ARC 4313

Architecture Theory The Subject of Architecture

Dr. Rachel McCann / Spring Term

Course description. (Prerequisite: ARC 3323 or equivalent and consent of instructor). Three hours lecture. A critical investigation of writings that have shaped architectural theory.

Course organization. This course investigates modern and postmodern theoretical approaches to architecture and urban space through engagement with writings by philosophers, architects, and architectural theorists. Engagement will take the form of reading and marking texts, answering analytical and synthetic homework questions, writing short essays, and debating issues. The course will be organized around weekly readings in 5 major subject areas. Readings and homework are due each Tuesday. Writing assignments and other analytical projects are due on Thursdays.

Class meeting times. The course meets in two sections: TTh 9:30-10:45 and TTh 11:00-12:15. Tuesdays we will meet for initial readings discussion, and homework is due then. Thursdays we will meet for further discussion and writing critique.

Texts. No textbook is required. Readings will be made available from these books: Adolf Loos. Spoken into the Void: Collected Essays 1897-1900. Louis Sullivan. Kindergarten Chats. 1918. Le Corbusier. Towards a New Architecture. 1927. Ulrich Conrads, ed. Programs and Manifestoes on 20th Century Architecture. 1964. Alberto Pérez-Gómez. Architecture and the Crisis of Modern Science. 1984. Luce Irigaray. This Sex Which Is Not One. 1985. Galen A. Johnson, ed. The Merleau-Ponty Aesthetics Reader: Philosophy and Painting. 1993. Steven Holl. Intertwining. 1996. Kate Nesbitt, ed. Theorizing a New Agenda for Architecture: An Anthology of Architectural Theory 1965-1995. 1996. Neil Leach, ed. Rethinking Architecture: A Reader in Cultural Theory. 1997. K. Michael Hays, ed. Architecture Theory since 1968. 1998. Karsten Harries. The Ethical Function of Architecture. 1998. Hilde Heynen. Architecture and Modernity. 1999. Jane Rendell, Barbara Penner, and Iain Borden, eds. Gender Space Architecture: An Interdiscliplinary Introduction. 2000. Leslev Naa Norle Lokko, ed. White Papers / Black Marks: Architecture, Race, Culture, 2000. Craig E. Barton, ed. Sites of Memory: Perspectives on Architecture and Race. 2001. Cynthia C. Davidson, ed. Anything. 2001. Ebbe Harder, ed. EAAE Prize 2003-05: Writings in Architectural Education. 2005. Juhani Pallasmaa. The Eyes of the Skin. 2005. Charles Jencks and Karl Kropf, eds. Theories and Manifestoes of Contemporary Architecture. 2006. Peter Zumthor. Thinking Architecture. 2006. Steven Holl, Juhani Pallasmaa, and Alberto Pérez-Gómez. Questions of Perception: Phenomenology of Architecture. 2007. Gail Weiss, ed. Intertwinings: Interdisciplinary Encounters with Merleau-Ponty. 2008.

Homework. You will turn in a homework assignment at the beginning of every lecture discussion. Answer the questions in bullet form or whole sentences as required, typewritten or neatly printed. Put your name in the top right corner and your discussion section just below it. You may discuss strategies for the answers with your classmates, but each final answer should be your own. The final homework score will count at least 60% of your final grade.

Analytical projects. You will complete small, weekly analytical projects as outlined under "Course Organization" and one additional small project to be turned in at the final exam period. As with the homework, you may discuss initial strategies with your classmates, but the final product must be your own. The final analytical score will count no more than 40% of your final grade.

Self-motivation. In a university setting, you should be learning because you want to. To succeed in this course, you will need to possess the self-discipline to keep up a steady pace of work, a passion for learning, and a willingness to risk thinking outside your usual parameters. You must learn to live with the uncertainty of not receiving quick and easy answers and be willing to work through the uncertainty with a good degree of self-direction.

Attendance policy. Since you are attending class only twice a week, each unexcused absence will count as ½ week's absence. Each 2 tardies also counts as ½ week's absence. The first week's unexcused absence has no penalty, but on the first unexcused absence or tardy after that, your final grade will be lowered by one letter grade. An additional final letter grade will be deducted for each additional week missed. Excused absences (as defined by university policy) may be made up on one of the other discussion days or crit days that week and will not lower your final grade.

Academic misconduct. Occurrences of academic misconduct will be handled in accordance with guidelines and procedures outlined in the university's Academic Misconduct Policy. You may view this policy on the university website at http://ww.msstate.edu/web/security.html.

Contact information. 325-2543/v 325-8872/f mccann@caad.msstate.edu Office hours 11-12 Tue or by appointment.

