

ARCH 602: INTRODUCTION TO DESIGN THEORIES

Fall 2022

(Draft: August 30, 2022)

Mondays and Thursdays, 9:00 - 10:30 am

Room: 2160

Instructors: Robert Birch, rabirch@ucalgary.ca

Dr. Graham Livesey, livesey@ucalgary.ca [course coordinator]

TA: Ashley Elias, <u>ashley.elias@ucalgary.ca</u>

INTRODUCTION

Introduction to Design Theories is a required lecture/seminar course in the Master of Architecture program devoted to the examination of significant thematic developments in architectural discourse from 1900 to the present. The course examines different topics that have influenced the shape of architecture over the last century. The course themes include Modernism, Phenomenology, Postmodernism, Multiculturalism, Feminism, Indigeneity, Environmentalism, and other movements that demonstrate the complex and contradictory problems that define the contested discipline of architecture. The course consists of the following components, each described in their own subsequent section in the course outline: lectures, required readings, in-class discussion sessions, student presentations, take home tests, and a term paper.

CACB STUDENT PEFORMANCE CRITERIA

The following CACB Student Performance Criteria (2017) are covered in this course at a primary level:

- A1. Design Theories, Precedents, and Methods
- **B1.** Critical Thinking and Communication
- **B3.** Architectural Theory
- B4. Cultural Diversity and Global Perspectives.

OBJECTIVES

- 1. Explore important developments in 20th and 21st century cultural and architectural theory through a series of thematic topics.
- 2. Develop an understanding of critical architectural discourse to recognize issues of contemporary concern.
- 3. Develop a general comprehension of and familiarity with broad cultural debates that have occurred over the course of the past century.
- 4. Develop an understanding of architectural works of theory through an analysis of the theoretical views that motivated their development and production.
- 5. Develop the ability to understand, develop and participate in, and contribute to significant and sustained theoretical discussions while developing critical thinking skills.
- 6. Demonstrate a strong ability to write at a graduate level, including structuring and composing arguments. To develop critical reading, research, and writing skills.

TOPICS/SCHEDULE/READINGS

The development of topics allows for the examination of key cultural factors during the 20th century.

Thursday, September 8 Course Introduction

Monday, September 12 Modernism (Livesey)

Required Reading: Marshall Berman, "Introduction: Modernity – Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow,"

in All That is Solid Melts into Air: The Experience of Modernity (New York:

Penguin Books, 1988), pp. 15-36.

See PDF posted on D2L.

Student Presentations: Charles Baudelaire, Paris Spleen.

Reyner Banham, Theory and Design in the First Machine Age.

Detlef Mertins, Modernity Unbound: Other Histories of Architectural Modernity.

Thursday, September 15
Required Reading:

Modernism (Birch)

Walter Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction," in

Illuminations: Essays and Reflections (New York: Schocken Books, 1968), pp.

217-252.

See: <a href="https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/lib/ucalgary-ca/lib/uc

ebooks/reader.action?docID=3303019&ppg=227

or

https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/lib/ucalgary-

ebooks/reader.action?docID=453635&ppg=444

Student Presentations: Walter Benjamin, *The Arcades Project*.

Franz Kafka, The Trial.

Bruno Schulz, The Street of Crocodiles.

Monday, September 19

Phenomenology (Birch)

Required Reading: Gaston Bachelard, "The House. From Cellar to Garret. The Significance of the

Hut," in *Poetics of Space* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1969), pp. 3-37.

Reprinted in *Theatre and Performance Design* (2010). Available in LCR: https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/lib/ucalgary-ebooks/reader.action?docID=1039248&ppg=153

Student Presentations:

Gaston Bachelard, Water and Dreams: An Essay on the Imagination of Matter.

Ivan Illich, H_2O and the Waters of Forgetfulness.

Juhanni Pallasmaa, The Eyes of the Skin.

