

**FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN, UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
INTRODUCTION TO ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN**

**ARchitectural STudies 201 H(2-1T)**

**FALL 2013**

**INSTRUCTORS**

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**INTRODUCTION**

This course is an introduction to architecture as an artistic and scientific endeavour as well as an examination of its purpose and intentions, its processes, and its products. Students will develop an understanding of the social, cultural, historical, technological, economic, and natural context influencing the design of buildings and other objects.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Outline the things that architects and others do to produce buildings. By extension, they will be able to tell what architecture students learn to do.
- Summarize and discuss current issues in architecture and design, based on class lectures, public events, and/or news sources.
- Describe (orally, textually, graphically) and interpret key aesthetic, social, technological, and other characteristics of buildings in Calgary.
- Represent graphically and analyze a space familiar to them (e.g., their home or apartment). • Explore ways to adapt or modify that same space.

**TEACHING APPROACH**

The course is lecture based, delivered by the course instructors and guest lecturers. There is also tutorial time each week to facilitate class discussion, and provide feedback in the preparation of student deliverables.

**COURSE DELIVERABLES**

- (10%) Participation/discussion/in-class assignments and group work/attendance.
- (20%) Response papers 1-2 (10 percent each).
- (20%) Building analysis presentation
- (10%) Measured drawing of the home space
- (20%) Annotated graphic analysis of the home space
- (20%) Application of design ideas to the home space

**MEANS OF EVALUATION**

During the semester, each student will produce two short papers (typically 2-3 pages), participate in section/group discussions, give one short presentation in their discussion group, produce one measured

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drawing, one annotated graphic analysis, and one elementary design project. There will be no midterm or final exams.

The papers will be responses to the current subject matter in the course (lectures, discussions, public events), and are designed so that students can explore the language and issues of architecture and design. The short presentation will be a description and interpretation of a Calgary building in relation to topics covered in the course. The measured drawing will be of a portion of the space they consider their home, while the annotated graphic analysis and the final design assignment will apply ideas from the course to the modification of that same home space. There will also be in-class writing, group discussion, and other assignments, especially in the discussion groups, all of which will be reflected in the portion of the grade for participation. We will give out more detailed handouts and/or talk about the papers in class before they are due. (The assignments for Response Papers 1 and 2 are found at the end of this syllabus.)

**GRADING SCALE**

Assignments will be evaluated by percentage grades, with their letter grade equivalents as shown below.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Grade Point Value</b>	<b>4-Point Range</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Description</b>
A+	4.00	4.00	92.5-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	85-92.49	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	80-84.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	76-79.99	Good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	73-75.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-72.99	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	66-69.99	All final grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	63-65.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	60-62.99	
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	56-59.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	50-55.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-49.99	

**COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

- Attendance, preparation, and participation in discussions is expected.
- This course may require (likely will require) the attendance of events and the exploration of buildings off campus. The students are expected to plan their own off campus trips to fit with their own schedules.
- Complete daily readings by the time of the appropriate class meeting each week.
- Hand in assignments on time; grades will be reduced for each day assignments are late.

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● Academic honesty (see notes below). Plagiarism will result in an automatic F. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:(a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),(b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,(c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,(d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course(although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean, and dealt with as per the regulations in the University of Calgary Graduate Calendar. If you are unsure what plagiarism is, see the description in the University Calendar: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html)

**OTHER NOTES**

1. Written work, term assignments and other course related work may only be submitted by e-mail if prior permission to do so has been obtained from the course instructor. Submissions must come from an official University of Calgary (ucalgary) email account.
2. It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237.  
(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>) Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.
3. Information regarding the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>) and how this impacts the receipt and delivery of course material.
4. Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>)
5. Safewalk information (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>)
6. Contact Info for: Student Union (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/contact>); Graduate Student representative( <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>) and Student Ombudsman's Office (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/quality-education/academic-services/student-rights>).

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**COURSE READINGS**

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There are two required books available at the U of C Bookstore:

James F. O’Gorman, *ABC of Architecture* (Univ. of Pennsylvania Press, 2002)

Hazel Conway and Rowan Roenisch, *Understanding Architecture*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Routledge, 2005)

In addition, there will be some readings online that can be linked to through the course Blackboard site.

**SCHEDULE OF CLASS THEMES AND READINGS (Subject to Change)**

Monday/Wednesday 12:00 to 12:50 in MFH 164; Fridays in Discussion Group breakout rooms.

