

ARC 1000 - Architecture + Humanity

Lee-Su Huang, Lecturer

ARC 240 – School of Architecture

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Prospectus

“An Introduction to freshman and sophomore students of the University of Florida to the issues and opportunities derived through actively engaging the sustainable and ethical organization and design of the environments in which we live – urban, landscape, and architectural.”

Course Description

Why does the made world look the way it does? What shapes it? Who shapes it and why? What more powerful expression and manifestation is there of humanity’s values and beliefs than how humankind shapes the world around itself? Architecture serves as a powerful embodiment of the human condition; it is shaped by the cultural, religious, socio-economic, socio-political and environmental forces of a people – among many other considerations that extend beyond simply aesthetics. How civilization shapes its space, and determines the shape of the built environment in relation to the natural world can speak volumes about what its core essence is, particularly as it transforms over time. Studying the philosophical meaning of shaping and reshaping the world throughout time offers the student a fundamental understanding of a physical, spatial exploration of the human condition and how they themselves fit within.

Architecture + Humanity introduces the broad range of influences, agendas and aspirations of architecture. The course will elaborate upon the role design professionals play and have played in integrating shelter, public and private space, holy and profane structures, and multiple scales and in multiple contexts. We will come to understand why cathedrals, castles, and cloisters were built and how they reflect the beliefs of the time and place. We will discuss how and why the great cities of the world are shaped as they are, and how various monuments came into being and how they transform their people and place – from the pyramids of Giza, to the Pantheon of ancient Rome, to the Brooklyn Bridge, the World Trade Center, and Guggenheim Museum of Bilbao. What are the key values that shape these constructions: patriotism, security, community, faith, piety, commerce, remembrance, honor, hubris?

Students will be introduced to and asked to form a position about the various forces that shape the built environment, and how architecture contributes to the cultural identity of people, period, and place. At the beginning, through the semester, and at the conclusion students will reflect upon their personal definitions of architecture + humanity, and the inclusion of key concepts and considerations of the course will be assessed. Course content will include traditional, ecological techniques utilized by architects and designers, emergent materials and strategies, and case study analysis of award winning and internationally recognized design projects from around the world. Issues such as the relationship between culture, regional ecology, climate, and local technologies will be explored in terms of their influence on the built form – as well as the role of the built form upon them.

Course Goals and Objectives

- Gain an understanding of the role of architecture in shaping the world and how it embodies the values and beliefs of different peoples, periods, and places.
- Understand primary considerations and determinants of an architectural design process: what *needs* and *wants* does architecture seek to answer and how is it done at different points in time and in different places around the globe.
- Compare and contrast between different architectural responses to the needs of humanity throughout history, and understand the effect of and to socio-economic, political, religious, cultural, geographic contexts.
- Understand theoretical and philosophical movements associated with architecture and design, and how they have transformed the discipline over time.

Additional Student Learning Outcomes

- Identify key humanitarian movements in design.
- Recognize and identify built landmarks throughout time.
- Gain a design-related vocabulary to discuss the different design typologies discussed in the class, including architecture, interior design, landscape architecture, urban design, industrial design, etc.

ARC1000 – Architecture + Humanity

Meeting Days/Times: M,T,W,R | Period 4 (12:30 PM - 1:45 PM)

Location: FAB 105

- Develop an appreciation for space, and be able to discuss the role of design in enhancing life
- Know the basic history, underlying theories and methodologies used within architecture.

Course Format

Course format will consist of faculty led lectures, topical readings, assigned short position essays (based upon lectures and discussions). A quiz and final group project. Lectures will consist of presentations and discussions about the work of contemporary architects, planners, landscape architects, and other designers that represent the tangible results of theoretical responses to cultural values, identity, place, climate, population, and conservation. These issues will be expanded through the discussion of integrative design methodologies that the design fields use to better understand and mediate the competing concerns of the client, profession, culture, and context. In addition to primary faculty, guest lecturers from the discipline will be invited to present their own design processes in order to discuss the role of critical architectural decision-making on the environment from the global to the local to the scale of the human body.

Schedule

The attached schedule indicates the general sequence of topics and location of deadlines (essays, exams, etc.) Variations and/or adjustments to this schedule may be necessary and any shift in critical deadlines will be announced in advance as best as possible. Attendance checks will occur throughout the semester and are not included as part of this schedule.

Participation/Attendance/Grades

You are expected to take part in class, answer posed questions, provide meaningful insight into class material, and be present for class. Attendance will be taken every class. Each unexcused absence will result in a ten percent reduction in your final participation grade (3 points/absence).

Late arrival or early departure from the course is unacceptable and will automatically count as an absence. Late and /or incomplete work will not be accepted without a legitimate excuse. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated, and will result in a failing grade for the semester.