Thursday, September 22

Phenomenology (Livesey)

Required Reading: Martin Heidegger, "Building Dwelling Thinking," in *Poetry, Language, Thought*

(New York: Harper & Row, 1971), pp. 145-161. Reprinted in *Rethinking Architecture* (1997) Available in LCR: https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/lib/ucalgary-ebooks/reader.action?docID=254441&ppg=117

Student Presentations:

Adam Sharr, Heidegger's Hut.

Christian Norberg-Schulz, Genius Loci, Towards a Phenomenology of

Architecture.

Peter Zumthor, *Thinking Architecture*.

Monday, September 26 Required Reading: Marxism (Livesey)

Henri Lefebvre, in "Plan of the Present Work," in The Production of Space

(Oxford: Blackwell, 1991), pp. 30-53.

See PDF posted on D2L.

Student Presentations: Michel de Certeau, The Practice of Everyday Life.

Guy Debord, *The Society of the Spectacle*. Manfredo Tafuri, *Architecture and Utopia*.

Thursday, September 29

per 29 **Postmodernism** (Livesey)

Required Reading: Jean Baudrillard, "The Ecstasy of Communication," in Hal Foster, ed.,

Postmodern Culture (London: Pluto Press, 1985), pp. 126-134.

See PDF posted on D2L.

Student Presentations: Robert Venturi, Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture.

Robert Venturi, Denise Scott Brown, and Steven Izenour, Learning from Las

Vegas.

Charles Jencks, The Language of Post-Modern Architecture.

Statutory Holiday September 30

Block Week October 3-7

Statutory Holiday October 10

Thursday, October 13 Postmodernism (Birch)

Required Reading: Frederic Jameson, "The Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism," in Neil Leach, ed.,

Rethinking Architecture (London: Routledge, 1997), pp. 236-247.

See: https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/lib/ucalgary-

ebooks/reader.action?docID=254441&ppg=247

Student Presentations: Aldo Rossi, *The Architecture of the City*.

Rem Koolhaas, *Delirious New York*. Rem Koolhaas and Bruce Mau, *S, M, L, XL*.

Monday, October 17 **Deconstruction** (Birch)

Required Reading: Michael Benedikt, "Derrida's Deconstruction Through Architecture," in

Deconstructing the Kimbell (New York: Lumen Books, 1991), pp. 9-51.

See PDF posted on D2L.

Student Presentations: Mark Wigley, The Architecture of Deconstruction, Derrida's Haunt.

Bernard Tschumi, Architecture and Disjunction.

Philip Johnson and Mark Wigley, Deconstructivist Architecture.

Term Paper Proposal Due at 9 am.

Thursday, October 20 Poststructuralism (Birch)

Required Reading: Michel Foucault, "The Subject and Power," in J.D. Faubion, ed., Power (New

York: The New Press, 2000), pp. 326-348.

Published earlier in *Critical Inquiry*, 8(4) Summer 1982

Available in LCR:

https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/stable/1343197

Student Presentations: Michel Foucault, Discipline and Punish.

Michel Foucault, Madness and Civilization.

Robin Evans, Translations From Drawing to Building and Other Essays.

Take Home Test 1 Handed out.

Monday, October 24 Poststructuralism (Livesey)

Required Reading: J. Macgregor Wise, "Assemblage," in C.J. Stivale, ed., Gilles Deleuze: Key

Concepts (Montreal: MQUP, 2005), pp. 77-87.

See: <a href="https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/lib/ucalgary-ca/lib/uc

ebooks/reader.action?docID=3332401&ppg=90

Student Presentations: John Rajchman, Constructions (Writing Architecture).

Manuel DeLanda, A New Philosophy of Society.

Bernard Cache, Earth Moves.

Thursday, October 27 Race and Multiculturalism (Guest)

Required Reading: bell hooks, "Overcoming White Supremacy, A Comment," in Talking Back:

Thinking Feminism, Thinking Black (New York: Routledge, 2015), pp. 112-119. See: https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/lib/ucalgary-

ebooks/reader.action?docID=1813143&ppg=125

*E-book Central licence permits only one online user at a time; download and print ahead

of schedule to avoid access issues

Student Presentations: Peter Allison, ed., David Adjaye: Constructed Narratives.

