EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

ART HISTORY

School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Visual Art Art History

FA / ARTH 2110 3.0 SECTION A
CLASSICAL AND MEDIEVAL ARCHITECTURE
FALL 2019 / WINTER 2020

Last Modified Date: 08/20/2019

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Offers an examination of the form, function, iconography, practice, theory and setting of Classical and Medieval architecture. Chronological and thematic approaches are used, and works are investigated in their appropriate historical context with the view to understanding their meaning for contemporaries. The roles of patron and master mason/architect in the creative process are explored, and technical aspects are explored. Prerequisite: None CCE: FA/VISA 2110 6.0; FA/ARTH 2110 6.0

INSTRUCTOR(S)

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thurlby, Malcolm</td>
<td>Sec. A / BLEN / F</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

The form, function, iconography, practice, theory and setting of architecture are examined from ancient Greece to the present day. Chronological and thematic approaches are used, and works are investigated in their appropriate historical context with the view to understanding their meaning for contemporaries. The roles of patron and master mason/architect in the creative process are explored, and technical aspects are explored. A walking tour of Toronto is an integral part of this course.

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday 1:00 – 2:15 or by appointment.

RECOMMENDED READING:

Marvin Trachtenberg and Isabelle Hyman, Architecture from Prehistory to Modernity, 2nd edn (Prentice Hall Inc., 2002). This book includes a good bibliography; references to some important recent publications are given in the Weekly Programme and Supplementary Bibliography.


Christopher Wilson, The Gothic Cathedral (London: Thames and Hudson, viii).

EVALUATION:

One short essay, 1000 words, excluding bibliography and notes, 10%.
One essay 2500-3000 words, excluding bibliography and notes, 50%.
One ‘take-home’ slide examination, 40%.

Last day to drop course without receiving a grade: November 8th.
WEEKLY PROGRAMME:

WEEK 1: Greek Architecture and its impact in Europe and North America after 1750
  Reading: Trachtenberg and Hyman, pp 91-115.

WEEKS 2 AND 3: Roman Architecture and its impact.
  Reading: Trachtenberg and Hyman, pp 117-157.

WEEK 4: Early Christian and Byzantine Architecture.
  Reading: Trachtenberg and Hyman, pp 161-183.

WEEK 5 Carolingian and Ottonian Architecture
  Reading: Trachtenberg and Hyman, pp 185-196.

WEEK 6: THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS

WEEK 7: Anglo-Saxon and First Romanesque Architecture.
  Reading: Trachtenberg and Hyman, pp 185-196.

WEEKS 8 AND 9: Romanesque Architecture.
  Reading: Trachtenberg and Hyman, pp 196-211.

FIRST ESSAY DUE IN CLASS OCTOBER 29

WEEK 10 Gothic Architecture and its impact.
  Reading: Trachtenberg and Hyman, pp 223-273.

WEEK 11: Walking Tour of Toronto.

  Reading: Trachtenberg and Hyman, pp 223-273.

SLIDE TEST DUE IN CLASS NOVEMBER 19

SECOND ESSAY DUE IN CLASS DECEMBER 3

SUPPLEMENTARY BIBLIOGRAPHY:

1. Edson Armi,
   Dana Arnold, Reading Architectural History (Routledge, 2002).
   Xavier Barral i Altet, The Early Middle Ages: from late Antiquity to A.D. 1000 (Cologne: Taschen, 1997).


John Elliott, “A church as it should be”: *The Cambridge Camden Society and its Influence* (Stamford: Shaun Tyas, 2000).


D.S. Robertson, *Greek and Roman Architecture* (Cambridge University Press


  https://dalspace.library.dal.ca/handle/10222/64688;
  http://hdl.handle.net/10222/64704

  https://dalspace.library.dal.ca/bitstream/handle/10222/73434/vol42_1_21_42.pdf?sequence=1
  Malcolm Thurlby, ‘St Andrew’s Presbyterian Church Niagara-on-the-Lake (Ontario) and Church Design in Upper Canada down to 1840’, *Georgian Group Journal*, 26 (2018), 247-262.