ARC 4313	semester calendar	spring term
Jan		08 WEEK 1 Course Intro. Assign readings.
Jan	13 Alberto Pérez-Gómez, Introduction to Architecture and	
Overview /	the Crisis of Modern Science (9). Rafael Moneo , "The Thing	Discussion / writing critiques.
Over view /	Called Architecture" (3). Elizabeth Grosz, "The Thing" (9).	26 pp
The Rational,	Diane Ghirardo , "The Architecture of Deceit" (5). Discussion /	20 μμ
Modern Subject	homework due.	
of Architecture	20 Adolf Loos, "The Principle of Cladding," "Underclothes,"	22
of Architecture	"Poor Little Rich Man," "Ornament and Crime" (14). Louis	Discussion / writing critiques.
Weeks 1-4	Sullivan, excerpts from <i>Kindergarten Chats</i> . Discussion /	26 pp
	homework due.	20 pp
	27 Walter Benjamin, "Paris, Capital of the Nineteenth	29
	Century" (7). Various early modern architects, architectural	Discussion / writing critiques.
	manifestos (12). Le Corbusier, excerpts from <i>Towards a New</i>	25 рр
<u> </u>	Architecture (6). Discussion / homework due.	05
Feb	03 Robert Venturi , "Complexity and Contradiction in	05
	Architecture" (3). Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown,	Discussion / writing critiques.
	"A Significance for A&P Parking Lots or Learning from Las	28 рр
	Vegas" (11). Michael Graves, "A Case for Figurative	
	Architecture" (4). Peter Eisenman , "Architecture and the	
	Problem of the Rhetorical Figure" (5), "Visions' Unfolding:	
	Architecture in the Age of Electronic Media" (5). Discussion /	
	homework due.	10
The Development	10 Peter Eisenman, "The End of the Classical: The End of	12
The Decentered,	the Beginning, the End of the End" (12). Coop Himmelblau ,	Discussion / writing critiques.
Textual, Digital,	"Architecture Must Blaze" and Lebbeus Woods, "Manifesto"	24 рр
Postmodern	(1). Jean Baudrillard, "Disneyland" (1). Paul Virilio, "The	
Subject of	Overexposed City" (10). Discussion / homework due.	
Architecture	17 Saskia Sassen, "Scale and Span in a Global Digital	19
	World" (3). Rem Koolhaas, "Toward the Contemporary City"	Discussion / writing critiques.
Weeks 5-7	(3). MVRDV, "Metacity/Datatown" (1). Benoît B.	26 pp
	Mandelbrot, "The Fractal Nature of Geometry" (3). Jeffrey	
	Kipnis, "Towards a New Architecture: Folding" (4). Greg	
	Lynn, "Architectural Curvilinearity: The Folded, the Pliant and	
	the Supple" (3), "Animate Form" (3). Ben van Berkel and	
	Caroline Bos, "Radiant Synthetic Effects" (2). Foreign Office	
	Architects, "The Yokohama Project" (1). SHoP, "Versioning"	
	(1). Michael Weinstock, "Morphogenesis and the	
	Mathematics of Emergence" (2). Readings discussion /	
	homework due.	

Mar Architectural Intersubjectivity Weeks 8-10	 24 Christian Norberg-Schulz, "Heidegger's Thinking on Architecture" (8). Karsten Harries, excerpt from <i>The Ethical</i> <i>Function of Architecture</i> (6). Hilde Heynen, excerpt from <i>Architecture and Modernity</i> (9). 03 Maurice Merleau-Ponty, excerpt from "Eye and Mind" (8). Rachel McCann, "On the Hither Side of Depth': A Pedagogy of Engagement" (13), "Entwining the Body and the World: Architectural Design and Experience in the Light of 'Eye and Mind'" (12), Discussion / homework due. 10 Juhani Pallasmaa, "Part 2" of <i>Eyes of the Skin</i> (14). Peter Zumthor, "Ways of Looking at Architecture" (8). Steven Holl, "Intertwining" (4), "Questions of Perception: Phenomenology of Architecture" (1). Discussion / homework due. 	26 Discussion / writing critiques. 23 pp 05 Discussion / writing critiques. 33 pp 12 Discussion / writing critiques. 27 pp
	SPRING	BREAK
The Gendered Subject of Architecture	24 Luce Irigaray, "Women on the Market" (11). Simone de Beauvoir, excerpt from <i>The Second Sex</i> (3). Judith Butler, excerpt from "Subversive Bodily Acts" (2). Harry Brod, Excerpts from "The Case for Men's Studies" (5). Audre Lorde, "The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House" (3). Elizabeth Grosz, excerpt from "Woman, <i>Chora</i> , Dwelling" (4). Discussion / homework due.	26 No class – ACSA meeting. 28 pp
Weeks 11-12 Apr	31 Mary McLeod, "Everyday and 'Other' Spaces" (13). Daphne Spain, excerpts from "The Contemporary Workplace" (7). Denise Scott Brown, "Room at the Top? Sexism and the Star System in Architecture" (7). Susana Torre. "Claiming Public Space: The Mothers of Plaza de Mayo" (5). Discussion / homework due.	02 Discussion / writing critiques. 32 pp
The Subject of	07 Lesley Naa Norle Lokko, excerpt from "Introduction" to White Papers / Black Marks (14). bell hooks, "Choosing the Margin as a Space of Radical Openness" (7). Lesley Naa Norle Lokko, excerpt from "Body.Memory.Map" (6). Discussion / homework due.	09 Discussion / writing critiques. 27 pp
Color in Architecture Weeks 13-14	14 Craig Evan Barton , "Duality and Invisibility: Race and Memory in the Urbanism of the American South" (8). Walter J. Hood Jr. and Mellissa Erickson , "Storing Memories in the Yard" (13). Mabel O. Wilson . "Between Rooms 307" (8). Felecia Davis , "(Un)Covering / (Re)Covering" 4). Discussion / homework due.	16 Discussion / writing critiques. 33 pp
	21 WEEK 15 JURY WEEK 28 EXAM WEEK Tuesday 8-11 turn in final analytical project	23 NO CLASS