Irene Cheng, Charles L. Davis II, and Mabel O. Wilson, eds., Race and Modern

Architecture.

Mabel O. Wilson, Begin with the Past: The Building of the National African

American Museum of History and Culture.

Term Home Test 1 Due at 2 pm.

Monday, October 31 Race and Multiculturalism (Birch)

Required Reading: To be determined.

Student Presentations: Julia Watson, Lo-Tek: Design by Radical Indigenism.

Giovanna Borasi, Journeys: How Travelling Fruit, Ideas and Buildings

Rearrange Our Environment.

K.H. Anthony, *Designing for Diversity*.

Thursday, November 3 Feminism (Birch)

Required Reading: Donna Harraway, "A Cyborg Manifesto," in Simon During, ed., The Cultural

Studies Reader (London: Routledge, 1993), pp. 271-291.

Re-printed in *Manifestly Haraway* (2016)

Available in LCR: https://academic.oup.com/minnesota-scholarship-

online/book/33312/chapter/286017954

Student Presentations: B. Colomina, Sexuality and Space.

F. Trubiano, R. Adlakha, and R. Bartuskaite, eds., Women [re]build; stories,

polemics, futures.

L. Brown, ed., Feminist Practices: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Women in

Architecture.

Term Break November 7-11

Statutory Holiday November 11

Monday, November 14 Gender (Guest)

Required Reading: Judith Butler, "Subjects of Sex/Gender/Desire," in Simon During, ed., The

Cultural Studies Reader (London: Routledge, 1993), pp. 340-353.

See: https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/lib/ucalgary-

ebooks/reader.action?docID=180211&ppg=39

Student Presentations: I. Borden, B. Penner, and J. Rendell, eds., Gender Space Architecture: An

Interdisciplinary Introduction.

Anna Sokolina, The Routledge Companion to Women in Architecture.

Daphne Spain, Gendered Spaces.

Thursday, November 17

Colonialism/Postcolonialism (Livesey)

Required Reading:

Stuart Hall, "Cultural Identity and Diaspora," in J. Rutherford, ed., *Identity: Community, Culture, Difference* (London: Lawrence & Wishart, 1990), pp. 222-

237.

Reprinted in *Selected Writings on Race and Difference* (2021)

Available in LCR: https://www-degruyter-

com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/document/doi/10.1515/9781478021223-016/html

Student Presentations:

Albert Memmi, The Colonizer and the Colonized.

G.C. Spivak, In Other Worlds.

Lee Marable, My Conversations with Canadians.

Monday, November 21

Indigeneity (Guest)

Required Reading:

Wanda Dalla Costa, "Metrics and Margins: Envisioning Frameworks in Indigenous Architecture in Canada," in E. Grant et al, eds., *The Handbook of Contemporary Indigenous Architecture* (New York: Springer, 2018), pp. 193-221. https://link-springer-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/chapter/10.1007/978-981-10-

6904-8 8

Student Presentations:

Douglas Cardinal, Of the spirit: writings. Hugh Brody, The Other Side of Eden.

E. Grant et al, eds., *The Handbook of Contemporary Indigenous Architecture*.

Term Paper

Due at 4 pm.

Thursday, November 24 Required Reading:

Environmentalism (Livesey)

Paul Hawken, Amory Lovins and L. Hunter Lovins, "The Next Industrial

Revolution," in Natural Capitalism: Creating the Next Industrial Revolution

(Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1999), pp. 1-21.

Complete chapter free on publisher's website; Click "Preview PDF"

https://www-taylorfrancis-

com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/books/mono/10.4324/9781315065755/natural-

capitalism-paul-hawken-amory-lovins-hunter-lovins

Student Presentations:

David Orr, Design on the Edge: The Making of a High-Performance Building.