ESSAYS

It is important that we consult closely on all aspects of essay writing. The first essay will be based on a building in Toronto (see below). For the major essay, you should select a topic by the end of the third week of the respective term; there are some suggested topics listed below but we are open to ideas for research on all aspects of architectural history. One of the key factors is to make sure that appropriate literature is available on the subject you plan to research; that is where we can help. You are strongly advised to discuss your intended topic with your tutorial leader and/or me so that we may assist with bibliographical and organizational matters. The next step is for you to go ahead with the research, always keeping in mind that you have to organize the material into a coherent thesis. I tend to work with a collection of key points and images which I try to arrange in as straightforward a fashion as possible. Then, each point can be amplified/embroidered as necessary. You should aim at having an outline completed two weeks before the due date of the essay. Once again, you are strongly advised to consult with us to discuss the outline of your essay. You are now ready to prepare the final draft. Use a correct and consistent form of footnotes or endnotes in citing references - consult standard manuals of form. Footnotes (endnotes) are required not only when you quote from a particular source but also when you take up an idea, theory or point from any source. Remember that penalties for plagiarism are severe - see the York Undergraduate Calendar. No extensions are given for essays except for valid medical reasons (medical certificate required). Essays handed in late will be penalized one full grade point per day.

FIRST ESSAY DUE IN CLASS OCTOBER 28

The purpose of this essay is to hone your understanding of the Greco-Roman architectural tradition through the detailed observation of a building in Toronto. In a 1000-word paper (4 typed, double-spaced pages), carefully describe the use of classical architectural motifs in one of the buildings listed below. You are not required to give a detailed historical discussion of the building itself; just the essentials of location, architect(s) and date(s) which may be found, for example, in Patricia McHugh, Toronto Architecture: A City Guide (Toronto 1985). You are required to make detailed, first-hand observations of the building and to record them accurately. Take careful notes and make sketches; it is also a good idea to take photographs of the building. Sketches and photographs may be used to illustrate your essay and references to these illustrations should be included parenthetically in the text. It is essential that you cite specific Greek and/or Roman parallels for features in the building; give references to illustrations to the Greek and Roman buildings you cite in Trachtenberg and Hyman, and include photocopies of illustrations from other sources. It is also important that you suggest reasons for the use of classical motifs in the Toronto building you discuss.

Choose ONE of the following:

St Lawrence Hall, 151 King Street East - exterior.
Osgoode Hall, 116-138 Queen Street West – facades of east, centre and west blocks
St Paul’s Church, 93 Power Street at Queen – exterior
Former Seventh Post Office, 10 Toronto Street – façade
Union Station – facade and booking hall
Toronto Historical Board, 205 Yonge Street, former Bank of Toronto – exterior
Hockey Hall of Fame, 30 Yonge Street, former Bank of Montreal – exterior

Alternatively, you may write on a building of your choice in which there is reference to the Greco-Roman tradition. If you choose this option it is essential that you agree on a topic with your tutorial leader and me and that your essay is fully illustrated with good photographs.

SOME SUGGESTED SECOND ESSAY TOPICS

The Parthenon
The Pantheon
The Basilica of Maxentius
Roman constructional techniques
Roman architectural articulation
The Basilica in Byzantium down to 550
Hagia Sophia, Constantinople
Baptisteries and Mausolea
San Vitale, Ravenna
The pre-Carolingian Basilica
The Iconography of Carolingian Architecture
The role of the 'copy' in early medieval architecture down to 1100
Tradition versus innovation in Ottonian Architecture
First Romanesque Architecture
Anglo-Saxon Architecture
The effect of the Norman Conquest on English Architecture
The Anglo-Norman Castle
The Iconography of Romanesque Architecture
Articulation and liturgy in Romanesque architecture
What is Roman about Romanesque Architecture?
The Romanesque Fabric of Durham Cathedral
Abbot Suger and Saint-Denis
French Gothic Architecture 1140-1194
Chartres Cathedral, 1194-1220
Bourges Cathedral
St Hugh's Choir, Lincoln Cathedral
Westminster Abbey 1245-1269
Integration of the arts in the Decorated Period
The English Gothic Vault
The 'Thick Wall' in English Gothic Architecture
Christ Church, Fredericton, New Brunswick
St James Anglican Cathedral, Toronto

**USES AND ABUSES OF THE INTERNET**

The Internet can be both a blessing and a curse. On the plus side, most library catalogues are available on-line. Therefore, you are able to do things like catalogue searches at home or on your laptop and avoid the possibility of having to wait for a terminal in the library. Similarly, an increasing amount of archival material is now available on-line; much historical material can now be accessed this way. On the down side, it is often assumed that a particular web site will provide accurate and the most up-to-date information on a topic. This is absolutely **NOT** the case! Many web sites are very poorly researched and may even give inaccurate information. Always remember that web sites can be posted by anyone; there is no check on the system. By contrast, seriously researched academic publications - whether books from academic presses or articles in academic journals - have undergone a peer-review process, one that involved two, three or even four 'expert' readers. Thus, it makes good sense to make full use of traditional published sources in the library – periodical articles in specialized journals are especially useful - and to be 'on your guard' when using the internet.
Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

Moodle @ York University