Schedule

American Architectural History II: The 20th Century

Prof. Jorge Otero-Pailos

ARCHA4341_001_2014_1

Meeting Time: T 11:00A-01:00P

Meeting Location: AVERY HALL 600

Class Schedule:

JAN 21:

Session 1 - Aestheticized History: The Beaux Arts

JAN 28:

Session 2 - Original History: The Chicago School

FEB 4:

Session 3 - Outstripped History: Frank Lloyd Wright’s Prairie Style.

Visit to the MoMA show on FL Wright immediately following class 2-4pm

FEB 11:

Session 4- Field Trip to Usonia. 9am-5pm

FEB 18:

Session 5 - Fantastic History: Usonia, Colonial Revivals and Early Suburbs

FEB 25:

Session 6 - Vacuous History: Art Deco and International Style

MAR 4:

Session 7- Midterm presentations 11am-3pm class

MAR 11:

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Session 8 - Projected History: Postwar Modernism:

MAR 18:

Session 9: SPRING BREAK

MAR 25:

Session 10 - Objective History: International Corporate Modernism

APR 1:

Session 11: Research Paper Workshop session

APR 8:

Session 12 - Authentic History: Brutalism

APR 15:

Session 13 - Revolutionary History: Postmodernism

APR 22:

Session 14 - Final Presentations, 11am-3pm Class

APR 29:

Session 15- Fragmentary History: Critical Regionalism and Deconstruction

Session 1 - Aestheticized History: American Beaux Arts

Class Plan

Academic Eclecticism and homogeneity; the aesthetics of progressivism and cosmopolitanism; architecture and urbanism for bourgeois crowds; palaces for culture and commerce; the emergence of an American architectural profession.

Required Readings:

Herbert Croly, "New York as the American Metropolis," Architectural Record 13(1904), 193 206


Sharon Irish, Cass Gilbert: Modern Traditionalist (New York, 1999), 74-113

Rydell, Robert W. "The World's Columbian Exposition of 1893: The Racist Underpinnings of a Utopian Artifact." Journal of
Roth 286-298, 317-324.

**Recommended Readings:**


John Belle and Maxinne Leighton *Grand Central Terminal Gateway* (New York, 2000)


Leland M. Roth, *McKim, Mead & White, Architects* (New York, 1983)


Max Page, *The Creative Destruction of Manhattan, 1900-1940* (Chicago, 1999)


**Important Books:**


Ernest Flagg, *The École des Beaux Arts*, (New York, 1894)

*Plan of Chicago prepared under the direction of the Commercial Club during the years MCMVI, MCMVII, and MCMVIII, by Daniel H. Burnham and Edward H. Bennett, architects*; ed. by Charles Moore (Chicago, The Commercial Club, 1909)

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**Session 2 - Original History: The Chicago School**
Class Plan

Inventing the skyscraper through the integration of new technologies and the reorganization of office work; the consolidation of the skyline and the central business district; Mnemonic devices

Required Readings:


Daniel Bluestone, Constructing Chicago (New Haven, 1991), 104-151


Carol Willis, Form Follows Finance: Skyscrapers and Skylines in New York and Chicago (New York, 1995), 67-89

Roth, 265-285.

Recommended Readings:

Elizabeth Cromley, Alone Together: New York's Early Apartments (Ithaca, 1990)


Olivier Zunz, Making America Corporate, 1880–1920 (Chicago, 1990)

Alan Trachtenberg, The Incorporation of America: Culture and Society in the Gilded Age (New York, 1982).


Sarah B. Landau with Carl Condit, Rise of the New York Skyscraper, 1865–1913 (New Haven, 1996)


Important Books:

H. H. (Henry Hobson) Richardson, Designs for new county buildings, Allegheny County, Penn., (17 photoengravings in album 56 x 76 cm.), [1885?]

John Nolen, city planner, Hale J. Walker--Justin R. Hartzog, associates, A comprehensive city plan for San Diego, California, prepared for the City planning commission, the Harbor commission, the Park commission of San Diego, [San Diego] 1926.

Hon. William E. Cameron, History of the World's Columbian exposition, (Chicago, Columbian history company, 1893)

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Session 3 - Outstripped History: Prairie Style

**Class Plan**

1900-1920s: Arts and Crafts; Progressive vs. conservative politics of design; regionalism and global culture; "household science" and the women's movement; prefabrication, mail-order and the aesthetics of invention.

**Required Readings:**

Frank Lloyd Wright, "Building the New House," in *An Autobiography* (1932), 164-71


Roth 299-317, 381-395.

**Recommended Readings:**


Carla Lind, Frank Lloyd Wright's California Houses, (San Francisco: Pomegranate Artbook, 1996).

Jack Quinan, Frank Lloyd Wright's Larkin Building, Myth and Fact (New York, 1987)


**Important books:**

Frank Lloyd Wright, *Ausgeführte Bauten* (Berlin : Verlegt bei Ernst Wasmuth, 1911) [AKA "The Wasmuth Portfolio"]

Frank Lloyd Wright, *An Autobiography* (1932)
Greene and Greene Architects, architectural drawings collection at Avery Library.