Michael McDonough and Michael Braungart, Cradle to Cradle (New York: North

Point Press, 2002).

Perkins + Will, Busby: Architecture's New Edges.

Take Home Test 2

Handed out.

Monday, November 28

Environmentalism (Birch)

Required Reading:

Jane Bennett, "The Force of Things: Steps toward an Ecology of Matter,"

Political Theory, Vol. 32, No. 3 (June 2004), pp. 347-372.

See: https://journals-sagepub-

com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/doi/abs/10.1177/0090591703260853

Student Presentations:

Eduardo Kohn, How Forests Think.

Lisa Heschong, Thermal Delight in Architecture. Peter Wohlleben, The Hidden Life of Trees.

Thursday, December 1

Ethics (Livesey)

Required Reading: William McDonough, "Design, Ecology, Ethics, and the Making of Things," in T. Beatley and S.M. Wheeler, eds., *The Sustainable Urban Development Reader*

(Abingdon: Routledge, 2004), pp. 311-317.

https://mcdonough.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/St.-John-the-Devine-

Sermon.pdf

Student Presentations: Karsten Harries, The Ethical Function of Architecture.

Thomas Fisher, *The Architecture of Ethics*. Tom Spector, *The Ethical Architect*.

Monday, December 5 No Class

Term Home Test 2 Due at 2 pm.

TEACHING APPROACH

As noted above, the course is divided into topics, each topic is explored through lectures by the course instructors (or guests) that investigate specific questions and problems. Students are assigned weekly readings. Student groups of two will present in each session on a related architectural text using the Pecha Kucha format (20 slides x 30 seconds per – the presentation is a maximum of 10 minutes). The student groups will act as respondents during the following discussion session. Additionally, each student undertakes a term paper on a related topic, developed in consultation with the course instructors. Through these components, students are expected to learn about and contribute toward various developments in contemporary architectural theory and practice. All assignments, course announcements, and supplementary material will be posted through D2L.

Lectures address specific questions and topics within a given theme thus serving to expand on problems touched upon in the assigned reading. Class participation during and/or following these lectures is expected. Lectures will include an overview of the day's assigned reading, an expansion of ideas surrounding that text and a primer for the reading assigned for the following class.

Each weekly topic corresponds with assigned readings. Each student is expected to complete and familiarize themselves with the related text prior to the beginning of the class session to which it is assigned. It is likely that one must read the text more than once to achieve the prescribed level of understanding. The research development tools are meant to aid in this process. Two take home tests will address knowledge of the course readings.

These sessions weekly as part of the study of a topic and will involve presentations by student groups of two. Presentations will clearly identify key themes in the assigned text/project and link the work to the topic. These sessions are wide-ranging and open-ended in nature so that students are given the opportunity to work out problems and ideas themselves that originate from the assigned texts and lectures. Participation defines the role of students in these sessions. Students are expected to come to the sessions prepared. A typical session is as follows:

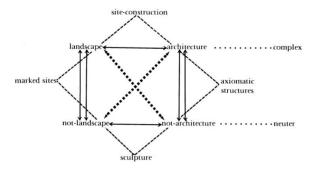
Lecture45 minutesStudent Presentation 110 minutesDiscussion12 minutesStudent Presentation 210 minutesDiscussion12 minutes

EVALUATION

The course evaluation is based on assignments completed during the term including student group presentations, in-class discussion sessions, term paper and 2 take-home tests. Each assignment must be completed by its assigned due date in order to pass the course.

