Architectural Theory 1 Lecture/ T/ FAB105/ Periods 8-9 (3pm-4:55pm)
(ARC2201) Seminar/ R/ FAB105/ Periods 9 (4:05pm-4:55pm)
School of Architecture
Fall 2016
Dr. Hui Zou

Theoretical Horizon of the Art of Building

3 credits

Introduction:

This course introduces fundamental theoretical issues and ideas in architecture. The topics include ancient Greek and Roman theories, Renaissance theories, and contemporary theories that hermeneutically interpret tradition and critically reflect on reality. Paralleling with architectural theories, ancient Greek and modern philosophical theories on art are introduced to present the broad theoretical context of architectural concepts. Contemporary hermeneutic theorization on Eastern gardens is experimentally compared with the Western theoretical discourse in order for the student to obtain knowledge of cross-cultural architectural theories. As a result of the course, students are expected to improve their ability to theorize architectural issues and ideas for the design process and understand how critical theories intrinsically engage in history and design. This course is the first architectural theory course for undergraduate students. It provides a curriculum structure for the student to learn how to think critically, imagine creatively, and communicate enlighteningly in architecture for fundamental and inspirational ideas of human dwelling.

This course satisfies the university general-education-course requirements for humanities (H). The course consists of lectures, seminars, and two research papers. The topic of each Tuesday lecture is specified in the syllabus, and each Thursday seminar is a continuation of the topic introduced on Tuesday of the same week. The Tuesday lecture is the instructor's introduction and interpretation of the selected text and its significance within theoretical and architectural contexts. The Thursday seminar is specifically for the student to develop his/her theoretical thinking and understanding through "dialoguing" with the seminar instructor. The reading materials for each week will be posted in the previous week on the Canvas webpage of this course. The student needs to read the assigned texts before attending the related lecture and seminar. Besides attending the classes, the student is required to complete midterm and final papers. The detailed paper assignments will be given during the class. The papers should explore the theoretical issues, ideas or concepts of architecture and are encouraged to be related to the design thinking in the studio. The papers will be graded by the GTA and other graduate graders. Random attendance checks will occur throughout the course.

Class Regulations:

Constant preparation, attendance, participation and interest are expected. Keeping a quiet class environment is important for the success of the whole class. No eating food, use of cell phones (including the ringing of phones) or chattering will be tolerated in the classroom. In addition, you are expected to be in the classroom on time and remain in the classroom until the completion of the lecture. You are responsible for your own class attendance. The dates of the paper submissions are also clearly marked in the syllabus, and no late submissions will be accepted.

The papers must be submitted as an electronic copy in Word version on Canvas. Any student who submits a plagiarized paper will receive a failing grade. Email communication must be through the gatorlink account and is only for short learning questions only. For best learning and discussion, the student is encouraged to address questions within the class, immediately after the class, or in office hours by appointment.

Weekly Topics:
Week 1
T (8/23)/ Lecture: Introduction; Vitruvius, "Book I," p. 3-32
R/ Seminar
Week 2
T/ Vitruvius, "Book II," p. 35-42; "Book III," p. 69-75; "Book IV," p. 101-9
R/ Seminar
Week 3
T/ Vitruvius, "Book V," p. 137-53; "Book IX," p. 251-70
R/ Seminar
Week 4
T/ Plato, ch. 9-ch. 26: p. 57-82
R/ Seminar
Week 5
T/ Alberti, "Book I," p. 7-32
R/ Seminar
Week 6
T/ Yates, "Camillo's Theater," p. 129-59
R/ Seminar
Week 7
T/ Vesely, "Architectonics of Embodiment," p. 28-43; "Architecture and the Question of Technology," p. 28-49
R/ Seminar
Week 8
T/ Pérez-Gómez, "Chora," p. 1-34
R/ Seminar
Week 9
T/ Heidegger, "The Origin of the Work of Art" (2), p. 165-203
R (10/20)/ Seminar (**Midterm paper** due on Canvas by 5pm, covering readings of weeks 1-8)
Week 10
T/ Heidegger, "Building Dwelling Thinking," "Art & Space"
R/ Seminar
Week 11
T/ Gadamer, "The Relevance of the Beautiful" (1), p. 3-31
R/ Seminar
Week 12
T/ Gadamer, "The Relevance of the Beautiful" (2), p. 31-53
R/ Seminar
Week 13

T/ Holl, "Intertwining," with Pérez-Gómez's "Introduction;" Frascari, "Tradition of
    Architectural Figures"
R/ Seminar
<u>Week 14</u>
T/ Zou, "Narrative Structure of Cross-Cultural Architecture"
R/ (Thanksgiving)
<u>Week 15</u>
(Writing the final paper)
<u>Week 16</u>
R (12/8)/ (**Final paper** due on Canvas by 5 pm, covering readings of weeks 9-14)

Textbook (required):
Vitruvius, *The Ten Books of Architecture* (Dover, 1960 or reprints).

References (scanned articles posted weekly on the Canvas):
Leon B. Alberti, *On the Art of Building in Ten Books* (MIT, 1996).
Marco Frascari, "A Tradition of Architectural Figures: A Search for Vita Beata," *Body and
    Building* (MIT, 2002).
Hans-Georg Gadamer, "The Relevance of the Beautiful," *The Relevance of the Beautiful and
    Other Essays* (Cambridge University, 1986)
Martin Heidegger, "The Origin of the Work of Art," *Basic Writings* (Harper Collins, 1993).
-------, "Building Dwelling Thinking," *Basic Writings*.
-------, "Art & Space"
Steven Holl, *Intertwining* (Princeton Architectural Press, 1996).
Alberto Pérez-Gómez, "Chora: The Space of Architectural Representation," in *Chora 1:
    Intervals in the Philosophy of Architecture* (McGill-Queens, 1994).
Plato, *Timaeus and Critias* (Penguin, 1977).
Dalibor Vesely, "The Architectonics of Embodiment," *Body and Building* (MIT, 2002).
-------, "Architecture and the Question of Technology," *Architecture, Ethics, and Technology*
    (McGill-Queen, 1994).
Frances A. Yates, *The Art of Memory* (University of Chicago, 1966).
Hui Zou, "The Narrative Structure of Cross-Cultural Architecture," in *Architecture Studies 2*, co-
    ed. AA School of London (UK) & Southeast University (China) (China Architecture &
    Building Press, 2012).

Grading:
Midterm paper: 35%
Final project: 35%
Participation (including attendance, reading, discussion, and presentation): 30%

No grade negotiation is accepted. You can find the university grading policy at:
http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html
Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E

Numeric Grade	95	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	63	60	0
Quality Points	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0.0

Office Hours: TBA

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Disclaimer:
This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

UF Policies:
University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities: Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.
University Policy on Academic Misconduct: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php.
Netiquette: Communication Courtesy: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Refer to the university policy at: http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf Sakai Help: For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Sakai, please contact the UF Help Desk at:
  ● Learning-support@ufl.edu
  ● (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
  ● https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml
Other resources are available at http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help for:
  • Counseling and wellness resources
  • Disability resources
  • Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
  • Library help desk support
Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints to submit a complaint.