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Miro Board Link for course discussions/written responses: https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kpyPyQM=

Architecture + Humanity Grading Criteria

- 15% Written Assignment Canvas Submission (Week 2)
- 25% Mid-Term Quiz (Week 4)
- 30% Final Group Project/Presentations (Week 6)
- 30% Attendance/Class Participation (Daily responses)

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
Numeric Grade	93-100	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	0-59
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

UF Grading Policy

Information on UF’s grading policy can be found at the following location:

<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

Students with Special Needs

Students with special physical needs and requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. All attempts to provide an equal learning environment for all will be made.

On-line Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at:

<https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Disclaimer: This syllabus represents the current plan and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans are subject to change in order to enhance class learning opportunities. Such changes will be communicated clearly and are not unusual and should be expected.

Required Text:

Architecture: An Introduction

Geoffrey Makstutis, London: Laurence King Publishing, 2010

Writing About Architecture; Mastering the Language of Buildings and Cities

Alexandra Lange, Princeton Architectural Press, 2012

Selected Bibliography:

Diane Ackerman

A Natural History of the Senses

(New York: Vintage-Random House, 1991).

ISBN 978-0679735663

Paul Goldenberger

Why Architecture Matters

(New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009)

ISBN 978-0300144307

George Leonard

Mastery: The Keys to Success and Long-Term Fulfillment

(New York: Plume 1992)

ISBN 978-0452267565

Geoffrey Makstutis (Required)

Architecture: An Introduction

(London: Laurence King Publishing, 2010)

ISBN 978-1 85669 623 4

Bruce Mau

Massive Change: The Future of Global Design

(New York: Phaidon 2004)

ISBN 978-0714844015

William McDonough and Michael Braungart

Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things

(New York: North Point Press 2002)

ISBN 978-0865475878

Cameron Sinclair and Kate Stohr (Recommended)

Design Like You Give a Damn: Architectural Responses to Humanitarian Crises

(New York: Metropolis Books 2006)

ISBN 978-1933045252

Robert Vickery, Jr.

Sharing Architecture

(Charlottesville: Virginia University Press 1983)

ISBN 978-0813909738

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Location: FAB 105

Schedule

Summer B 2020

Week One	Date	What is Architecture?	Readings	Homework - Film
Monday	7.06	Introduction	Makstutis C0	
Tuesday	7.07	What is Architecture? – Art, Arch, Beauty	Makstutis C1	TED – Thomas Heatherwick
Wednesday	7.08	What is Architecture? – Determinants		
Thursday	7.09	What is Architecture? – Determinants	Makstutis C2	
Week Two	Date	How Does an Architect See?		Homework - Film
Monday	7.13	Ways of Seeing		YT: Shift Happens
Tuesday	7.14	Ways of Envisioning	Makstutis C3	Objectified
Wednesday	7.15	Ways of Projecting		TED: Daniel Libeskind
Thursday	7.16	What is Design - Process	Makstutis C4	TED: Eames Demtrios
Friday	7.17	Written Assignment Due		
Week Three	Date	Who are Architects?		Homework - Film
Monday	7.20	What is Design - Thinking + Making		Ideo
Thursday	7.21	Origins of Modernism	Makstutis C5	YT: The Story of Stuff
Tuesday	7.22	Modernist Portability		The World According to Le Corbusier
Thursday	7.23	20 th Century Architecture	Makstutis C6	Vimeo: Sketches of Frank Gehry
Week Four	Date	Who are Architects?		Homework - Film
Tuesday	7.27	21st Century Architecture		TED: Thom Mayne
Thursday	7.28	(RE) birth of the Starchitect	Makstutis C7	Netflix Abstract: Bjarke Engels
Tuesday	7.29	Where do we go from here?		TED: Diller Scofidio
Thursday	7.30	Rural Studio	Lange Intro, C1	AMZN Prime: Citizen Architect
Friday	7.31	Mid-term Quiz Due		
Week Five	Date	The Issues		Homework - Film
Tuesday	8.03	Architecture for Humanity		TED – Cameron Sinclair
Thursday	8.04	Architecture and the Environment	Lange C2, C3	TED – Al Gore
Tuesday	8.05	Cradle to Cradle / Architecture and Value		TED – Bill McDonough
Thursday	8.06	Ubiquitous Technology	Lange C4, C5	
Week Six	Date	Humanity/Environment/Urbanism	TBD	Homework - Film
Monday	8.10	Architecture + Urbanism		TED – Jaime Lerner
Tuesday	8.11	The Formulation of Arguments	Lange C6, Conclusion	
Wednesday	8.12	Final Presentations		
Thursday	8.13	Course Wrap Up and Review		
Friday	8.14	Final Assignment Due		