Term Paper: The goal of the term paper is to prompt each to student to establish a dialogue with established architectural theory from the course and through that dialogue develop a unique critical analysis that synthesizes two of the themes discussed. The starting point of the analysis will be to pose a question or topic that stems from

the course material. Students are then asked to draw from two themes discussed in the course (eg. Feminism and Ethics) as the basis on which to develop a unique framework that serves to explore the topic/question that is posed. Relationships, intersections, and overlaps amongst the two chosen themes will be presented by way of a framework diagram that supplements the written component of the paper (see example diagram from Rosalind Krauss's essay "Sculpture in the Expanded Field"):



This diagram will be the basis for the term paper and will serve as a framework for exploring the question posed, and the grounds for generating new, critical thought surrounding architectural theory. The paper is to be 3000-4000 words in length and must include properly cited references, illustrations, and a bibliography using an accepted citation format (Chicago Manual of Style is recommended). Paper topics/questions, a 300-word outline/proposal, diagram, and select bibliography will be due at the start of class on Monday, October 7th. Final papers will be due Monday, November 21st, by 4:00pm. 40%

Take Home Tests (2): There will be two take home tests during the term, that will focus on the course readings. Due: October 27 and December 5 (test given out one-week prior). **40**%

In-Class Presentation: Working in pairs, students will develop a Pecha Kucha type presentation that addresses a key architectural text, and then lead the following discussions. Students will sign up for the presentations. **20%**

Your written and verbal assignments will be marked for grammatical accuracy, stylistic clarity, and organization as well as for demonstrated understanding of the topic, logical argumentation, and originality of critical comments. Students are recommended to use the *Chicago Manual of Style* – see below. Students must undertake research that demonstrates an ability to appropriately select and interpret sources (primary versus secondary, print versus digital) – the extensive use of web-based research is discouraged. Papers should include supporting imagery (architectural drawings, photographs, etc.). For further information see:

Chicago Manual of Style Quick Citation: http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools-citationguide.html How to write a term paper: http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/EssayHandbook1.pdf Writing: www.natureofwriting.com

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

Braham, W. and J.A. Hale, ed., *Rethinking Technology: A Reader in Architectural Theory, 1901-2004*. Harrison-Moore, A. and C. Rowe, *Architecture and Design in Europe and America, 1750-2000*. Hays, K.M., ed., *Architectural Theory since 1968*.

Hays, K.M., ed., Oppositions Reader.

Leach, N., Rethinking Architecture: A Reader in Cultural Theory.

Nesbitt, K., ed., Theorizing a New Agenda for Architecture: An Anthology of Architectural Theory, 1965-1995.

Ockman, J., ed., Architecture Culture 1943-1968: A Documentary Anthology.

Stern, R., A. Plattus and P. Dreamer, [Re]Reading Perspecta.

Sykes, K.A., ed., Constructing a New Agenda: Architectural Theory 1993-2009.

GRADING SCALE

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	95-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
А	4.00	3.85-4.00	90-94.99	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	85-89.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	80-84.99	Good performance
В	3.00	2.85-3.14	75-79.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-74.99	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	65-69.99	All final grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.
С	2.00	1.85-2.14	60-64.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	55-59.99	
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	50-54.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45-49.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-44.99	

A student who receives a "C+" or lower in any one course will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average (GPA) unless the program recommends otherwise. If the program permits the student to retake a failed course, the second grade will replace the initial grade in the calculation of the GPA, and both grades will appear on the transcript.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION: Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: 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, (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. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean, and dealt with as per the regulations in the University of Calgary Graduate Calendar. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION: All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY: Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT APPEALS OFFICE: If a student has a concern about the course, academic matter, or a grade that they have been assigned, they must first communicate this concern with the instructor. If the concern cannot be resolved with the instructor, the student can proceed with an academic appeal, which normally begins with the Faculty. https://ucalgary.ca/student-appeals/

MEDIA AND RECORDING: University Calendar: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html
Recording of lectures (other than audio recordings that are pre-arranged as part of an authorized accommodation) is not permitted. Students may not record any portion of a lecture, class discussion or course-related learning activity without the prior and explicit written permission of the course instructor or authorization from Student Accessibility Services. For any other use, whether by duplication, transcription, publication, sale or transfer of recordings, written approval must be obtained from the instructor for the specific use proposed. Any use other than that described above constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.

More student support and resources (e.g. safety and wellness) can be found here: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines