-18 Feb and 28 Feb-6 March inclusive. Students can use the practice tests to improve their performance. The actual test will take place in class on 7 March. Students intending to take this test should bring their own laptops to WMY 508 on that day.

2. **Comprehension Test.** This test will focus on a specific text which will be announced on 24 Feb. The test consists of multiple-choice questions and it will take place in class on 22 March. Students intending to take this test should bring their own laptops to WMY 508 on that day.

Students may sit for one test only or for both tests. In the latter case, the test with the higher score will be used in calculating the final grade of this course.

**Assignment submissions**

Two assignments are required:

The Archive Exercise consists of 5 components. 3 of these should be submitted on 20 Jan and the remaining 2 components are due on 6 Feb.

The Final Assignment is due on 13 March. An esquisse for this work is due on 6 March.
Lectures: references list (partial)


FIELD TRIP

No

SAME COURSE OFFERED BEFORE

Yes (Term 2, 2015-16, ARCH3322)