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Session 4: Field Trip to Usonia (9am-5pm)

Session 5 - Colonial Revivals and Early Suburbs

Class Plan

1910s-1920s: Spanish Revival in Puerto Rico, the Southwest, and Florida; British Colonial Revival in the Northeast and Southeast. Total-experience-design in hotels, theaters, movie houses, universities, Sugar and mining company towns, and department stores; debates about ornament, excess and kitsch.

Required Readings:


John Margolies, Ticket to Paradise: American Movie Theatres and How We Had Fun (Boston, 1991)


Roth 346-360.

Recommended Readings:

Chris Wilson, *The Myth of Santa Fe: Creating a Modern Regional Tradition* (Albuquerque, 1997)


Important Books:

Sylvester Baxter, *Spanish-colonial architecture in Mexico*, (with photographic plates by Henry Greenwood Peabody and plans by Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue), (Boston, J. B. Millet, 1901).


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**Session 6 - Vacuous History: Art Deco and International Style**

**Class Plan**

1930s-1940s: European vs. American Modernism; Art Deco, Modern Classicism, International Style; The corporate office tower; Buildings for expanding government agencies (federal, state, and municipal); public space, public buildings and the "public sector."

**Required Readings:**


Roth 370-381.

**Recommended Readings:**


Federico Bucci *Albert Kahn, Architect of Ford* (New York, 1993)


Kurt Ackermann *Building for Industry* (Godalming, 1991)


**Important Books:**

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Session 8 - Projected History: Postwar Modernism

Class Plan

1945-1960s: The "normal family" in the suburbs; promoting modernism through model houses and museum exhibits; mass-production and custom-building; exporting American values; the dilemma of public housing

Required Readings:


Elizabeth Mock, Built in USA since 1932 (New York, 1945), pp. 9-47


Beatriz Colomina, "The Lawn at War," in Domesticity at War, (Cambridge: The MIT Press, 2007), p114-144

Roth 427-433, 454-470

Recommended Readings:

Clifford Clark, Jr., "Ranch-House Suburbia Ideals and Realities," in Lary May, ed., Recasting America: Culture and Politics in the Age of Cold War (Chicago, 1989), 171-191


Deborah Dietsch, Classic Modern: Midcentury Modern at Home (New York, 2000)


Renée Chow, Suburban Space: The Fabric of Dwelling (Berkeley, 2002)

Andrew Hurly, Diners, Bowling Alleys and Trailer Parks: Chasing the American Dream in Postwar Consumer Culture (New York, 2001)
John F. Bauman, et.al., eds., From Tenements to the Taylor Homes (University Park, Pa., 2000)


**Important Books:**


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**Session 9 - NO CLASS-- SPRING BREAK**

**Session 10 - Objective History: Corporate Modernism and the New Monumentality**

**Class Plan**

international corporate culture; SOM and architectural bureaucracy; the Cold War and the "New Monumentality."

**Required Readings:**


Roth 412-426, 440-445.

**Recommended Readings:**

Reyner Banham *The Architecture of the Well-Tempered Environment* (Chicago, 1969)


**Important Books:**

Walter Gropius, *The Scope of Total Architecture* (New York, 1955)


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Session 11: Class workshop

Session 12 - Authentic History: Brutalism
Class Plan

Revolts against corporate architecture; The reinvention of Beaux-Arts pedagogy as modernism, the turn towards history, humanism, existentialism, search for abstract symbolism, camouflage and other military influences on architectural pedagogy, problems of modern church design, expressive potential of Brutalism, Saarinen's neo-expressionism; glass vs concrete, Kahn's search for monumentality; Labatut's Eucharistic Architecture.

Required Readings:


Recommended Readings:


Jose Luis Sert, "Can Our Cities Survive?" (1942)


Important Books:


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Session 13 - Revolutionary History: Postmodernism
Class Plan

Architectural phenomenology and the origins of postmodernism, supergraphics, vernacular influences, Pop/populism, pluralism, counterculture, technophilia, advertizing, Whites vs Grays, genius loci, structuralism, the language of architecture.

Required Readings:


Recommended Readings:


Karel Ann Marling, ed., Designing the Disney Theme Parks (Montreal, 1997)

Michael Sorkin, ed., Variations on a Theme Park: Scenes from the New American City and the End of Public Space (New York, 1992)

Deborah Slaton and Rebecca A. Shiffer, eds., Preserving the Recent Past (Washington, DC, 1995)


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Session 14: Final Presentations 9am-1pm

Session 15 - Fragmentary History: Critical Regionalism and Deconstruction

Class Plan

Politics of practice; local vs. global; tectonics, redefining eclecticism; formalism; feminism; post-structuralism; neo-modernism; the computer and authorship; place and placelessness; architecture as autonomous art.

Required Readings:


Recommended Readings:

Jorge Otero-Pailos, Architecture's Historical Turn: Phenomenology and the Rise of the Postmodern, (Minneapolis and London: University of Minnesota Press, 2010), 183-262


(February 1989): 23-60


**Important Books:**

Kenneth Frampton, Peter Eisenman, and Mario Gandelsonas, *Oppositions Journal.*


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