**WEEK 1 Introduction**

M Sept 09: Course Introduction (MB/BW)

W Sept 11: What is architecture? (MB)

**Reading:** *ABC of Architecture*, xi-xii, 1-6, 7-16

F Sept 13: Discussion groups

**WEEK 2 First response paper due in Friday Discussion Group**

M Sept 16: What is design? (BW)

W Sept 18: History of architecture in one lecture (DM)

**Reading:** *ABC of Architecture*, 17-29 ++ (keep going!)

F Sept 20: Discussion groups (First response paper due)

**WEEK 3**

M Sept 23: Representing architecture in measured drawings (BW)

W Sept 25: What are the elements of architecture? (DM)

**Reading:** *ABC of Architecture*, 31-63

F Sept 27: Discussion groups

**WEEK 4 Measured drawing assignment due in Friday Discussion Group**

M Sept 30: Contexts of architecture (BW/MB)

**Reading:** *ABC of Architecture*, 65-87

W Oct 02: How to look at architecture (MB/BW)

**Reading:** *ABC of Architecture*, 89-107

*Understanding Architecture*, “Periodisation,” 189-192

F Oct 04: Discussion groups: Sample Presentations (Measured drawing assignment due)

**WEEK 5 Presentations on a Calgary building in section, weeks 5-8**

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M Oct 07: International perspectives (Phil Vandermey)  
W Oct 09: Calgary perspectives: the neighbourhoods (Bev Sandalack, EVDS)

**Readings:** *Understanding Architecture*, 193-213 Readings:  
Rhys Phillips, "Prairie villa: house on a hill, Calgary, Alberta"  
*Canadian Architect* (Oct. 2001), 16-18  
Leslie Jen, "Rooms with a view [Beale-Sturgess house, Calgary]"  
*Canadian Architect* (Aug. 2004), 28-30  
David A. Down, "Watershed: The Water Centre, Manchester  
Yards, Calgary, Alberta," *Canadian architect* (Jan. 2008), 15-19  
(All of these have persistent links on Blackboard).

F Oct 11: Discussion groups: Presentations begin  
**Reading:** *Understanding Architecture*, 142-166

**Week 6 Second response paper due on Friday in Discussion Group**

M Oct 14: CLASS CANCELLED DUE TO THANKSGIVING  
W Oct 16: Architecture and the Digital Platform (TBD)  
**Reading:** Brank Kolarevic, *Architecture in the Digital Age: Design and Manufacturing* (Spon Press; Taylor & Francis, 2003), 1-12  
(required). Three more chapters of this are made available for you to read at your option. All required and optional chapters are on Blackboard.  
F Oct 18: Discussion groups, Presentation of Calgary building, weeks 5-8 (Second response paper due)

**Week 7**

M Oct 21: Canadian perspectives (MB)  
**Reading** Ian Chodikoff, "On the road with Rochon [interview]." *Canadian Architect* (March 2006): 40-42.  
Persistent link on Blackboard.  
W Oct 23: Personal perspectives 1 (Jeremy Sturgess, Sturgess Architects)  
Oct. 25: Discussion groups, Presentation of Calgary building, weeks 5-8

**Week 8**

M Oct 28: Building Technology: Structure and System (Loraine Fowlow)  
**Reading:** *Understanding Architecture*, 110-141  
W Oct 30: Personal perspectives 2 (Jane Pendergast)  
F Nov 1: Discussion groups, Presentation of Calgary building, weeks 5-8

**Week 9 Annotated Graphic of Spatial Analysis Due in Discussion Group**

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- M Nov 4: How is architecture represented? (Catherine Hamel)  
**Reading:** *Understanding Architecture*, 82-109
- W Nov 7: Calgary perspectives: downtown (David Down, City of Calgary)  
**Reading:** Centre City Plan, City of Calgary Land Use Planning and Policy, 2007, pages 9-12, 19-24, 104-110, 140-142.
- This is found at: <http://www.calgary.ca/PDA/LUPP/Documents/Publications/centre-city-plan-one.pdf>
- F Nov 9: Discussion groups

**Week 10**

- M Nov 11: NO CLASSES DUE TO REMEMBRANCE DAY
- W Nov 13: What is the design process? (BW)  
**Reading:** *Understanding Architecture*, 9-32
- F Nov 15: Discussion groups

**Week 11**

- M Nov 18: How do architects design houses? (John Brown, EVDS and Housebrand)  
**Reading:** *Understanding Architecture*, 55-81
- W Nov 20: How do architects design things? (MB)
- F Nov 22: Discussion groups, mini-design charrettes

**Week 12 Design assignments due in discussion group this week**

- M Nov 26: Contemporary issues: sustainability (BW)  
**Reading:** TBA
- W Nov 28: Education and the architecture profession (MB)

