Syllabus

vs31@columbia.edu
Architecture A4332
Thursday 2:00pm-4:00pm
115 Avery Hall
Seminar Shelf 359

European Urbanism and Cartography 16th-18th Century

This course takes cartography as a point of departure for understanding the design of some major European cities in the Early Modern Period (16th - 18th centuries). It examines how maps document and influence their built environment. It gives students the tools to see how they function as carriers of deeper scientific, political and rhetorical meanings. The class will focus on a few major European cities and students will work with original maps in New York collections. A session in Avery Classics focuses on how to study works on paper. Throughout the course, students are encouraged to criticize digital presentations of historic maps and make parallels with contemporary methods of cartography such as Google Earth and GIS.

The first half of the semester will involve reading discussions and lectures about the different techniques of cartography and the major cartographers of the period. The second half of the course will be lectures and individual presentations of case study cities and their most famous maps (Rome, Paris, London). Participation is encouraged and welcome at all times and it is hoped that the presentation sessions will be exciting collaborative moments for group learning. For their presentation, students choose one original map from the list below of significant maps of major European cities in Avery Library, Butler Library, and the New York Public Library.

Assignments:

30%: Presentation + attendance
50%: Individual paper on your map (15 pages plus footnotes, illustrations and bibliography) -- due May 5
20%: Mid-Term exam covering readings and terminology
January 23

Introduction: urbanism and cartography in the Early Modern Period

Readings:


January 30

The tools and symbols of map making


February 6

**Representing the city through different formats: plan, profile, bird's eye,**


February 13

**City Models and Google Earth**


February 20
Precinct Maps: Administrative maps, Cadastral maps, Parishes, Eruvs, Ghettos, Fortifications

Eyal Weizman and Manuel Herz, "Between City and Desert: Constructing the North London Eruv" AA Files, No. 34 (Autumn 1997), pp. 68-76 -- JSTOR


European Science Foundation, Mapping Europe’s Historic Boundaries and Borders: An Exploratory Workshop http://www.geog.port.ac.uk/hist-bound/

Feb. 27: City views, guidebooks, and descriptions

Fernando Marias "From the 'Ideal City' to Real Cities, Perspectives, Chorographies, Models, Vedute", in Henry A. Millon, Ed., The Triumph of the Baroque, Architecture in Europe 1600-1750, Milan, Bompiani, 1999, pp. 219-239.


Website comparing views of Vasi to map of Nolli http://vasi.uoregon.edu/works_magnificenze.html


Veduti by Canaletto, Guardi, Bellotto

Descriptions by Lassels, Pepys, Mercier

March 6: Trip to Avery Classics. Presentation by Carolyn Yerkes, Curator of Avery Classics.

March 13: Mid-Term and individual student meetings
One hour written exam about readings and technical concepts covered up until this point in the semester

March 20 - NO CLASS (Spring Break)

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS:

March 27: Rome

April 3: Rome

April 10: Paris

April 17: Paris

April 24: London
Books on Closed Reserve


Books on Reserve Shelf 359


Katharine A. Harmon, *You are Here: Personal geographies and other maps of the imagination*, New York, Rizzoli, 1994 Avery AA520 R4721

William M. Ivins, *How prints look : photographs with commentary / William M.*
Rev. and expanded ed. / revised by Marjorie B. Cohn, Boston : Beacon Press, c1987. Avery NE850 Iv531


**Online resources**

online version of the exhibition "In thy map securely saile": *Maps, Atlases, Charts and Globes from the Lawrence H. Slaughter Collection at the NYPL, 1998*

http://web-static.nypl.org/exhibitions/mapexhib/index.html


**Exhibitions**

*The Image of the European City from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment*, directed by Cesare De Seta, Venice, Museo Correr, February 8 - May 18

**Paper Topics and Bibliography**

**London**

Georg Braun and Franz Hogenberg, Londinium, in *Civitates orbis terrarum, Civitates orbis terrarum = Cities"*
of the world: 363 engravings revolutionize the view of the world: complete edition of the colour plates of 1572-1617 / Georg Braun and Franz Hogenberg; edited by Stephan Füssel; based on the copy in the Historisches Köln: Taschen, c2008. (facsimile: Avery AA9000 B7311 F) Original in NYPL (see Paris below)


Thomas Lediard, *A plan of the ancient city of Westminster*, London: s.n., ca. 1740

Avery Classics AA9505 K584 FFF

**Rome**


Leonardo Bufalini, *Pianta di Roma*, 1551 (facsimile Avery AA1115 B863)


Giovanni Battista Piranesi, *Campus Martius antique urbis*, 1762 (Avery Classics AE659 P662 v. 10F). Avery-facsimiles in FF section

- Marguerite Yourcenar, Richard Howard, trans., *The Dark Brain of Piranesi and other Essays*


- Jim Tice, Erik Steiner, Allan Ceen and Dennis Beyer, “Imago Urbis: Visualizing the City”, [http://vasi.uoregon.edu/imagourbis.html](http://vasi.uoregon.edu/imagourbis.html)
- Allan Ceen, “The Portrait of a City”, Introductory Essay for the facsimile of the Nolli Map
- University of Oregon, Nolli Website, [http://nolli.uoregon.edu/preface.html](http://nolli.uoregon.edu/preface.html)


-especially "Prospetto dell'Alma Città di Roma visto del Monte Gianicolo"

Website comparing views of Vasi to map of Nolli [http://vasi.uoregon.edu/works_magnificenze.html](http://vasi.uoregon.edu/works_magnificenze.html)
Paris

Georg Braun and Franz Hogenberg, Paris, in Civitates orbis terrarum, 1572, map I-7


