

**Advanced Special Topics in EVDS:
Current Themes in Architectural History**
EVDS 697.74

Q(3.0-0)

Fall 2012, Thursdays 0900-1020, PF 2151

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Introduction

This course allows students to pursue reading and research into current themes in architectural history, to a depth that is not possible in the broader architectural history survey courses.

Course Objectives

- To develop knowledge of the history and significance of built environments in different eras and places in the world, in relation to cultural values and practices.
- To engage with and deploy current theoretical and methodological approaches in architectural history.
- To develop and refine skills in research; critical thinking, reading and discussion; synthesis of ideas; visual analysis; and oral and written communication.

Teaching Approach

This course is a seminar in which we will read selections from a wide range of architectural history, present and discuss their approaches and ideas, and apply them in papers and presentations about specific historic buildings, sites, etc. More specifically, the course is organized as a reverse seminar: students will develop a research topic of interest early in the semester, and then later in the semester they will examine and re-think their topic through the lens of the varied readings we will be doing. The current themes in architectural history, thus, will inform the final results of their research such that the research becomes an iterative process. Students will reflect on the process in their final presentations and papers.

Course Requirements and Grading

- (20 percent) Participation/discussion/in-class assignments and group work/attendance.
- (30 percent) First presentation of readings
- (20 percent) Second presentation, of paper topic
- (30 percent) Final Paper (approx. 10 pages)

NOTE: you *must* complete all assignments in order to pass this course.

Grades: A = 85 and above, A- = 80-84, B+ = 76-79, B = 73-75, B- = 70-72, C+ = 66-69, C = 63-65, C- = 60-62, D = 59 and below, F = 49 and below.

Note: Participation grade reflects engagement in large and small group discussions in class, and in group work when assigned, as well as the completion of short in-class assignments. Although attendance is not taken, note that absent students cannot participate in the above in-class activities, and this will be noted.

Letter Grade	4-Point Scale	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
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.
- 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.
- **Academic honesty.** 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

Disability Resource Centre

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. 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.

SAFEWALK

Call 220-5333 for escorted walking around campus, day or night.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Point for Professional Faculties Building: Primary: Education Block Food Court; Secondary: Scurfield Hall Atrium

To help deal with the issues and problems of being a graduate student at U of C, please refer to the **Graduate Students Association:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/> or the **Graduate Students' ombudsperson:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/services/ombudsperson.html>

Schedule of Readings and Themes

Readings should be done by the time of the seminar on the day they are listed below. Readings will be shared through persistent links on the course Blackboard site. There is no text to purchase for this course.

Week 1

Thurs. Sept. 13: Introduction

Week 2

Thurs. Sept. 20: Discussion of architectural history and topic ideas

Reading

- Dana Arnold, *Reading Architectural History* (NY: Routledge, 2002), 1-13.
- Dianne Harris, "That's Not Architectural History!" *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 70:2 (June 2011), 149-152.

Weeks 3-5

No classes; students doing self-directed research

Week 6

Thurs. Oct. 25: The spatial turn in architectural history

Reading

- TBD

Week 7

Thurs. Nov. 1: Critical race studies

Reading

- TBD

Week 8

Thurs. Nov. 8: Queer theory

Reading

- TBD

Week 9

Thurs. Nov. 15: Non-representational theory

Reading

- TBD

Week 10

Thurs. Nov. 22: The mobile turn (or other approach based on student interest)

Reading

- TBD

Weeks 11-12

Final presentations of iterative architectural history research process