**Readings:**

The following pages from the website of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada  
[http://www.raic.org/architecture\\_architects/what\\_is\\_architecture/index\\_e.htm](http://www.raic.org/architecture_architects/what_is_architecture/index_e.htm)  
[http://www.raic.org/architecture\\_architects/what\\_is\\_practice/index\\_e.htm](http://www.raic.org/architecture_architects/what_is_practice/index_e.htm)  
[http://www.raic.org/architecture\\_architects/what\\_is\\_an\\_architect/index\\_e.htm](http://www.raic.org/architecture_architects/what_is_an_architect/index_e.htm)  
[http://www.raic.org/architecture\\_architects/becoming\\_an\\_architect/index\\_e.htm](http://www.raic.org/architecture_architects/becoming_an_architect/index_e.htm)

- F Nov 30: Discussion groups: Pinups of Design Assignment

**Week 13**

- M Dec 2: How do you experience architecture? (BW/MB)  
**Reading:** *Understanding Architecture*, 213-219
- W Dec 5: Architects and culture (pop or otherwise) (BW/MB)  
**Reading:** TBA
- Dec. 6: Discussion Groups: Reviews of Design Assignment

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**Response Paper 1: Thinking about Architecture**

To write this paper, choose a spot on campus or in the city where you can sit for a while to pause and look around you at the architecture. You might be at a café, the library, perhaps the atrium of Murray Fraser Hall just before class. Please choose a spot that is not your home or room in residence (we will focus on those home spaces later in the course).

Referring to the course readings so far, discuss in your response paper how at least one of the three Vitruvian factors affects the space you are in. As O’Gorman writes, architecture is the sum of an equation made from utilitas, firmitas, and venustas—or, function, structure, and beauty (for “beauty” we might substitute “aesthetic” or “appearance”).

The purpose of this response paper is to begin to parse out or dissect the significant factors that result in the experience and appearance of a space. Describe one or more of the elements of the architecture around you, and try to explain how they are necessary to the function, stability, or beauty of the building. A synthetic thinker or writer might consider how all three factors affect one element of a building.

Practicalities:

Quote or paraphrase the course readings to this point at least twice. Your paper should be typed, double-spaced, stapled, and no more than 3 pages in length.

Due:

Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup> in discussion groups.

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**Response Paper 2: Architectural and Design Discourse**

Response Paper 2 asks you to immerse yourself in discourses about architecture and design. To do that, you will write a response paper reflecting on what you learned from a lecture, event, or exhibit.

In the paper, identify the key architecture or design issue (or the architecture and design issue most interesting to you) discussed by the lecturer, debated in a public forum, or explored in an exhibit. First, briefly explain the issue in the terms of the lecturer/forum/exhibit. Are specific solutions, evidence, or examples offered for the issue? What are they, in the terms of the lecturer/forum/exhibit? Then, consider how the issue relates to what we have read or discussed so far in the course. For example, does the issue illuminate, expand, contradict, clarify or confuse the knowledge gained so far in the course? In other words, how did the lecture/exhibit/etc. resonate with your readings in this class?

For example, if you were to write a response paper to Wylant and Monteyne's October 3<sup>rd</sup> lecture on Calgary's City Hall and Municipal Building, you might say that the central issue raised was that of architecture's ability to communicate. Citing O'Gorman, you might note that architecture communicates through metaphor and quotation (p. 90-91). Then you'd describe briefly a couple points made (or examples given) by Wylant and Monteyne illustrating the idea of architectural communication through metaphor and quotation. Finally, you might bring it back to the course readings, discussing how Wylant and Monteyne's analyses did or did not help your comprehension of, or ability to mobilize for yourself, the idea of architectural communication proposed by O'Gorman.

**Practicalities:**

Quote or paraphrase the lecturer/exhibit at least once, and your course readings at least once. Your paper should be typed, double-spaced, stapled, and no more than 3 pages in length.

**Due:**

Paper 2 is due Friday October 18<sup>th</sup>, in discussion group.



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LIST OF EVENTS AND EXHIBITS TO ATTEND FOR PAPER 2**

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Wed. September 18, 2013, 6-8 pm at U of C Downtown Campus (906 8 Avenue SW)

**Design Matters Lecture**

Lise Anne Couture of Asymptote Architecture

Wed. October 18, 2013, 6-8 pm at U of C Downtown Campus (906 8 Avenue SW)

**Design Matters Lecture**

Vittoria Di Palma, Assistant Professor, University of Southern California

**Or**, you could attend a **public meeting** regarding the redevelopment of a particular site or a community planning process. For meetings near you, go to [www.calgary.ca](http://www.calgary.ca), click on “Calendar” at the bottom of the page, then click on “Get Involved” under the calendar categories listed on the left. More meetings are added all the time.

**Or**, you could attend a **workshop** like those offered by EVDS faculty member and ARST 201 guest John Brown (these cost money, though!): <http://www.slowhomestudio.com/store/in-house-courses.html>. There may be other options—consult your TA if you are unsure.